



Post Office Box 2454  
Cornelius, NC 28031

Web: [www.lnmc.org](http://www.lnmc.org)  
Phone (704) 564-6333  
Email: [lnmc@lnmc.org](mailto:lnmc@lnmc.org)

## **LNMC MINUTES**

**July 10, 2023  
Charles Mack Center  
Mooresville, NC**

### **Lake Norman Marine Commissioners:**

David Scott	Chairman
Rick Howard	Iredell County
Christopher Uzzolina	Lincoln County
John Johnson	Mecklenburg County
Kevin Frank	Catawba County

### **Staff:**

Morris Sample	Executive Director (Absent)
John Gerke	Asst. Ex. Director
Angela Palmer	Administrator

### **Call to Order**

A quorum was declared and the meeting was called to order by Chairman Scott at 7:00 pm. All in attendance rose to salute the flag and repeat together the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Minutes**

After a review of the minutes from the June 12, 2023 meeting, there was a motion to approve by Commissioner Uzzolina, seconded by Commissioner Frank. Approval of the minutes as presented were passed unanimously.

### **Reports – LNMC Executive Director**

Executive Director Morris Sample – Report Attached

### **REPORTS - ENFORCEMENT**

#### **Cornelius Police Department**

Officer Brenzey with Lake Patrol reported officers responded to 71 calls for service. Average response time was 6.22 minutes. There were 30 vessel stops resulting in 5 state citations, 21 written warnings and 7 verbal warnings. June highlights were as follows:

- A female subject with an unknown medical emergency on "Hello Sailor" dock, she was transported to the hospital.
- Juveniles possessing marijuana were located at John Connor dock by lake officers. The juveniles were turned over to their parents.
- Cornelius Lake Patrol Summer Camp was completed with 12 juvenile participants.
- Officers spoke with a local community group about lake safety, also giving a tour of facilities and boats.

- Officers attended "Town Talk" at "Lost World Brewing" discussing Boat & Lake Safety.

**Iredell County Sheriff**

Deputy Finch reported 131 calls for service. 29 citizen assists. Jet ski sinking due to missing plug. Pregnant kayaker with the no pfd in main channel in high waves got to safety. Assisted with drowning on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Jet ski accident July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Aware of Tik Tok challenge where teens jump from vessel underway at 30mph. Please contact lake enforcement if you see this type of activity happening on the lake.

**Catawba County Lake Patrol**

Lake patrol reported 632 man hours for June. 38 boat inspections and 20 pwc's. 42 wake violations. 3 equipment violations. 54 offense violations. 6 vessel assists. 43 calls for service. June 9, 2023 assisted with pwc accident. Deputy Sawyer retired.

**Lincoln County Lake Patrol**

Lincoln County Sheriff's department – No report

**N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission**

Sargent Lyle reported 11 arrests for BWI. Increase in underage drinking. 9 underage citations Saturday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. Please contact NC Wildlife if you witness this type of activity on the lake. Currently no momentum to remove unauthorized buoys.

**Reports – Lake Issues****Duke Energy**

Chad Broadway reported lake level is at target level of 97.5 which is ½ foot lower than the standard 98. Updated the amount of meetings for the remainder of the year. Duke will work with groups to share lake guidelines. 2 full size docks have recently been abandoned. If you see anyone towing a dock and leaving it, please notify Duke Energy.

**Coast Guard Auxiliary Division 26**

Steve Riggins – Report Attached

**Mecklenburg County Parks and Rec.**

No Report

**Catawba Riverkeepers**

Brandon Jones reported only one swim site fail which was near the YMCA. The riversweep will happen again this fall on October 7<sup>th</sup>, looking for sponsorships. \$250/site; \$1000/whole lake. Sponsorship information is on the website.

**Water Quality/Erosion/Buffers/Illegal Discharge****Mecklenburg County Water Quality**

Dave Ferguson reported bacteria run for June. The Ramsey Creek beach and the YMCA are monitored every Thursday in the summer months. The lake looks great overall. May 28<sup>th</sup> swim advisory due to horizontal drilling rig. June 11<sup>th</sup> swim advisory near Hello Sailor due to failed sewer pump this was lifted on July 16<sup>th</sup>. July 5<sup>th</sup> near Jetton Park it will be lifted tomorrow, July 11<sup>th</sup>.

**NC Wildlife Federation**

Billy Wilson – No Report

- Jack Benyon speaking against commercial charter boats being able to use residential docks. Sundaze using 145 Bridle Path which is a vacant lot on a privately owned road. 127 Linbrook Ln is another residential dock that has been approved for charter boat usage but the homeowner says that it's not authorized.
- Diana Daughtry wanted to thank the commission for participating in the Life Ring project. And a special shoutout to John Johnson for being instrumental in getting this information out. Concerned about a dangerous situation that was observed the night of the concert at the Explorium. Arrived before dark and pulled into a semi-circle cove and observed a large grey rock about 2' above the service. After dark at the end of the concert witnessed a boat headed toward the rock and were able to intercept. The rock is not marked. There is a buoy but it does not clearly show the danger of the rock.
- Mark Cagle wanted to address the commission requesting a list of the approved charters be posted on the website. Also, they operate out of marina in Iredell County. Wakeboarding/Wakesurfing is not specifically listed in the charter boat package and asking should it be? Had calls for pick up from vacation rental homes and wanted to confirm that they are within guidelines to pick up from a residence.
- Jeff Weir with Freedom Boat Club and they have launched a 2-3 hour on the water training classes. Advertising through social media and dropping off flyers at marinas. Request the commission add to their website.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **ATON Committee**

