# LAKE ANNA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## Orange County Office Building 112 West Main Street Orange, VA 22960 MINUTES – June 27, 2012 MEETING

#### Call to Order

Chairman Oliver called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

#### Roll Call

**Present:** James Oliver, Chairman; V. Rae Jones, Vice-Chairman; Bill Martin, Treasurer; Willie Harper, Louisa County; Larry Zemke, Louisa County; Jim White, Orange County; Gary Bullis; Spotslvania County; Ann Heidig, Spotsylvania County.

**Absent:** Robert Dubé, Louisa County; Julie G. Summs, Orange County; Douglas Barnes, Spotsylvania; James Beazley, Dominion and Steve Falkenthal, Chairman of the Navigation Committee.

Others Present: Doug Smith, President of Lake Anna Civic Association; Maureen Daniels, Chair, Emergency Services/Safe Boating Coalition; Perry Agee, Dominion; Irene Luck, Central Virginian Newspaper and Teresa Lamb, Orange County Secretary.

#### Approval of Minutes

Ms. Heidig moved, seconded by Mr. Martin, and carried to approve the April 25, 2012 minutes, as presented. The motion passed 8-0.

#### Bills for Reimbursement

Mr. Martin explained that there were two bills for fuel in the amount of \$73.31 and \$42.01, for a total of \$115.32, and one bill for \$2,064.00 for purchased channel markers, buoys and lights.

Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Bullis, and carried to approve the bills for reimbursement, as presented. The motion passed 8-0.

#### Treasurer's Report

Mr. Martin provided an update on the balance of the Hydrilla CD, Money Market account, and the total interest earned from both accounts.

Mr. Zemke moved, seconded by Mr. Harper and carried, to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. The motion passed 8-0.

#### Citizen's Information Period

Mr. Doug Smith, Lake Anna Civic Association, commented on having a plan for the coming year for the funding of the hazard buoys. He explained that the Committee should be requesting money from the localities to help with the funding.

Mr. Oliver explained that this was a bad year for the buoys, a lot of wear and tear. He explained that Mr. Falkenthal was bringing them up to speed for this year, and that he expected that the coming year would not be as bad. He also stated that it will of course depend on the winter months and the summer traffic.

Ms. Daniels explained that the Coast Guard Auxiliary does help Mr. Falkenthal identify the buoys and that she can verify that the buoys are taking a beating. She explained that the other big expense to look at in the future would be the location markers. She stated that they have mainly concentrated on the no-wake buoys and the hazard buoys, but as they go forward, they could start compiling a master list of location markers and signs that will need to be replaced.

Mr. Oliver stated that the Committee had decided to abandon the system all together and explained that they would be taking them out as they deteriorated, and would not be replacing them. He asked Ms. Daniels to let the Committee know as soon as they get their program going, so that he could feel confident in removing that part of the system. He stated that it is very costly to remove the post.

#### Committee Report

None.

#### **Old Business**

Re: Signage Proposal Report – Mr. Zemke

Mr. Zemke reported to the Lake Anna Advisory Committee (LAAC) the history of the Signage Sub-Committee. He explained that at the request of the Lake Anna Civic Association's (LACA) Emergency Services/Safe Boating Coalition Committee, a subcommittee was formed by the Lake Anna Advisory Committee at the April 25, 2012, meeting, to assist the LACA Emergency Services/Safe Boating Coalition Committee initiative.

He stated that the existence of the Sub-Committee was discussed at the LACA "Info Exchange" on May 2, 2012, hosted by Dominion Power and LACA. He explained that at that time, it was reported by the Coalition representative that both Louisa and Spotsylvania Emergency Services organizations had decided to fund their part of the effort with existing resources (both people and budget).

He explained that the Subcommittee met to work out the details on May 30, 2012. At that meeting the participation efforts of the Spotsylvania EMS organization was reportedly working its way through the chain of command and collecting endorsements.

