

Minutes for the Sep 7, 2016 LGA Monthly Meeting (Approved)

The meeting began at 9:33 AM. The President, Bill Heflin, called the meeting to order and led the assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. He then called for a moment of silence. In attendance were Directors Al Potter, Don Carson, John Cataldo, Carol Warfel, Jeff Dowhan, Wally Sayko, Tony Moran, Mozine Lowe, and Jack Saunders, and Exec. Dir. Moira Underwood. The thirty-nine persons in the audience introduced themselves.

Bill Heflin introduced Corey Chamberlain from Dominion Power who addressed operations and safety for the Gaston Dam operation. He first discussed safety reminders which included warnings that boaters need to remember to stay away from the dam due to possible dangers from open gates in the dam or from water movement resulting from power generation – this applies to the front and back sides of the dam.

He then discussed dam operation guidelines from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license and the cooperation of operations with the US Army Corps of Engineers (Kerr Dam). He quickly reviewed normal and flood condition lake level maintenance and flow requirements. He differentiated between those levels allowed by the FERC License and those agreed to in the “Good Neighbor” Policy between Dominion, the LGA, the Stakeholders Board and the LG Water Safety Council.

Corey went into detail regarding the Corps flood declarations and what water levels and flow rates would correspondingly be experienced and discussed max flows and Probable Maximum Flood capabilities of the dam system. The probable max flows for a given watershed, and statistical projections of 100 year precipitation rates have differences in what is taken into consideration.

He then addressed potential flows in drought conditions and identified the lowest recorded flow rates and discussed the flow priorities for both water customers on the river basin and those benefiting from inter-basin transfers. Human Health is the priority determination in allocations and winter usage is looked at as a baseline.

He then discussed storm preparedness with key recommendations for protection of property, and steps to protect personal property from damage in droughts. He quickly touched on reminders for construction and use on the shoreline, and beaching or mooring off docks. He did address dredging including that associated with lymbya removal and floating platforms put in place by many property owners to stake out control of space near docks. Such floating hazards are allowed for only 24 hours. Accidents caused by such obstacles are the liability of the owner of the obstacle.

Questions were asked about safety inspections of the dam – FERC performs annual inspections, but Dominion performs constant inspection, repair and maintenance. Bill thanked Corey for the

presentation and noted that the LGA looks forward to a continuing strong relationship with Dominion.

Bill introduced and had Bryan Goldsworthy sworn in as an Interim Director for Warren County.

Jeff Dowhan reviewed the earlier Lake Learning Events held by the Education Committee for the Wm. R. Davie Middle School students and reported that an event with Warren county Schools was in work but not certain for the end of September.

Wally advised that there was a large effort attempting to understand and treat Lyngbya underway and that results were sketchy. He turned over the reporting to Al Potter for a comprehensive review of clarity measurements over the last year covering the length of the lake. He noted close correlation between clarity and weather events and boat traffic.

Jack noted that there will be no safety committee this month and that people need to make early preparation for potential hurricane events.

Tony discussed the possible ways to support the LGA's efforts if a person does not have personal time and would instead like to donate to the efforts that are undertaken. He also discussed the sponsor programs.

Bill pointed out that Norton's has closed and another meeting location is being considered. He called attention to both the draft proposed 2017 budget for the Directors to approve and to the September budget status for acceptance. He then introduced Mike Hairston from Warren County who gave a report of two spending actions in Warren County, both approved by the Board of Commissioners at a recent meeting and the potential impact to Warren County tax rates in 2017. Bill presented Mike with a Certificate of Appreciation for his work contributing significantly to a reduced cost building approach for a new EMS building.

All members present were encouraged to participate in local government activity to ensure their voices are heard and that the local taxpayers have a say in decisions by county government.

There being no other issues the meeting was adjourned.

Reported by Jack D. Saunders