



Lake Norman Marine Commission

Special Meeting Minutes – February 19, 2026

The Lake Norman Marine Commission met in a Special Called Session on Thursday, February 19, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., in the Community Room at the St. Peter By-the-Lake Episcopal Church; 8433 Fairfield Forest Rd. Suite #1; Denver, NC 28037

Members present were Barbara G. Beatty, Richard C. Gaskins, Timothy Holder, Jason Ralston, Cameron Sloan, and Gregory Truesdell. Also present were Catawba County Manager Mary Furtado and Centralina Regional Council staff support to the board Megan Upchurch.

Members absent were Kristian Hernandez and Mark Mullen.

1. Call to Order. Commission Chair Truesdell called the special meeting of the Lake Norman Marine Commission to order at 6:00 p.m., noting a quorum was present.

2. Interview 1: Vincent Paul “Bud” Cesena. Interview began at 6:00 pm. Mr. Cesena provided a detailed background on his career in public safety and his interest as a potential commissioner candidate. The Commissioners provided follow up questions to better understand Mr. Cesena’s interest to which he provided additional details on his interest in safety and economic development. Interview concluded at 6:18pm.

3. Interview 2 – George Brinzey. Interview began at 6:19 pm. Mr. Brinzey provided a detailed career background in public safety, non-profit work, and his overall interests as a potential Commissioner candidate. The Commissioners inquired about Mr. Brinzey’s non-profit work to which he shared details on the boater safety aspect and focus on removing derelict boats. Interview concluded at 6:29pm.

4. Interview 3 – Billy Wilson. Interview began at 6:30 pm. Mr. Wilson provided a detailed background of his career in public safety and then with the North Carolina Wildlife Federation, as well as his interests as a potential Commissioner candidate. Mr. Wilson noted his previous participation as a Commissioner on the Lake Norman Marine from 2016-2020 and again from 2024-2025 when the Commission was dissolved. Commission Interview concluded at 6:45pm.



5. **Discussion.** Commissioners briefly discussed the quality of the applicants before making a motion to vote on the 9th member.

6. **Call for Vote on 9th Member.** Commissioner Beatty made a motion to appoint Billy Wilson as the 9th member of the Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gaskins and passed with a 5-1 vote. Commissioners Beatty, Gaskins, Ralston, Sloan, and Truesdell voted in favor of the motion, and Commissioner Holder opposed.

7. **Adjourn.** Commissioner Holder made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Commissioner Beatty and passed unanimously at 6:50.