

Mountain Island Lake Marine Commission



**Cowan's Ford Country Club
761 Club Drive
Stanley, NC**

July 2, 2008 Minutes

Commissioners Present: Commissioner Pam Beck (Gaston County), Vice Chairman Alice Battle (Mecklenburg County), Commissioner Chris Watson (Lincoln County), Chairman Dan DuVall (Mecklenburg County), Secretary/Treasurer Ann Danzi (Gaston County), Commissioner Tim Bishop (Mecklenburg County)

Commissioners Absent: Commissioner Tim Eldridge (Gaston County)

MILMC Staff Present: Annette Lawing, Interim Executive Director, Chris Clark, Legal Counsel

Topic	Discussion Summary	Action
Welcome & Introductions	Chairman Dan DuVall called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm.	
Approval of the July 2, 2008 Agenda	The July 2, 2008 meeting agenda will stand as submitted.	
Approval of the June 4, 2008 Meeting Minutes	The June 4, 2008 meeting minutes were approved with the following amendment: <input type="checkbox"/> Page 3, Lakekeepers Report, <i>Several 18" grass carp were spotted in Mountain Island Lake by numerous Covekeepers.</i>	
Statement of Purpose	Legal Counsel, Chris Clark read the Statement of Purpose into the record.	
Public Comments	Public Comments <input type="checkbox"/> Renato Edwards, resident of the Stonewater, is requesting the installation of two buoys at the end of the main channel. Mr. Edwards stated that the HOA may be willing to pay for the buoys, installation and maintenance. Legal Counsel Chris Clark asked if the proposed buoys are closer than 100' from	

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Public Comments (continued)	<p>area docks. Mr. Edwards replied that they would be half the distance (50 feet). Chairman Dan DuVall added that all docks that are located in a main channel will experience some sort of damage due to the heavy traffic. He suggested that the residents photograph the boaters that are causing the problems.</p> <p>Commissioner Beck asked how deep the water is around that area. 32-34' with tremendous amount of current in this area, stated Chairman DuVall. It was suggested by Commissioner Beck that the HOA post signs in lieu of buoys but Mr. Edwards believes that no one pays attention to signs. After hearing the request, the commission suggested that Mr. Edwards confirm with the HOA that they would indeed be willing to fund the cost of the buoys and maintenance. This request will be revisited at the August 6th MILMC business meeting.</p>	
Consent Agenda	Consent Agenda – None	
Public Safety Reports	<p>Charlotte – Mecklenburg Police Department - Officer David Turner reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> (23) boat inspections <input type="checkbox"/> (6) warning <input type="checkbox"/> (3) navigational hazards removed <input type="checkbox"/> (11) citations <input type="checkbox"/> Participation in the 2-day triathlon at Latta Plantation on June 16-17. There were over 1,100 swimmers at this event. <p>Gaston County Police Department – Officer Doug Hord reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> (13) boat inspections <input type="checkbox"/> (3) warnings <p>Lincoln County Sheriff’s Office</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No one was present to give report <p>N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No one was present to give report 	

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Public Safety Reports (continued)	<p>Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ No one was present to give report <p>Duke Energy of the Carolinas – Kermitt Taylor reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ (2) Pier Application Approved – (1) maintenance and (1) renewal □ Lake level is 97.0 □ Continue to be in Stage 3 of the LIP □ The Drought Management Group will begin meeting every 2 weeks instead of monthly. □ Mr. Taylor thanked the officers present for enforcing no trespassing for campers on Big Island. 	
Environmental Reports	<p>Mecklenburg County Land Use and Environmental Services – Heather Davis reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Water Quality Conditions (May 2008) – Upper Gar Creek dropped in its index values because of Algae Blooms. The driving factor for the increase in the index value in McDowell Creek Cove is the drop in Chlorophyll and Tot P. □ Bacteriological Results (May 2008) – All testing sites except for Latta Plantation (Canoe Launch) had good results. Extensive rain in this area may be the cause of this change. Vice Chairman Battle asked Ms. Davis if washing horses at the area equestrian farm could cause these high readings. Ms. Davis wasn't certain that that type of activity would cause these readings but would research it further. <p>Lakekeepers Report – Alice Battle reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Randy Miller, the newest Mountain Island Covekeeper, is attending training with the Water Watchers on Lake Wylie. During his training, he noticed several violations at a building site in Overlook. He reported them to LUESA and the next day, the violations were corrected. <p>Quality of Natural Resources (QNRC) – Pam Beck reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Commissioners Beck and Danzi participated in a boat tour of Mountain Island Lake with students from the Gaston County Commissioners School. They are high achieving students from throughout the Gaston County school system who have an interest in the environment, conservation, and ecology. These 	

