



Post Office Box 2454
Cornelius, NC 28031

Web: www.lnmc.org
Phone (704) 564-6333
Email: lnmc@lnmc.org

LNMC MINUTES

**January 8, 2024
Charles Mack Center
Mooresville, NC**

Lake Norman Marine Commissioners:

Rick Howard	Chairman
Christopher Uzzolina	Lincoln County
John Johnson	Mecklenburg County
Kevin Frank	Catawba County
Billy Wilson	Iredell County

Staff:

David Scott	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 Howard at 7:15 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 November 13, 2023 meeting, there was a motion to approve by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Uzzolina. Approval of the minutes as presented were passed unanimously.

Reports – LNMC Executive Director

Executive Director David Scott – Report Attached

Belinda Johnson, CPA – Audit Review Report. LGC accepted the LNMC 2022-2023 audit on 11/21/23. The audit is available for review upon request.

REPORTS - ENFORCEMENT

Cornelius Police Department

Officer Clauson with Lake Patrol reported several navigational hazards and 2 B&E's. Recommended keeping valuables secure.

Iredell County Sheriff

Officer Finch reported 3 calls for service for suspicious people in November and 4 in December. Most were duck hunters. 29 assists. 1 larceny after the water came back up when kayaks were reported missing. These were located. 270 hours on the water. 9 citations in November and December combined. 1 charge for hunter harassment. Many calls for navigational hazards. Plane crash near the water and the

pilot passed away due to injuries sustained in the crash. Received 2nd Safe Boat with grant funds. Decrease in all incidents as patrolling has increased.

Catawba County Lake Patrol

Lieutenant Bryon Hollar Lake – No Report

Lincoln County Lake Patrol

Deputy Isaacs Lincoln County Sheriff's department – No Report

N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

Sargent Lyle – No Report

Reports – Lake Issues

Duke Energy

Chad Broadway reported a high of 97.9. The lake has been taken down in preparation of the incoming rain. Consult the lakeview app. April 1st ALL applications will need to be submitted through the online portal. Shoreline Management meeting in December went well. Regular meetings will take place for the next 4-6 months.

Coast Guard Auxiliary Division 26

Steve Riggins – Report Attached

Mecklenburg County Parks and Rec.

Gregory Clemmor - No Report

Catawba Riverkeepers

Brandon Jones reported the floating classroom should be ready to request their permit next month. Website is up and running and taking reservations. Data report to be released on January 20th. Increased bacteria after large rainfalls so recommended avoiding the water for a few days after.

Water Quality/Erosion/Buffers/Illegal Discharge

Mecklenburg County Water Quality

Dave Ferguson – No Report

NC Wildlife Federation

Billy Wilson reported planted 150 of 300 button bushes in November. The planting of the remaining bushes has been delayed due to the water being too high. Will reschedule in the spring. HEP grant will fund a rock reef at Patriots Pier. Looking for funding to T the existing pier to allow additional access. For the 5th year 300+ Christmas Trees will be dropped in the lake for fish habitats. Thank you for Safe Harbor Skippers Marina for storing the trees and Lancaster Custom Dock for use of their barge. Osprey nest on the ATON's. The plan is to reduce the number of additional platforms and deter nesting with the use of excluders. There are 7-8 that need to be protected from nesting this spring. Plans are in the works to get this completed before nesting season.

Comments from the Public:

Committee Reports:

ATON Committee

Environmental/Hydrilla Committee

Committee Chairman Bob Vandola reported first meeting Thursday, January 11th. Lyngba, eel grass and water quality monitoring will all be on the agenda for discussion. Currently there are 6 members. There is still capacity to expand the committee. Results of the meeting will be presented at the marine commission next month. The Hydrilla Committee is a separate committee led by DEQ and will be meeting later this month.

Chairman Rick Howard reported a group of local mayors and others from Troutman to Charlotte have environmental concerns and are working together to address issues and prevent further issues. Everyone is doing a great job working together to be proactive. Submit any suggestions to rhoward@lnmc.org.

