**Minutes of Board Meeting,**

**Leesville Lake Association, September 9, 2021, Altavista Library**

**Call to order:** Vice President, Chip Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 6:26 PM.

**Present:** Richard Beaton, Joe Humphrey, Mary Loiselle, Pam McMillan, Dave Waterman, Chip Zimmerman, Frank Podrebarac, JW Burton

**Absent:** Dave Rives, Phyllis Garlick, Tony Capuco, Dannie Smith

**Quorum:** Yes

**Minutes:** Chip asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the August 12, 2021 Board meeting.

***Motion: Joe made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 12, 2021 Board meeting as presented. Frank seconded.* *All approved.***

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Monthly and End of FY reports were sent on September 7. No issues to report. One question came up that was answered.

Dues receipts – as of September 8, $5,225 has been received from 209 members from invoices being sent. Dues have also been received from 10 “new” members including TLAC who has paid dues intermittently through the years. 54 members remain unpaid. Mary brought a list of unpaid members for whatever we can do verbally or via personal contact. Mary will send reminder postcards out after 10/1.

9 calendar orders received and $455 in additional donations has also been received.

Once Mary ensures all the FY paperwork is in order, she’ll get the taxes done and an audit on the books.

Chip asked for a motion to approve the Treasurer’s report.

***Motion: JW made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s report as presented. Pam seconded. All approved.***

**Committee Reports:**

**Executive:** Organizational Succession Planning is with Dave Rives. Nothing new to report.The board discussed what we can do to get more people volunteering on the board. Ideas included – put something in the Altavista Journal or other local newspapers; ask fishing tournament sponsors to join and/or hand out membership applications to participants and consult a public relations firm. The subject was tabled for future discussion. Also, Frank is going to approach Womack Publishing about getting the Leesville Lake magazine available electronically so it can be accessed from a link on the LLA website.

**Finance:** Mary reported that the Finance Committee has submitted a question for the survey that is being developed.

**Nominating:** No Report

**Beautification Day:** No Report.

**Communications:**

**Newsletter:** Need articles and survey questions by 9/15

**Calendar:** nothing new

**Facebook:** nothing new

**Website:**

1.Working on survey

2. Frank looking into recent break-in attempts and possible ways to combat it

3. Have a few updates I’m letting age a bit before applying (releases ending in \*.0)

**Debris:**

-From January - July 2021, AEP reported a total 1462 tons removed from Leesville Lake. Total days worked were 68.

(Comparison 2020 Jan-July was 5343 tons and 130 days worked).

-Total TLAC Debris reports submitted during that timeframe was 78.

(Comparison 2020 Jan-July total reports were 190).

-There were no high water incidents

-According to AEP monthly reports, crew primarily worked between the Leesville Dam and MM13 although no one has seen the barge working above MM 10.

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-Committee members have participated in monthly surveys scheduled throughout the season and continue to submit their comparison findings and recommendations in AEP’s reports.

Although both AEP and LLA reports have been similar in debris siting locations, we continue to disagree with their reporting amounts.

In general we believe AEP underestimates by way of descriptive wording (example; “lightly scattered “).

In addition, our Committee continues to recommend the need for a skimmer to address the widespread debris throughout the lake that the barge equipment is not suitable for.

AEP continues to ignore or deny the need for this additional equipment.

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2021 OVERALL PLAN UPDATE

The last scheduled AEP survey was performed yesterday September 9, 2021 as of today we have not received AEP’s overall plan going forward into the remainder of this month into October. Nor will we be able to update the data sheet for days worked and tonnage removed until we receive that report.

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MYERS CREEK OFFLOAD SITE UPDATE

Construction is still expected to continue in late September after the Long Eared Bat roosting season is over.

Our Committee will follow up with AEP for confirmation.

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PIGG RIVER TECHNICAL UPDATE

To date, the Committee has not been given any progress updates from AEP regarding the Pigg River diversion/collection device studies.

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NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

At the LLA annual association meeting, three members joined the Debris Committee;

Roy Kelley from Quatrone Subdivision (MM13) and

April and Lyle Firnhaber from Eagle Point Shores Subdivision (MM8).

