

**Lake Wylie Marine Commission**  
**August 22, 2011 7:00 p.m.**  
**Good Samaritan United Methodist Church**  
**Meeting Minutes**



**Commissioners Present:** Chair Smitty Hanks (Gaston County)  
Vice Chair Terry Everhart (Mecklenburg County)  
Commissioner Ron Wanless (York County)  
Commissioner Vernon Peers (York County)  
Commissioner Brad Thomas (Gaston County)  
Commissioner Ed Hull (York County)

**Commissioners Absent:** Secretary/Treasurer Howard Virkler (Mecklenburg County)  
Commissioner Bill Campbell (Gaston County)

**LWMC Staff Present:** Joe Stowe, Executive Director, Chris Clark, Legal Counsel,  
Diane Dil, Commission Clerk

**Item 1 – Welcome and Introductions**

Chairman Hanks called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

**Item 2 – Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Commissioner Peers to approve the July 25, 2011 minutes, Commissioner Thomas seconded and it passed unanimously.

**Item 3 - Approval of the Agenda**

A motion was made by Commissioner Wanless to approve the agenda as submitted Commissioner Everhart seconded and it passed unanimously.

**Item 4 – Consent Agenda**

No items were submitted for the consent agenda.

**Item 5 – Public Comment**

No one was present for public comments

**Item 6 – Stakeholders Reports**

Mecklenburg County – Commissioner Everhart reported

- Overall it has been a good summer. Will be scaling back hours on the lake in about two weeks

- Had a few BWI check points but they did not produce anything
- Did some dive training on a sunken boat with Charlotte FD
- SPLASH was at an event on Lake Norman the previous week

Gaston County Police Department – Officer Hamrick reported

- Officers have been busy working on accreditation standards
- Will attend National Night Out – would like to have SPLASH attend if able to find a good location for maneuvering.
- No longer on the lake full time. Will continue weekends through September.
- Gaston County long term program goals include the purchase of a new boat within the next four years.

York County Sheriff's Office – Sgt Ware reported

- Transitioning from seven day coverage to five day coverage.
- Nothing new to report about the cause of the fire at Tega Cay

Mecklenburg County Land Use and Environmental Service Agency (LUESA) – David Buetow reported

- Reviewed monthly sampling reports. Two high LUSI scores are very likely due to a storm event. All bacteriological results in the supporting plus range. Reviewed contour plots and commented on the interesting flow of water on the turbidity chart.

Duke Energy of the Carolinas – Ronnie Lawson reported

- Lake level – 96.2% - Storage capacity is 96% of target. Lower levels are probably due to evaporation.
- Drought Management Group – Low Inflow Protocol (LIP) is at Stage 0.
- Chairman Hanks commented that he has seen many large logs floating within boat paths. Mr. Lawson stated that he hasn't heard of any in the main path but will follow up.

Lakekeeper – Ellen Goff, CD Collins and Connie Miller reported

- A small spill occurred at the Clarion Plant during a storm event that caused flash flooding that overwhelmed the basin. David Merriman was there at the time and no major damage was caused.
- A buoy is missing from Catfish Cove and a sunken boat is in the same cove with a portion still visible.
- Making significant progress with the website for Riversweep. Currently working on TV spot and may be able to use it for radio as well.
- CD worked with Duke Energy' mosquito boat to help identify spots. Continues to distribute flyers and asking for more boat captains.
- Connie Miller provided an overview of the website.

Charlotte Fire Department

- Captain Jeff Smith gave an update of the calls for service they receive and respond to. They are also able to set-up booms for spills and are certified divers. He offered the commissioners a tour of their facility and fire boats in Withers Cove.

- Commissioner Everhart thanked Captain Smith for all their help and considers the FD a valuable resource for the lake.

### **Item 7 – Treasurer’s Report**

Secretary Treasurer Howard Virkler was not present to provide a report.

### **Item 8 – Executive Director’s Report** – Executive Director Joe Stowe reported

- **SC Sewage Spill Notification** – Mr. Stowe spoke with SC Senator Wes Hayes at the Bi-State Commission meeting about spillage notification. Senator Hayes recommended working with DHEC although he would anticipate staffing, administration and legal issues with such a program. Mr. Stowe to set up a meeting in Columbia, SC.
- **Riversweep** – the t-shirt design has been approved. The cost for small – extra large is \$4.36 each. Larger sizes are \$5.86 each. Commissioner Wanless made a motion to approve the purchase of 1,000 t-shirts. It was seconded by Commissioner Hull and approved unanimously. Food is well organized and moving along fine.
- **Law Enforcement Center** – There is a dead tree on the property, he will get quotes for its removal.
- **Boat Cruise** - The stakeholder appreciation dinner and boat cruise will be Thursday September 15. Email invitations will be mailed out this week.
- **MILMC Joint Meeting** – Ms. Dil will send out final date requests this week.
- **Election** – Mr. Stowe reminded all that we would be electing officers next month and to contact him if they are interested in being an officer.

### **Item 9 – Chairman’s Report** - Chairman Smitty Hanks reported

- **Buoys** – they continue to move all over the place.
- **Boat Show** – Chairman Hanks asked the commissioners if the commission should have a booth at the boat show and if so, are they willing to provide additional man hours? They thought it was a good idea and would like to participate again next year.
- **Riversweep** – Chairman Hanks reported that Commissioner Virkler will be ordering 10,000 “Stow it don’t throw it” bags. The wrist bands are on order. They are having some problems with the graphics for the whistles. The recycling program with York County is proceeding.
- **Bi-State Commission Meeting** – learned that Lancaster County is applying for a new lake that will be available as a holding system for drought conditions.

### **Item 10 – Old/New Business and Commission Project Reports**

- **Clean Marina** – Chairman Hanks gave an overview of the Clean Boater program and said that information will be available at Riversweep.
- **Garden Parkway** – Commissioner Wanless discussed the letter distributed to the commissioners regarding the Garden Parkway bridges. Commissioner Wanless made a motion that the letter be submitted to the Garden Parkway Turnpike Authority. It was seconded by Commissioner Hull and approved unanimously.

- **Riversweep** – Commissioner Everhart reported on the amount of food and staffing that will be available for Riversweep. The next meeting is set for September 20<sup>th</sup>.
- **Public Relations** – Commissioner Hull stated that there was nothing new to report about the website. He will help with the public relations component of Riversweep.
- **Map/GIS** – Commissioner Everhart reported that they were in the final stages of the map design. They still need to add a few more road names. This continues to be a joint effort with equal contributions from the commission, Riverkeeper and Pilot Magazine. One-thousand maps will be printed and each group gets one-third. Commissioner Everhart made a motion to purchase our portion of the maps spending up to \$1,500. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peers and passed unanimously.
- **Invasive Species** – Commissioner Virkler was not present to give a report.
- **Legal Counselor** – Mr. Clark provided some ideas for discussion during the joint meeting – maps, buoys and website.

#### **Item 11 - Public Comment**

No one was present for public comments.

#### **Item 12 – Adjournment**

A motion was made by Commissioner Everhart to adjourn the August 22, 2011 business meeting; seconded by Commissioner Thomas. The motion was approved.

The next LWMC business meeting will be held on September 26, 2011 at CMC Healthcare Pavilion, 13640 Steelescroft Parkway, Charlotte, NC.