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Environmental Reports (continued)	<p>students spend two weeks on campus at Belmont Abbey College and take numerous field trips to learn about the environment.</p> <p>MI Wildlife Stewards – Alice Battle reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ MI Stewards of the Wildlife Federation held their meeting on June 19th with guest speaker Lisa Selby Tomkins, whose specialty is native plants. <p>Vice Chairman Battle reported that like so many other communities, Austin, TX is looking for ways to conserve water. In the past, water conservation and energy conservation appeared to mix like oil and water. Businesses are starting to think about them together in ways that could clear a path for more ambitious conservation programs. It takes energy to move water, and it takes a lot of water to make energy. According to the water-energy nexus, about 4% of the nation’s electricity is used for water supply and treatment. About 80% is used to generate electricity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Riverkeeper, Dave Merriman added that this nexus is quite accurate. Approximately 80% of water uses is used to generate energy (fossil fuel plants). Secretary Treasurer Danzi asked Mr. Merriman if he had figures on how much water is used to generate energy from nuclear powered stations. Mr. Merriman replied that Duke Energy would have those numbers. He plans to follow up with Duke and will report back to the commission. □ The latest drought report has the Catawba Basin in a stage 4 drought. The headwaters of the river in McDowell and Burke Counties have not had sufficient rainfall. Most of the region remains at least 5 inches behind the annual rainfall and at least 12-13 inches behind since the onset of our dry conditions. Three-month predictions place the majority of the Catawba basin in a persistent state of drought. 	
Base Operating Plan	<p>Update on the Base Operating Plan (BOP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Project 08-02, Annual Strategic Workshop – Workshop has been scheduled for July 18th from 9am – 12 Noon at COG. □ Project 06-20, Buoys (DuVall) – Nance Cove buoys are being use by children as a jumping platform. CMPD Officer Turner stated that the only way to stop this behavior is to catch them in the act. □ Project 07-32, Stonewater Bay Development (Battle/Danzi) – Run-off from a home construction site in Stonewater – builder has agreed to install silt fence. 	

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Base Operating Plan (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Project 07-33, Lake Management Plan (Battle/Bishop/Beck) – Commissioner Battle will present the commission with the draft LMP at their annual Strategic Workshop in July. ❑ Project 08-36, Miscellaneous Meetings – The Regional Water Safety Forum, sponsored by the CMPD Steele Creek Division, Lake Enforcement Unit, was held on June 17-18. Twenty-Eight (28) various organizations attended this forum and was a great success. Speakers included Gaston County Police Department, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Homeland Security, York County Sheriff’s Office and many more. ❑ Add Project 08-38, Floatation Citations (Watson) – Commissioner Watson to work with Gaston County Officer Doug Hord to contact Chic-fil-a to see if they would like to participate in this program. Lake Wylie has already implemented this program to encourage boaters to wear their safety vests, especially children. If a boater is pulled over by a lake enforcement officer and their children have their safety vests on, they will be presented with a “Floatation Citation” for a free ice cream or product from area vendors. 	
Chairman’s Report	Chairman’s Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ No report 	
Executive Director’s Report	Executive Director’s Report – Interim Executive Director Annette Lawing reported <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Finance report – Lawing distributed a current finance report to the commissioners for their review. ❑ Contracting with Audit Firm – Ms. Lawing is soliciting quotes from area audit firms and will report back to the commission at their August business meeting. ❑ Contracting with Tillman Wright Law Firm – The commission will continue to use Tillman Wright Law Firm for its legal services for FY2008-2009. Legal Counsel Chris Clark thanked the commission for allowing them to service them another year. 	
Commission Counsel Report	Commission Counsel Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ No report 	

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Commissioner's Comments	Commissioner's Comments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="554 250 1598 321">□ Commissioner Beck informed the commission that they could log on to www.americanwaterwaywatch.com to report suspicious activities on the lake. <li data-bbox="554 326 1598 397">□ For information purposes, Mecklenburg County has 84 certified safety divers, reported Commissioner Beck. <li data-bbox="554 402 1598 500">□ Commissioner Danzi read two articles indicating that the Catawba River was an endangered river and another article stating that is a scenic river. Chairman DuVall requested to research these articles in more detail. 	
Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm.	
Next Business Meeting Date and Location	The next MILMC business meeting will be held on August 6, 2008 at 6:30 pm at the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Utilities, 5100 Brookshire Blvd, Charlotte, NC.	

Annette Lawing, Interim Executive Director