Boater Education/Communication

Commissioner Johnson reported thanks for the well-organized safety event. The committee will meet 2/15/24 at noon at Safe Harbor Peninsula Yacht Club to review the new rental boat and charter boat regulations. Vessel inspections will be performed and applications accepted while there.

Charter Boat Committee

Commissioner Uzzolina reported regulations are in place and hope to get enforcement for charters that aren't operating legally. There is a list of approved charters on the lnmc.org website.

Rental Boat Committee

Commissioner Frank reported the new rental boat regulation became effective 1/1/24. Applications can currently be processed manually until the website is up and running.

Rafting Committee

Commissioner Uzzolina – No report

No Wake Buoys

Commissioner Wilson reported need to appoint new members to the application committee. Michael Beroth was appointed as chair for a 3-year term. 2 other appointments need to be made. Becky Fox, Emily Kuse and Tom Onsrud have all expressed interest in serving. It is recommended that Becky Fox serve a 2-year term and Emily Kuse serve a 1-year term. Commissioner Wilson made a motion to approve and Commissioner seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Applications

No-Wake Buoy Requests

Rafting Applications

Charter Boat Applications

Variances

- None

PERMITS

- None

FERC Applications

- Lakeside Pointe – Waterside Dock. Commissioner Johnson made a motion to approve and Commissioner Frank seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Administrative Matters

- Review of the current Lake Norman Marine Commission legislation which was created in 1969. The marine commission jurisdiction goes 1 mile past the 760 line. Need joint resolution with all four counties (Mecklenburg, Iredell, Catawba and Lincoln) to establish ordinances, statutes and regulations.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm. Our next meeting will be February 12, 2024.

- Happy New Year to everyone. We look forward to working with all of you to keep the lake a safer and cleaner place in 2024.
- The drought is over! Commit where those dangerous shallow points you saw for the last three months to long term memory, but your new caution is for lots of debris washing down the Catawba Basin, sticks, limbs, trees, docks, chickens, boats...
- Since our last meeting, the Marine Commission members and I have participated in several meetings including
 - o the Catawba -Wateree Management Group's Drought Management Advisory Group (and yes we are still in Stage 1 of their Low Inflow Protocol); the next meeting is tomorrow
 - o their Integrated Water Resources Plan working committee on 14 December. This is a multi-year study to develop water management strategies and tools considering many economic and environmental factors for the long term (through 2100)
 - o The December 13 meeting of the group working on the 2025 updates to the Catawba – Wateree Shoreline Management Plan. This Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) is basically the guidelines for any construction, shoreline stabilization or modifications, marinas, etc that touch the shores of any Duke Lake in the FERC project. If you would like to review the document and submit ideas for revisions please contact your Commissioner. The next meeting is 31 January.
- Another upcoming meeting this month is the NC DEQ Weed Council aka the Lake Norman Aquatic Weed Management Project on January 22. More about this later from Bob Van Dolah.
- We will be participating in the Mid-Atlantic Boat Show at the Charlotte Convention Center February 8-11. There will be over thirty boat dealers and many other lake-related vendors there so mark your calendars.



Report from USCG Auxiliary for Lake Norman Marine Commission January 8, 2024

Submitted by: Steve Riggan, USCG Auxiliary
stevenmriggan@gmail.com
 Mobile: 734-634-4511
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 12/31/23
On-Water Patrols Count	50
On-Water Patrols Hours	154
Public Education Classes	13
Public Education Enrollees	112
Vessel Safety Checks Completed	229

Upcoming Events and Items of Note:

1. Activities continue to install a USCG Auxiliary Fixed Land VHF Marine Radio Station. Location is Blythe Landing Park. A grant application to the Duke Energy Foundation has been approved and funding on the way. Conversations continue with Mecklenburg Parks on administrative tasks. The approach to the antenna will be to install a utility pole with antennas mounted on top; a utility pole contractor has been identified and has agreed to perform the work. The goal is to have the radio station up and running before boating season.
2. A Boat America Boating Safety Class was conducted on November 18, 2023 at Denver Fire Department for 5 students.

End of report.