

## **LGA Monthly Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, August 3, 2022**

**Lake Gaston Baptist Church**

- Brian Goldsworthy opened the meeting at 9:37 AM
- Board attendees: Brian Goldsworthy, Jeff Zimmer, Lewis Mustian, Don Carson, Eric Wooster, Tony Moran, Luly Carson, Carol Warfel, John Cataldo, Lew Stringer
- We had 16 visitors (2 1<sup>st</sup> time attendees) and 2 Wildlife Officers
- Motion made to approve agenda by Eric Wooster and seconded by Carol Warfel. Passed
- No announcements
- Guest Speakers from NC Wildlife Department (Rich Creech and Jacob Long)
  - VA and other NC officers not available due to working a large fishing case at present time.
  - NC has 8 officers to cover 5 counties including Gaston, RR Lake and Kerr Lake. Very limited resources
  - Use of “Batmobile” to conduct field sobriety test/secure boats has reduced the time for DUI’s from 4 hours to 1 hour as this means
  - A magistrate is available with the “Batmobile” to process the detainee versus having to go to sheriff’s office and then find magistrate.
  - Would like funding and resources to set up more “Batmobiles”
  - #1 complaint on lake are issues with wake boats. Nothing they can do, must work with local government to establish local rules/laws.
  - Perform surveillance of drinking parties, request citizens call if you have knowledge of these parties.
  - NC noise ordinance for noise level after 11 PM, call the sheriffs department
  - NC has no regulations for boating distance from docks, however jet skis are governed to be at least 100 feet from dock unless no wake. VA is only 50 feet for jet skis

- Only careless and reckless laws can be applied by NC Wildlife if observed
- NC allows alcohol consumption on boat (beer only), no spirit or wine
- Narrow channel regulations (no definition of narrow channel) Jet skis are regulated not boats
- Impaired while operating a boat is not based on a number, they use a field sobriety test to begin the process of handling these cases, then it goes to blood test when warrant is issued.
- Have noted huge increase in designated drivers for boats and that is a good thing. Since “Cheyenne’s law” passed and went in effect it is now a felony if drinking and operating a boat/jet ski results in injury or death
- Jet ski operators must be 14 or older in NC, no law about cell phone use on jet ski or boat
- DUI in NC on boat does not affect drivers license, shows on criminal record. Is subject to up to \$1,000 fine. Attorneys often plead down to careless and reckless
- No regulations/restrictions for tubing by boat in NC
- Wildlife rehabilitators in NC: Christy Steed in Warrenton and Randy Atkins in Wilson
- Lake Norman has local (county) law concerning distance from docks for no wake
- Black bears are in Warren Co. (13 were killed by hunters in 2021)
- NC Wildlife will be presenting at the Water Safety Council Meeting August 24, 2022

### Committee Updates

- Lake Environment/Jeff Zimmer: Annual Weed survey to be completed in Sept and Oct. 350 miles shoreline. Judy Waters will be handling equipment and sign ups
- Government Relations/John Cataldo: working of establishing the annual School Superintendents forum for November 2022
- Lake Clean Up/Carol Warfel: contact Carol for bags to pick up roadside and shoreline litter

- Marketing and Membership/Tony Moran: Check website often for updates and listing of county boards agenda's and meeting times. Will have tent at Littleton Festival on Saturday of Labor Day weekend
- Brian shared that the bulletin went out by email and 100 bounced due to faulty email addresses

Announcement of the appointment of Executive Director to temporary bookkeeper by the President effective August 16, 2022 until a Treasurer can be appointed, per Executive Committee discussion and in accordance with current bylaws. Brian and Jeff will have check writing authority.

Member issues/concerns

- How are / can short term rental houses issues / experiences with noise, partying, unsafe boat operation be dealt with?

Motion to adjourn by Eric Wooster and seconded by Jeff Zimmer. Passed

Meeting adjourned at 10:57 AM