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LNMC MINUTES

May 08, 2023
Charles Mack Center
 Mooresville, NC

Lake Norman Marine Commissioners:

David Scott	Chairman
Rick Howard	Iredell County (Absent)
Christopher Uzzolina	Lincoln County
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 April 10, 2023 meeting, there was a motion to approve by Commissioner Uzzolina, seconded by Commissioner Johnson. 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 Brinzey – 26 calls for service. Reckless vessels around launch ramps. Working on solution to report. Lake training launched this morning with approximately 100 participants. Attended Calvin Newman safety event at PYC. Large movement on the lake to find a better solution for safety. Saturday, May 13th 10:00am – 2:00pm lake safety day at Blythe Landing.

Iredell County Sheriff

Deputy Church reported participated in lake training day today. 52 calls for service in April. 36 traffic stops, used the opportunity to educate people. 60 hours of training. 23 boat inspections and 11 pwc inspections. Attended 5 community events. Assisted 5 vessels.

LNMC Minutes continued
Catawba County Lake Patrol
Lt Boger – No Report

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Lincoln County Lake Patrol
Sgt Calhoun participated in lake training today.

N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission
Sargent ??? reported just kicking off the season. March vessel collision with no none injured and another vessel collision in April. 1 BWI arrest.

Reports – Lake Issues

Duke Energy
Chad Broadway reported lake level is at 97.9. Recreation level is 98. Online permit system has been rolled out. 50% of applications are being submitted this way. Responded to several calls regarding lake debris. Media invite coming out for annual lake stakeholder meeting. Shoreline Management document to be updated by the end of 2025.

Coast Guard Auxiliary Division 26
Steve Riggins – Report Attached

Mecklenburg County Parks and Rec.
Gregory Clemmer reported great kick off to the new permitting process. Signs are being installed at Mecklenburg County public docks this week. Conducted the first boat rental vessel inspection.

Catawba Riverkeepers
Brandon Jones reported swim guide season begins Memorial Day through Labor Day. Training day for boat captains Thursday, May 11th. Discussions for setting non-swim standards (kayaking, paddle boarding, etc.) Floating classroom is getting closer to being launched. NC Lake Management is meeting Friday, May 12th. Duke announced grants available and applications are due at the end of July.

Water Quality/Erosion/Buffers/Illegal Discharge

Mecklenburg County Water Quality
Dave Ferguson – Report attached. The next monitoring will be at the end of May.

NC Wildlife Federation
Billy Wilson – No Report

Comments from the Public:

- Barbara spoke on short term rentals and understands the Lake Norman Marine Commission has taken a stance that they don't have the resources to monitor this. She is of the opinion that Charter Boat permits should only be issued by local law enforcement. Charter Boats should not be allowed to dock short term rentals. There needs to be new rules addressing short term rentals.
- Michael Houser spoke on banding as one for Love Where You Lake. The response has been amazing. Thanked everyone for coming together to make the lake safer.
- Tricia O spoke regarding the short term rentals. She spoke against charter boats operating off of residential docks. Please investigate these boats and these companies and how they are going to impact the lake.
- Mary Rotondo requesting clarification on the position statement on the short term rentals by the LNMC. Will this statement be sent to Secretary of State, etc.? Concerned about

the charter boats on the agenda for approval. How do you determine if they comply and do what they say they are going to do? Is there any follow up or oversight by the commission?

Committee Reports:

ATON Committee

Executive Director Morris Sample reported that all items on the list have been repaired. Added 10 new shoal markers in areas reported as problematic.

Environmental/Hydrilla Committee

Executive Director Morris Sample reported the annual grass carp stocking occurred Thursday, May 4th. Plans in the coming year to do a study on the survival rate of the fish. Kara is an algae that is naturally occurring that looks like hydrilla but is very different.

Boater Education/Communication

Commissioner Johnson reported the counties are working on getting together to create a unified reporting system. Reviewing the boater education budget and the best way to spend funds. Contacted several volunteer groups. Education Committee zoom meeting being scheduled in the next week.

Charter Boat Committee

Commissioner Uzzolina reported the committee was established last year. As of January 1, 2023 there is a charter boat regulation. Working to do the same with rental boats.

Rental Boat Committee

Commissioner Frank reported the committee is working on regulations. A draft has been put together for review and will be put on the website for comment. Commissioner Uzzolina made a motion to post the regulations, Commissioner Johnson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Rafting Committee

Commissioner Uzzolina reported there is 1 application under review.

