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LNMC MINUTES

**November 14, 2022
Charles Mack Center
Mooresville, NC**

Lake Norman Marine Commissioners:

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

Staff:

Morris Sample	Executive Director
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 October 10, 2022 meeting, there was a motion to approve by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Howard. Approval of the minutes as presented were passed unanimously.

Reports – LNMC Executive Director

Assistant Director John Gerke – Report Attached

REPORTS - ENFORCEMENT

Cornelius Police Department

Sergeant Matt Figaro – Report Attached

Iredell County Sheriff

Lake Patrol reported several trailers stolen and that lake residents should be cautious and secure their trailers. Participating in several parades coming up in December.

Catawba County Lake Patrol

Officer Sawyer reported 51.5 hours on the water. 151 property checks. 39 community meetings. 6 boat inspections. 7 warning citations with 5 waking violations. 6 calls for service. Received new 26' boat. Quiet October

Lincoln County Lake Patrol

Sgt Calhoun – No Report

N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

Officer Billings – No Report

Reports – Lake Issues

Duke Energy

Chad Broadway reported lake almost at target. Effective December moving to online application system. New lake rep, John Radley, covering Lincoln County.

Coast Guard Auxiliary Division 26

Steve Riggins – Report Attached

Mecklenburg County Parks and Rec.

Gregory Clemmer reported 2 parks on the lake, Ramsey Creek and Blythe Landing. Operate the swim beach from Memorial Day until Labor Day. Meeting with Lake Patrol November 29th to prepare for the 2023 boating season.

Island Habitat Program & NC Wildlife Federation

Billy Wilson – No Report

Catawba Riverkeepers

Brandon Jones – No Report

Water Quality/Erosion/Buffers/Illegal Discharge

Dave Ferguson – No Report

Comments from the Public:

- Michael Hauser, the executive director for youth boater safety. 60 organizations coming together November 29th at Lake Norman Chrysler Commercial Center. Diverse group focusing on “Love Where You Lake”.

Committee Reports:

ATON Committee

Assistant Director John Gerke – Report Attached

Environmental Committee

Assistant Director John Gerke – Report Attached

Boater Education/Communication

Commissioner Johnson reported agreement with Mr. Hauser to work together as a team to improve Boater Education. Looking forward to meeting everyone involved.

Charter Boat Committee

Commissioner Uzzolina – No Report

No Wake Buoys

Commissioner Howard reported 3 active applications. Expecting feedback from NC Wildlife by year end.

Rafting Committee

Commissioner Uzzolina – No Report

Rental Boat Committee

Commissioner Frank reported would like to understand the real issues around rental boats by meeting with law enforcement and others involved.

Applications

Public Ski Slalom Courses

- Eddie's Course – Williamson Rd and I-77
- Harbor Course – Near entrance to Harbor Community Docks
- Blythe Landing Course – Blythe Landing and Ramsey Creek
- Davidson Course – Along I-77 in Lake Davidson

Commissioner Frank made a motion to approve, Commissioner Howard seconded, passed unanimously.

No-Wake Buoy Requests

- None

Rafting Applications

- None

Charter Boat Applications

- None

Variances

- None

PERMITS

- None

FERC Applications

- None

Administrative Matters

- Revision to Charter Boat Regulations – revisions are indicated by bold underline in revised regulations – Commissioner Uzzolina was not present to discuss. This will be tabled until the January meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37pm.

Our next meeting will be January 9, 2023

Executive Director Comments

Nov 14, 2022 Meeting

- The CWWMG (Catawba Wateree Water Management Group) is beginning the process to update the water usage plan for the next 50 years. LNMC will participate as a stakeholder in these discussions. Projected to take around 2 years to update the current plan to look at water usage over the next 50-70 years.
- The Drought Monitoring procedure is indicating that we may move from Level 0 to Level 1 due to decreasing stream flows and ground water monitoring. The trend is decreasing but could recover if we receive some significant rainfall in the next few months. Level 1 calls for some voluntary reductions by the public and commercial users.
- LNMC has received updated Lake Norman Maps, these maps show a zone 200 feet from shoreline where we recommend operation at no wake speeds while current state law mandates a 150 foot no wake zone. This map will be available at no charge and an electronic version is also available through the Avenza Map app that is free for basic use. Links to the electronic version are available on our website.

ATON Report Nov 2022

- Installation of high intensity lights for channel markers continues. The red and green lights do have different flashing intervals which should help identify them. To date 47 of the 82 channel markers have been upgraded. The remainder will be completed over the next few months.
- Lights are reported out at the following:
 - Marker 17D, 18B, Osprey nests obstructing lights will be removed and lights upgraded.
- Signs for all channel markers and shoal markers reported as faded have been received and signs will be replaced in the next few weeks.

Environmental Report, Nov 2022

The survey by NC State and Duke Energy has been completed and the final report is being prepared.

Preliminary results indicate no Hydrilla was found in Ramsey Creek area. However, some hydrilla was found in the Buffalo Shoals area in very shallow water that is likely not accessible to the grass carp. Options to control hydrilla in this area are being evaluated.

Previous areas infested with lymbya show some reduction in amount. This has only been seen in the Wood Duck Lane area in Ramsey Creek. No indication that this is spreading to other areas currently.

There have been some reports of growth of eel grass in several small areas. This is a natural vegetation but what we are seeing may be a different strain than what has previously been observed in southeastern lakes. This is being studied by the Duke Aquatic weed group to determine if this could become an issue in the future.