Executive Director Morris Sample – Report attached

#### **Environmental/Hydrilla Committee**

Executive Director Morris Sample – No report

#### **Boater Education/Communication**

Commissioner Johnson reported ring campaign has gone well. Requests from all 4 counties. Received generous donations and looking to purchase more rings for distribution. Unified law enforcement reporting is still in process. Continue looking for candidates for supporting the website. Participated in Cornelius Town Talk. Continue material distribution around the lake. Education committee meeting will be scheduled soon.

#### **Charter Boat Committee**

Commissioner Uzzolina reported the issue with picking up and dropping off at residences has been forwarded to legal for advisement. Please refer to the Charter Boat Ordinance for better understanding. A permit holder is in violation. Recommended an offender letter be sent, a fine issued and the permit revoked. This was deferred to a closed session. Commissioner Uzzolina made a motion to put a moratorium on approving in further charter boat applications until the August meeting. Commissioner Howard seconded. The motion passed unanimously. If a dock owner rescinds the use of their dock, they need to contact the marine commission to notify.

#### **Rental Boat Committee**

Commissioner Frank reported the final version of the Rental Boat regulations has been completed and was presented for public hearing in June.

#### **Rafting Committee**

Commissioner Uzzolina – No report

### **No Wake Buoys**

Commissioner Howard reported buoys continue to be an opportunity. NC Wildlife has stopped the process of removing unauthorized buoys. Looking at all options for navigating this issue. There is currently one request in process.

### **Applications**

- Ranger Island Marina Reconstruction – Commissioner Johnson made a motion to approve. Commissioner Frank seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **No-Wake Buoy Requests**

None

### **Rafting Applications**

### **Charter Boat Applications**

### **Variances**

- None

### **PERMITS**

### **FERC Applications**

- None

### **Administrative Matters**

- Charter Boat deferred until August meeting.
- Credit/Debit Card Authorization process – Commissioner Frank made a motion to approve. Commissioner Uzzolina seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- Osprey Nest Grant to install osprey platforms to avoid nests blocking lights on ATONS. After the birds have left in the fall the platforms would be installed. This seems to work well. More information to follow.
- Rental Boat Regulation Approval moved to August meeting.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm.

Our next meeting will be August 14, 2023

**Executive Director Comments**

July 10, 2023 Meeting

- The Shoreline Management Guidelines group met this past week to begin reviewing any changes in the Duke Shoreline Management Guidelines. These must be updated and sent to FERC every 10 years with the next revision due in 2025. Duke has set up a stakeholder group, which includes LNMC, to help identify changes needed. Periodic meetings will be held for review of proposed changes, and these will be sent out to Commissioners for comment. Anyone wanting to submit a proposed change should contact the LNMC.
- Please report any issues with lake markers to the Marine Commission at [lnmc.org](http://lnmc.org). For shoal markers, please include the label number on each pole just below the sign. This helps to make sure we have the correct marker.
- As lake traffic increases, please notify county lake patrol for obvious violations. This gives them info on where to monitor in the future.

**ATON Maintenance Items**  
**July 10, 2023**

- Osprey Nests on following markers has blocked the light: Marker 5,16, 17C, 17D, 18A, D7, S1
- Shoal 341, North of D3 – Sign Missing
- Shoal near T4 – Missing will be replaced
- Bridge Buoy at Slanting Bridge Rd is out of place
- Rocks visible near McGuire will be considered for Shoal Marker



Post Office Box 2454  
Cornelius, NC 28031

Web: [www.lnmc.org](http://www.lnmc.org)  
Phone (704) 564-6333  
Email: [lnmc@lnmc.org](mailto:lnmc@lnmc.org)

## Bank Debit/Credit Card Procedure

The following procedure will be used for any purchases using a debit/credit card in the name of Lake Norman Marine Commission:

- Card will be linked to our current bank account with First Citizens Bank
- One card will be issued to our Administrative Assistant and all purchases must be approved in the following manner.
  - All purchases made with the card must be preapproved by Executive Director and Chairman of the Commission or their designee.
  - A Purchase Order must be approved that shows the items purchased and the total amount to be charged.
- The Administrative Assistant will monitor the use of the card to ensure that only approved purchases are made and will reconcile the card statement each month.
- The total card balance will be paid each month by automatic payment from the bank account for the operating funds and assigned to correct accounting fund per the approved budget.
- Any automatic recurring payments paid by the card shall be preapproved by the Executive Director and the Chairman or their designee. Recurring payments should generally be less than \$500 per month.
- Under no circumstances shall the card be used for personnel expenses. Any personnel expenses accidentally charged to the card shall be immediately canceled.

Any unauthorized use of the card will be immediately reported to the Chairman and Executive Director for their investigation.

This procedure was approved by the Lake Norman Marine Commission in a public meeting and any changes to the procedure must also receive approval by the Commissioners.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chairman)