No Wake Buoys

Commissioner Howard – No Report

Applications

No-Wake Buoy Requests

- None

Rafting Applications

- Kurt Binkley – Awareness fun run with 35 boats. Commissioner Frank made a motion to approve. Commissioner Johnson seconded. Passed unanimously

Charter Boat Applications

- Sun Daze – Commissioner Frank made a motion to approve. Commissioner Uzzolina seconded. The motion passed unanimously
- Party Pontoon – 2 boats – All documents complete. Commissioner Johnson made a motion to approve. Commissioner Frank seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Variances

- None

PERMITS

FERC Applications

- None

Administrative Matters

- State Funds are all accounted for and have been spent. There will be a close out report submitted at the end of June. Commissioner Uzzolina made a motion to reallocate the state funds, Commissioner Frank seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- Short Term Rental Position Statement – Commissioner Uzzolina made a motion to approve, Commissioner Frank seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm.

Our next meeting will be June 12, 2023

Executive Director Comments

May 8, 2023 Meeting

- Our sympathy goes out to the family of Denny Eddinger, who passed a few weeks ago. Denny served on the Marine Commission and was past Chairman of the Commission. Also our sympathies to Commissioner Scott who lost his wife also in the last few weeks.
- Annual stocking of grass carp occurred this past week. 750 grass carp were released at Blythe Landing and will help ensure that hydrilla does not reestablish in the lake.
- The Catawba Wateree Drought Management Advisory Group is holding their annual meeting on June 13th. The Marine Commission will attend this meeting.
- Please report any issues with lake markers to the Marine Commission at Inmc.org. For shoal markers, please include the label number on each pole just below the sign. This helps in making sure we have the correct marker. There are currently 194 markers, buoys that we maintain.



Report from USCG Auxiliary for Lake Norman Marine Commission April 10, 2023

Submitted by: Steve Riggan, USCG Auxiliary
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www.cgaux.org

Representing the three CG Auxiliary units operating on Lake Norman:

Flotilla 26-01 Lake Norman, Flotilla 26-03 Davidson, Flotilla 26-04 West Lake Norman

Activity Summary:

The three units operating on Lake Norman were involved in the combined activities listed below.

On-water activities are typically conducted on Lake Norman from April 1 – October 30 each year. On-water activities are generally scheduled in 1-2 weeks in advance; emergency callout procedures can be invoked if needed.

USCG Auxiliary Lake Norman Flotilla Activities 2023	
Activity	YTD As Of 04/03/2023
On-Water Patrols Count	1
On-Water Patrols Hours	3
Public Education Classes	1
Public Education Enrollees	25
Vessel Safety Checks Completed	3

Upcoming Events and Items of Note:

1. Activities continue to install a USCG Auxiliary Fixed Land VHF Marine Radio Station. The existing radio antenna tower has been removed from Midway Marina and is stored at a member's home. New location is Blythe Landing Park with ongoing discussions with Mecklenburg Parks and various funding sources.
2. A boating safety class in-person was held March 25, 2023 at Denver Fire Dept. The class graduated 25 students.
3. Next boating safety class is May 20, 2023 at Denver Fire Dept.
4. Vessel Safety Checks will be conducted at Safe Harbor Kings Point on May 20 as part of a boaters "garage sale" held that day.
5. Upcoming on-water operations:
 - a. Joint Lake Training Days with First Responders and LEO's on May 8-9 and possibly 10-11, 2023. CG Auxiliary is assisting with training incident scenario development.
 - b. Various training patrols including with a Sea Scout ship sponsored by CGAUX Flotilla 26-04 on LKN.

End of report.

Lake Norman

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Routine lake monitoring March conducted on 3/6/23 • Average water temperature on day of sampling = 62.0 F • Lake level on day of monitoring = 95.9 ft (target = 95.5 ft) • Average water clarity on day of monitoring = 3.2 m (10.5 ft) 		
Routine Monitoring Sites	LN1	Lake Norman Dam
	LN2	Ramsey Creek Arm
	LN4	Main channel (Governor's Island)
	LN5	CMU water intake (Blythe)
	LN9	Davidson Creek arm
	LC2	Center of Lake Cornelius (towards 77 causeway) (sampled 3/1/23)
	LD2	Center of Lake Davidson (Meck. County drainage) (sampled 3/1/23)
Routine Lake Monitoring Efforts (every other month)		
Physical Parameters		Wet Chemistry Analyses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secchi Depth in meters (water clarity) • Temperature (°C) • Specific Conductivity (µS) • Dissolved Oxygen (% and mg/l) • pH • Turbidity (NTU) • Chlorophyll A (RFU) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fecal Coliform Bacteria (CFU/100ml) • E.coli Bacteria (MPN/100ml) • Turbidity (NTU) • Nitrate/Nitrite (mg/l) • Ammonia (mg/l) • Total Phosphorus (mg/l) • Total Kjedahl Nitrogen (mg/l) • Chlorophyll A (µg/l)

Questions/Comments/More information? Please contact:
 Dave Ferguson, Sr. Environmental Specialist dave.ferguson@mecknc.gov