Mr. Zemke reported that on May 31, 2012, an email was received from the Coalition representative, stating that since the local EMS organizations have started progress on this project, LAAC's participation is no longer required to move the program along. He explained that the Safety Coalition thanked LAAC for its willingness to assist, and any action plans from the subcommittee meeting therefore were suspended. He stated that additional "willingness to pay" data was developed and forwarded to the Coalition for their use in costing/pricing of the signage. He concluded by saying there was no current subcommittee activity.

Ms. Daniels stated that she would like to make a correction to that statement, and explained that it was not stated at that meeting that the funding had been secured by either Louisa or Spotsylvania County at that point. She expressed that Louisa and Spotsylvania Counties were in fact on board with moving this along through their chain of command to get approval. She stated that she suggested to the Committee that the Counties involved figure out a way to do that themselves. She explained that they are not totally cutting out the LAAC, and are not shameless about coming back to them for help, if they need it.

She stated that the next meeting of the coalition group is July 12, 2012. She noted that she spoke with Diane Greene of Rainbow Graphics about the program, and asked if she could see herself handling a project like this. Ms. Greene was very excited about the program and offered some great ideas. Ms. Daniels explained to the Committee how the program could end up looking, but cautioned that nothing has been approved yet.

Mr. Oliver stated that it sounded like a really good program and he hoped that it would work out, but he was uncomfortable with having a commercial organization being the key point for distribution. He explained that it clutters things and commercial organizations don't stay in business forever. He felt that it would be better served if the application goes to the County and the Emergency services people involved and then the County would be responsible for sending the order to the printer, to have the sign made.

Mr. Smith explained that his perception was that the organization would not be maintaining any databases. They would pass on the address to the Counties and the Counties would be keeping the database and linking the numbers to the 911 addresses. If the printing company receives a check they would build a sign and they would mail it back to the requestor and email the number with the address link to the County. No database administration would be involved at the commercial entity.

Ms. Daniels explained that Ms. Greene was willing to implement the program with no upfront money, which was a concern to everyone. She stated that they would start with Spotsylvania and Louisa Counties, but would not be excluding Orange County.

Discussion ensued including: working with the homeowners associations; tacking signs onto some of the buoys; using latitude and longitude signs instead of physical addresses; designating signs for the different islands; strictly voluntary effort on placement of signs at this time; getting the word out about the program and the fact that no upfront money is needed at this time to implement the program.

#### New Business

Re: Proposal to set up accounts with the following:

- Roylan, Inc. (supplier of buoys & other materials)
- High Point Marina (fuel)

Mr. Oliver explained that Roylan gives LAAC the best price as a quasi-government agency and does not charge any tax on orders. High Point marina is ideally located centrally on the Lake for volunteers to access.

Ms. Heidig motioned, seconded by Mr. Martin and carried, to set-up the accounts with Roylan, Inc. and High Point Marina. The motion passed 8-0.

Mr. Martin asked about the approval process for Roylan, Inc. for supplies, and Mr. Oliver explained that it would still have to go through the same approval process as before, which would be approved in advance, but billed directly to LAAC and a check cut to the supplier based on the advanced approval.

Mr. Martin explained that Mr. Falkenthal was asking for approval to purchase the necessary cabling and clamps to replace on the anchors of the buoys in the amount of \$1,700.00, plus shipping cost.

Mr. Zemke motioned, seconded by Ms. Heidig and carried, to approve the purchase of cabling and materials not to exceed \$2,000.00.

Mr. Oliver explained that he has sent a request to Louisa and Spotsylvania Counties in the past to get support for this program and has received no response from either County. He asked the Committee for their suggestions in how they can get support from the localities. He stated that there were a total of 92 markers on the Lake right now, and 44 of them or (47%) were in Louisa County and 48 of them or (53%) were in Spotsylvania County. He stated that the average annual expenditure for the year is \$4,000.00 rounded. He explained that if each County could commit a certain amount of money each year that the committee would be able to finance the expenditures needed for the necessary repairs.

Mr. Harper explained that he needed to know how many markers the County will be responsible for maintaining, before approaching Louisa County. He stated that he would need solid numbers and how they fit within the LAAC agreement between the three Counties before presenting this proposal.

