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LNMC MINUTES

**February 10, 2025
Charles Mack Center
 Mooresville, NC**

Lake Norman Marine Commissioners:

Chris Uzzolina	Chairman
John Johnson	Mecklenburg County
Kevin Frank	Catawba County (Absent)
Billy Wilson	Iredell County
Jim Konieczny	Lincoln 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 Uzzolina at 7:00pm. All in attendance rose to salute the flag and repeat together the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

After a review of the minutes from the January 13, 2025 meeting, there was a motion to approve by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Wilson. Approval of the minutes, as presented, were passed unanimously.

Reports – LNMC Executive Director

Executive Director David Scott – Report Attached

John Gerke reported on the boat show. There was full coverage of the show hours. The counter showed interaction with 256 participants. Thank you to all of the commissioners who assisted.

REPORTS - ENFORCEMENT

Cornelius Police Department

George Brinzey Cornelius Lake Patrol reported boat maintenance during the month of January in preparation of the boating season. Call in regards of a suicidal person on a boat resulting in an officer having CO exposure. April 1-3 will be the annual training session. Day 1 - Vessel operations and tactics, Day 2 - NC Wildlife, Day 3 - Joint scenario training.

Iredell County Sheriff

Officer Oxindine Lake Patrol reported 117 calls for service. 16 vessel stops. 1300 security checks. Duck boat sank and actively searching for it.

Catawba County Lake Patrol

Joe MacIntosh Lake Patrol reported 9 hours on the water with 5 training hours. Boat maintenance is underway. North of Long Island Marina several boats have run ashore.

Lincoln County Lake Patrol

Deputy Isaacs Lincoln County Sheriff's – No Report

N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

NC Wildlife Officer - No Report

Duke Energy

Chad Broadway reported 95.5 lake level. Target is 94.4. Unit 1 at Lake James has been restored. Lake Levels will continue increasing until May. Recreational Lake Level this year will be 98. SMP public meeting will be March 4th at 5:00pm. The marine commission is invited to attend and be a part of the process. An additional meeting will be in Richburg, SC. The plan is to have the SMP filed by year end.

Coast Guard Auxiliary Division 26

Steve Riggins – Report Attached

Mecklenburg County Parks and Rec.

Gregory Clemmer – No Report

Catawba Riverkeepers

Brandon Jones reported 2024 State of the River report has been released. The report has an interactive map. Hurricane Helene clean-up continues throughout the river system and will take years to complete. The overall score for the Central Basin is 3.2 Fair/Good.

Water Quality/Buffers/Illegal Discharge

Mecklenburg County Water Quality

Dave Ferguson reported

NC Wildlife Federation

Billy Wilson reported Rueben and Sharice osprey couple unable to produce. Camera will be located to a more productive nest. In the midst of the Island Habitat Program. The population utilizing the lake is growing and some of the islands will be opened up to multiple adopters.

Comments from the Public:

- None

Committee Reports:

ATON Committee

Assistant Director John Gerke reported lights out reported last month have been repaired. Poles with nests will be raised to have the lights above the nests. Marker 17 light out was reported at the boat show. Communicated with both tow boat companies to report lights out. 2 unapproved buoys have been retrieved. Unable to locate 3 unapproved buoys that had been reported.

Environmental/Hydrilla Committee

Committee Chairman Bob VanDolah reported several updates. The 2024 vegetation survey is available and is posted on the lnmc.org website. Hydrilla has increased in acreage from 2023 to 2024. Sterile grass carp is the treatment of choice. Estimated area is 43 acres. NCDEQ will be hosting a meeting on February 20th. 2024 was the last year of a 5 year plan for restocking the carp. Lyngbya has also appeared. 10 acres were treated in 2024 and appears to be successful. The final treatment was unable to be completed due to Hurricane Helene. Estimated area is 28 acres. Increased from 7 areas to 14 areas impacted. Joining a larger effort this year with Catawba Water Management. Suggested 4 years of funding with \$480,000 going toward Lake Norman. Tentative agreements with the counties to move forward. Blooms present probably due to Hurricane Helene and keeping an eye on it.

Boater Education/Communication

Commissioner Konieczny reported the post card was a popular item at the boat show and was well received. An article is coming out in several publications.

