

Mountain Island Lake Marine Commission



Charlotte Mecklenburg Utilities
5100 Brookshire Blvd.
Charlotte, NC

November 7, 2007 Minutes

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

Commissioners Absent: Commissioner Chris Watson (Lincoln County)

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

Topic	Discussion Summary	Action
Welcome & Introductions	Chairman Dan DuVall called the meeting to order at 6:31pm.	
Approval of the November 7, 2007 Agenda	The November 7, 2007 agenda was approved as submitted	
Approval of the October 3, 2007 Meeting Minutes	The October 3, 2007 meeting minutes were approved as submitted.	
Statement of Purpose	Legal Counsel, Chris Clark read the Statement of Purpose into the record.	
Public Comments	Public Comments – None	
Consent Agenda	Consent Agenda – None	

Topic	Discussion Summary	Action
Presentation of the FY2006-2007 Audit	<p>Presentation of the FY2006-2007 Audit</p> <p>Eric Smith with Dixon Hughes PLLC reported the audit results to the Commission. The Mountain Island Lake Marine Commissioners were given copies of the FY06-07 audit for their review. Eric highlighted items such as budget line item changes and fund balances. The audit went very well this year and the commission thanked Dixon Hughes for all of their hard work.</p>	
Public Safety Reports	<p>Charlotte – Mecklenburg Police Department – Officer Howard reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No new information to report. Will continue to have boats available during the winter to respond to calls. <p>Gaston County Police Department – Officer Hord reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> On the lake on an “as needed” basis. In addition, Gaston County will be out on MI Lake at least once a month during the winter to keep the boat in good running condition. <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 <p>Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No one was present to give report <p>Duke Energy of the Carolinas – Kermitt Taylor reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> (0) Permits Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Lake level is 94.5 	
Environmental Reports	<p>Mecklenburg County Land Use and Environmental Services – Heather Davis reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Water Quality Conditions Report for September 2007 – all sites except MI3 (McDowell Creek Cove) had Good - Good/Excellent index values. 	

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<p>Environmental Reports (continued)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Bacteriological Results for September 2007 – all testing sites had excellent results. ❑ Heather distributed a list of development data for projects that have been submitted to Mecklenburg County for rezonings or subdivision reviews. These particular projects will all drain into Mountain Island Lake. For more information on these and other projects, visit www.huntersville.org/planning <p>Secretary Treasurer Ann Danzi asked if land had been purchased with the bond that was recently passed for land acquisition in Mecklenburg County and if so, where? Tim Gestwicki with NC Wildlife Federation replied that approximately 450 acres in the northwest quadrant of the MI Lake Watershed had been purchased. Vice Chairman Battle added that a lot of the land that has been identified for purchase is along the Garr Creek area.</p> <p>Commissioner Beck suggested that Heather request a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) from Rusty Rozzelle. This information is critical when working to protect the quality and usability of Mountain Island Lake.</p> <p>Lakekeepers Report – Alice Battle reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Preservation Pointe (common area) – Battle visited this site and no additional trees have been cut down. ❑ Polo Club (near Nance Cove / behind Wal-Mart) – Grading work has begun therefore; the Covekeepers will be on the lookout for any sediment during this construction phase. <p>Quality of Natural Resources (QNRC) – Pam Beck reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ November 1st QNRC – A presentation on privatizing Gaston County’s land fill was given. There will be no December meeting. 	
<p>Update on the NCWF Island Habitat Program</p>	<p>NCWF Island Habitat Program – Tim Gestwicki with the NC Wildlife Federation updated the commission on this program.</p> <p>Before Tim began his presentation, he thanked Kermitt Taylor of Duke Energy for volunteering at the annual canoe and kayak event on MI Lake in June. This event is held 2nd and 3rd Saturday in June. It’s a great opportunity for elected officials and others to come out on the lake and see where their drinking water originates. Tim also</p>	

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<p>Update on the NCWF Island Habitat Program (continued)</p>	<p>recognized the NC Wildlife Resource Commission in conjunction with the Lincoln Sportsman Club for donating \$1,250 to purchase alcohol sensors for lake patrols on MI Lake and Lake Norman.</p> <p>The NC Wildlife Federation has many habitat programs such as; Backyard Wildlife Habitat Program, Schoolyard Wildlife Habitat Program and the Island Habitat Program.</p> <p>The goal of the Island Habitat Program is to provide partnerships that will help keep river and lake islands clean of litter, serve as an educational tool for raising public awareness of the proper disposal of litter on public waters and lands, and work toward protecting and enhancing wildlife habitats. The program seeks fishing clubs, duck hunting groups, conservation organizations, and other wildlife enthusiasts to “adopt” an island. Participating groups agree to periodically clean up the litter from their island while providing data on wildlife species that inhabit their island and note positive and negative habitat characteristics and changes. In addition, shoreline stabilization with valuable wildlife plantings such as button bushes. Adopting groups build or receive nesting boxes for wood ducks, blue birds, flycatchers, owls, bats, etc to erect on the island as well as a sign that denotes their participation in the program. This program has been very successful on Lake Norman, having some 50 + islands adopted. To help protect the osprey population, nesting sites will also be erected around the area lakes. In addition to the Island Habitat Program, the NC Wildlife Federation sponsors the reproduction of native vegetation. This vegetation can help in the prevention of erosion and will provide fish foraging areas in the water. On Lake Norman, there was a 92% success rate for the vegetation that was planted in August.</p> <p>There are 10 -12 islands that are up for adoption on Mountain Island Lake. A survey will be generated in December which will provide descriptions of the islands and explain the program.</p> <p>Vice Chairman Battle asked if ospreys had to be in areas without a lot of noise or traffic. No, stated Mr. Gestwicki. They just want to be in an area where they are the tallest thing around.</p>	