Chairman Oliver made a statement that he would not be able to provide solid numbers until he finds out whether or not the project before them is approved. Chairman Oliver asked Mr. Harper if he would send an email to him stating exactly what information he needed to be able to pursue this with Louisa and Spotsylvania Counties. It was discussed that Orange County would not be excluded, but that Orange does not have as much interest as Louisa and Spotsylvania.

Mr. Smith suggested that each County should request \$2,000 each for the upcoming budget to help get the program started.

Discussion ensued including: the money in the Hydrilla fund; whether they should contact Legislators and discuss the importance of using some of that money for safety issues on the Lake; the need to find out whether the funds could be used for other issues other than just the Hydrilla; the history behind the Hydrilla fund and holding back some of the funds for the Hydrilla.

The Board approved Mr. Harper to get in contact with Delegate Farrell, Louisa County's representative, to investigate the history behind the Hydrilla fund, and if it is possible to use that fund for issues surrounding the Lake.

Mr. Zemke stated his confusion over the role of the Lake Anna Advisory Committee (LAAC) and the purpose relating to the markers. He explained that Purpose #4 of the agreement stated that LAAC is to administer the online marker program, i.e. no wake, and that there was nothing stated in the agreement about maintaining any safety programs. He also explained in the agreement that LAAC is to make recommendations for new and revised ordinances and also to complete research and work for the localities.

He asked the County representatives if there are any items that LAAC should be working on at this time. Ms. Heidig commented that there was nothing that she knew of on the Spotsylvania side. Mr. Harper said that he did not know of anything on the table, but explained that the marker situation should be one of these items.

Mr. Zemke explained some of the issues that he felt the committee should be pursing:

Common requirements for pollutants and septic runoff

- Protection of the groundwater on the lake from chemicals
- Development of life cycle measurements on the carp

Discussion ensued including: the lifecycle of the carp being 15 years; finding out from the biologist if there are any grass carp mating on the warm side, and what the fish count is; finding out from the Department of Fish and Game what their fish count is; sewer system breakage or leakage; locality requirements of emptying household sewer systems, and if this would fit the purpose of the LAAC group; no legal requirements to empty sewer tanks in Orange or Louisa County, whereas Spotsylvania County has requirements to empty tanks once a year; checking with the treatment plants and their requirements; results from Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the impairment of ecoli being a marker or indicator for others and their ability to distinguish it between human and animal waste.

Mr. Martin commented on the amount of money that was approved for the Treasurer to pay out at this meeting, and stated that it would be good idea if each locality could budget \$2,000 a year to help pay for expenses.

#### **Next Meeting**

The next LAAC Meeting will be held in Spotsylvania County on August 22, 2012.

#### **Adjournment**

Mr. Martin moved, seconded by Ms. Heidig and carried, to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Motion passed 8-0.

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Mr. James Oliver Chairman, Lake Anna Advisory Committee (LAAC)

Dear Mr. Oliver, Jim

I am informing you with this letter of my intent to resign my position as Chairman, Navigation Committee, LAAC as of December 31, 2012. As you already know I have been involved with this program since July 2007 and have been the Chairman since October 2007 with the official appointment in January 2008. I have asked the members of the committee if they would like to take over the committee and all have declined. I can no longer tolerate the destruction to my pontoon boat and bass boat from the buoys and anchors, not to mention the poundage that needs to be manhandled when repairing or replacing the buoys.

Over these past five years I have gotten a very strong indication from the LAAC board that they wish the buoys would go away. It is not my program, it is theirs, I have been the maintenance man, nothing more.

I have decided to assume the position of Program Manager (PM) for the Lake Anna Civic Association (LACA) Water Monitoring Program. The current PM is leaving at the end of the testing season which is October 2012. I have been given the OK to move into this position.

I will hold on to all tools and equipment that was turned over to me and the current inventory of parts until someone is appointed as the new chairman. At that time I will assist the new chairman in relocating the inventory to a new location. I will also remain as an assistant to the new chairman for the 2013 calendar year if requested.

I have enjoyed repairing the buoys and have met many very nice people on the lake in doing so. Without the three counties BOS not wanting to understand the importance of the buoys in this body of water I feel it is a dying program.