Charter Boat Committee

Commissioner Frank – No report

Rental Boat Committee

Commissioner Frank – No report

Rafting Committee

Commissioner Johnson – No Report

No Wake Buoys

Commissioner Wilson reported a request from Duke Energy on behalf of Lincoln County for the new swim park. The application has not been reviewed yet as it isn't the same as a no wake buoy. 3 -4 buoys requested. Swim Area – No Entry. Opening date is Memorial Day. Commissioner Wilson made a motion to approve up to 4 Swim Area – No Entry buoys. Chairman Uzzolina seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Stone Harbor application made by the Lake Norman Company for 4 No Wake buoys to the harbor area. The application was denied in 2022. The application was reintroduced and the committee recommended placing daymarks on the gazebos. Lake Norman Company has agreed to pay for and maintain these daymarks. There is currently not a process in place. A revision was presented a few days ago for this. Bullets 9, 10, & 11 would be revised to include daymarks in special circumstances. Commissioner Wilson made a motion to approve the daymark application and procedure. Seconded by Commissioner Johnson. The motion passed unanimously. In reconsideration of the Lake Norman Company application Commissioner Wilson made a motion to approve 2 daymarks on the existing gazebos. Commissioner Johnson made comment that these particular daymarks may aid navigation as they will be located in <5' of water. Commissioner Frank wanted to go on record as being opposed to these daymarks. Commissioner Johnson seconded. The motion passed 4 to 1.

Applications**No-Wake Buoy Requests****Rafting Applications****Charter Boat Applications****Variances**

- None

PERMITS

- None

FERC Applications

- Duke presented 2 applications for cable crossings at Perth Rd. The commission has reviewed and has no comments.

Administrative Matters

- Thank you note received for the donation made in memory of Morris Sample and shared with the commission

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03pm. Our next meeting will be March 10, 2025.

Executive Director Comments

February 10, 2025

- Our Lyngbya Consortium of Charlotte Water, Duke and the Lake Wylie Marine Commission met on January 15 to present our planned unified approach to treat Lyngbya in Lakes Norman, Wylie, and Mountain Island over the next 4 years and to request funding. It was well received and the Catawba Wateree Water Management Group who has agreed to administer the program has sent invoices to all of the affected counties. So far no negative feedback from counties has been received.
- The group also developed a new postcard for identifying and reporting Lyngbya. Please pick some up in the back and pass them to friends and colleagues.
- We have also submitted a request for a multi year grant to enable us to accelerate and expand most of our programs. We continue meetings with North Carolina government representatives to ask for their support. AED Gerke and I met Beth Helfrich, the new state representative from Davidson district 98 last month in Davidson and we remain in contact with other representatives and Senators from the lake area.
- The draft of the 2025 **Catawba – Wateree Shoreline Management Plan** is complete after many meetings with Duke and stakeholders last year. The draft document and shoreline maps will be reviewed at public meetings March 5 and 6.
- The 2025 Boat Show was held at the Charlotte Convention Center this past week from February 6-9. We made many contacts and passed out many of our new postcards. Thanks to Asst Exec Dir John Gerke for handling the logistics and to commissioners and others who helped staff the booth.



Report from USCG Auxiliary for Lake Norman Marine Commission February 10, 2025

Submitted by: Steve Riggan, USCG Auxiliary
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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 2024	
Activity	2025 Total As Of 2/4/2025
On-Water Patrols Count*	0
On-Water Patrols Hours*	0
Public Education Classes***	0
Public Education Enrollees	0
Vessel Safety Checks Completed**	1
* Includes on-water patrols and supporting radio watches	
** Actual number on LKN higher-VSCs by non-LKN Flotillas not included	
*** Includes Class at Blythe Landing taught by Lake Wylie Flotilla	

Upcoming Events and Items of Note:

1. Public Education Classes in the Lake Norman area are scheduled as follows:

Two types of courses will be taught:

Boat America A NASBLA-approved course resulting in a boater safety card and certificate, meets requirements for NC and all other states that require a Boating Safety Card/Certificate. Class duration 6 – 8 hours including a test. North Carolina requires any person born on or after January 1, 1988 to have a boating safety card/certificate when operating a vessel of greater than 10 horsepower.

Suddenly in Command Good for those that boat with someone experienced – arms the student with some basic knowledge and encourages planning in case of an emergency that debilitates the primary operator. Approximately 2 hours duration, NO boating safety certificate.

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