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Update on the NCWF Island Habitat Program (continued)	<p>Chairman DuVall asked if the osprey that have already nested in the large towers down from Hwy 73, would leave this area to go down to a lower osprey nest. Tim replied that if we supplied a suitable nesting place, they will indeed relocate.</p> <p>Tim concluded his presentation by informing the commission that this program is scheduled to be implemented on Mountain Island Lake in January 2008.</p>	
Base Operating Plan	<p>Update on the Base Operating Plan (BOP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Project 07-10, Meeting with the 3 Funding Counties – (DuVall, Danzi, Watson, Beck, Battle) – Mecklenburg County meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 2008. ❑ Project 06-09, Post Boating Safety Rules (Battle) – Duke Energy has budgeted money for the kiosks at boat landings to post various information and boating regulations. ❑ Completed Project 06-19, Hydrilla (Battle) – Look-Out Shoals recently stocked the lake with grass carp to control parrot feather weed. Parrot feather is much harder to control than Hydrilla. So what they had to do is double the amount of carp, which was 40 carp per vegetative acre. Duke Energy asked Brad Garner, a Master Degree student from NC State, if he could monitor the effects to the lake from the intensive stocking of grass carp. As a result of this monitoring, there were no negative effects to the lake from the large amount of carp being stocked in the lake. ❑ Project 06-28, Clean Lake Management (Battle) – The 1.4 acre property near Hwy 16 is owned by Diane Douglas Carter but Duke Energy does have water rights to it. Reminder: this property has had trespassing issues in the past. ❑ Project 07-33, Lake Management Plan (Battle, Bishop, Beck) – Committee to coordinate with COG to draft a public opinion survey to be mailed to MI residents. This draft should be ready for the committee to review at their December business meeting. ❑ Project 07-08, Big Sweep (Battle, Watson) – The annual Big Sweep was held on October 6, 2007 and was a great success! ❑ Project 08-18, Support Educational Forest (Beck, Watson, Danzi) – The Carolina Thread Trail kick off will be Friday, November 9th. Gaston County and York County have been selected as the two pilot programs for the entire greenway system. 	

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Chairman's Report	Chairman's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ FERC Relicensing Habitat Enhancement Program – Chairman DuVall is a Lake Advisory Member and will assist in reviewing requests for funding for habitat enhancement projects (waterfowl, fish, etc). DuVall will keep the commission up-to-date with any new information from this program. 	
Executive Director's Report	Executive Director's Report – Interim Executive Director Annette Lawing reported <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Finance report – Lawing distributed the Finance report to all of the commissioners for their review. □ 2008 MILMC Meeting Schedule – The proposed 2008 meeting schedule was distributed to the commission for their review. The commission will continue to rotate their meetings between Mt. Holly City Hall, East Lincoln High School and Charlotte Mecklenburg Utilities. 	A motion was made by Commissioner Beck to approve the 2008 MILMC meeting schedule as presented. Seconded by Secretary Treasurer Danzi. The motion was approved.
Commission Counsel Report	Commission Counsel Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ No report 	
Election of Officers	Election of Officers – Legal Counsel Chris Clark officiated the election of officers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ <u>Chairman</u> – Ann Danzi nominated Dan DuVall for Chairman. With no other nominations, Dan DuVall will remain the Chairman of the Mountain Island Lake Marine Commission. □ <u>Vice Chairman</u> – Pam Beck nominated Alice Battle for Vice Chairman. With no other nominations, Alice Battle will remain Vice Chairman of the Mountain Island Lake Marine Commission. □ <u>Secretary Treasurer</u> – Alice Battle nominated Ann Danzi for Secretary Treasurer. With no other nominations, Ann Danzi will remain Secretary Treasurer of the Mountain Island Lake Marine Commission. <p style="text-align: center;">Congratulations to all of our officers!!!</p>	
Commissioner's Comments	Commissioner's Comments - None	

Topic	Discussion Summary	Action
Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm.	
Next Business Meeting Date and Location	The next MILMC business meeting will be held on December 5, 2007 at 6:30 pm at the home of Pam and John Beck, 405 Nivens Cove Road, Mount Holly, NC.	

Annette Lawing, Interim Executive Director