Steve Falkenthal Chairman, Navigation Committee

# Data to support a request for funding to support the Navigation Aids on Lake Aanna to Louisa and Spotsylvania counties

## Types of Navigation Aids, Number and Location

#### Lateral Markers:

Currently there are 28 Lateral Markers installed: 14 in Louisa County, and 14 in Spotsylvania.

#### No Wake Buoys:

There are 26 No Wake Buoys at the eight bridges over the Lake. In Louisa a total of 10 buoys are placed at:

- 4 North Anna Bridge (Rte 522)--4
- 2 New Bridge (Rte 208)
- 2 Contrary Creek (Rte 652)
- 2 Elk Creek (Rte 652)

In Spotsylvania there a total of 16 No Wake buoys at five bridges:

- 4 Pamunkey Bridge (Rte 522)
- 2 Days Bridge (Rte 719)
- 4 Dillards Bridge (Rte 719)
- 4 Stubbs Bridge (Rte 612)
- 2 New Bridge (Rte 208)

### Hazard Buoys marking shallow areas

The are 40 Hazard Buoys on the Lake. There are 22 in Louisa and 18 in Spotsylvania.

Total number of Navigation Markers is 94 of which 46 (48%) are in Louisa County, 48 (52%) in Spotsylvania County. There are none physically in Orange County, however, the buoys at the North Anna and Pamunkey Bridges also serve those residents in Orange county.

## Funding Needed for Maintenance of these Navigation Aids Year 2013.

The estimated costs for 2012 were \$ 3053. Actual spending through July 2012 has been \$3921\*. Additional costs on the order of \$300 can be expected (fuel and misc. items) for a total of \$4221 in 2012. The spending over budget was due to an unusually high occurrence of damage to markers and failure of markers due to aging. The average cost in 2012 will be approximately \$45/marker.

Based on the costs in 2012 an estimated cost of \$4000 should be allocated for 2013. A request should be submitted to Louisa and Spotsylvania to share this amount.

\*Numbers based on reimbursement requests and have not been validated by the LAAC treasurer

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Others if you do not wish to get these reports please let me know and I will no longer include you.

I also want to tell you that I have sent in my Notice of Intent to LAAC that I will no longer be the Chairman of the Navigation Committee as of December 31, 2012. This request was acknowledged by Jim Oliver, President, LAAC. I am assuming the position of Program Manager of the LACA Water Monitoring Program from the departing Bob Weiner. This will take effect on January 1, 2013. If any of you know of somebody that would like to take over as Chairman of the Nav. Com. let me know and I will get in touch with that individual. I will maintain all inventory until turned over to the new Chairman. Both of my helpers have said that they are not interested it taking over the program and that they are not interested in working with another person. In short at the beginning of the 2013 year there will be no buoy repair until the committee is rebuilt.

Thank you for all of your support and assistance. It has truly been enjoyable working with the Aux. Coast Guard and the VDGIF.

Steve

On August 7 Jim Marstall, Lee Barta and myself replaced burnt out lights on No Wake buoys. We started in Contrary Creek at the bridge replacing the amber light with a new one. While we were there we recovered the Hazard Shallow buoy that was recovered by Maureen Daniels from the Stubbs Lake View area of the lake. This buoy is #10 tidal which belongs at the shallow area of Bexley Point in the waters of Windwood Cove. Coming out of Contrary Creek we placed a clear light on the shallow tidal buoy in the very large shallow area off of Mitchells Point at the mouth of Contrary Creek. From there we proceeded to Bexley Point to replace the #10 buoy. A new 1 1/2" galvanized pole had to be used since we could not find the old pole. We then proceeded to Stubbs bridge where we replaced two No Wake amber lights. One of the lights was dead and the other buoy did not have any light installed. From there we went to Harris bridge on the North Anna River arm of the lake and replaced another light on a No Wake buoy that had a clear light that was supposed to be amber. This used up the 4 amber lights I just ordered. We used the one new clear light that was just purchased but recovered one from a No Wake buoy so we still have one clear light for use. No gas was charged to LAAC since I had gas from the last outing.