Other than brief informal discussions with these new members, our Committee has not had an opportunity to coordinate an official meeting. We hope to do this once Dave Rives returns from his trips.

**Membership:**

Chip approached Amanda Myers-Ramirez about assisting with the membership and, due to current work and family demands, she asked if he could ask her again in November.

Chip and Dave W are working on the survey. They’ve had one meeting and plan to meet again on September 20th, after which a draft will be sent to the board for review/comment. If approved and finalized, it will be included in the next newsletter (October) as a link to complete it on the website.

**Navigational Aids:**

Hazard Buoy Update

Two of the Hazard Buoys have moved – the shoal at mile 11 and the stump field at mile 15. Joe will be adding an additional 100 pound anchor to each buoy to hopefully prevent them from moving.

The four final hazard buoys proposed are in the works with the help of Paula at TLAC. Liz/AEP has asked that we not consider the buoy proposed at the mouth of the Pigg River due to the work AEP is considering for capturing debris from the river. Joe agreed with eliminating, for now, that proposed buoy. It likely would have been a problem each heavy rain incident.

Regarding the final (now 3) hazard buoys, Paula learned the Campbell County Board of Supervisors must approve all installations of regulatory markers and are considering allowing TLAC to administer applications for buoys on their behalf. This should be on their agenda for the October 7th meeting. The next TLAC board meeting is November 9th when our proposals will be considered.

The final buoys were delivered yesterday and all or most of the hardware, chains and concrete have been purchased. Joe has also purchased a new No Wake Buoy for Old Women’s Creek. The current buoy which broke loose is in poor condition and needed to be replaced.

The final three hazard buoy locations are as follows:

Shoals at 12 Mile Island (mile 11.8)

Rocks at the Runaway Bay point (mile 1.2)

Rocks at the Heron Landing point on the north end (mile 1.6)

AEP Navigation Technical Review Meeting (8/26/21)

Liz suggested maybe using the SML buoy labeling system for LVL buoys. Joe has requested information on their labeling system.

Joe has a meeting scheduled for September 15th with Liz to discuss the proposed Aids to Navigation Plan. This is where we proposed 13 later markers for the channel on LVL instead of the original plan calling for 43 markers. As part of the proposal, I also asked that AEP install navigation lights on the Tolers Ferry Bridge.

**Property:**

Potential Pontoon Boat Modifications (Beaton- no report)

Mile Marker Maintenance (Beaton – no report) Per Dave Rives – AEP has been contacted regarding access to the signs. They want to make sure we do not violate the Shoreline Management Program

restrictions. They are investigating getting their lake crew to clear the markers as they already have right-of way access.

**Safety:**

Gerry Caprario continues to conduct vessel safety checks if he is contacted to do so.

All inquiries for 2022 boater safety class information are referred to VA DWR and the information is noted on the LLA website.

**Water Quality:**

• Water quality of LVL has remained good thus far this season. Bacterial contamination has not been problematic, but bacterial content of water near the Pigg River remains elevated. The last water sampling in August reveals that the dissolved oxygen content of water entering LVL from SML has declined and lower oxygen is detectable to at least mile marker 6. The oxygen levels observed are below those required by AEP’s operating license. We have expressed our concern to AEP about this problem and will push for a resolution. Typically, oxygen levels in the SML tailwaters are not compliant during August and the fall months. Dr. Shahady observed curly pond weed in his last sampling. Whether this represents new beds or an expansion of existing beds needs to be determined.

• We will not submit a grant proposal to the Department of Environmental Quality this year. We need to further evaluate the feasibility of obtaining future funding from DEQ to improve water quality of the Pigg River.

• Tom Shahady has agreed to speak at our October general meeting. He will address issues observed as a consequence of dam removal at Lynchburg (the UL lake) and pertinence to Leesville Lake and other bodies of water.

**TLAC:** No report, next meeting is November 9**.**

**Old Business:**

Speaker for 2021 membership meeting – last one in 2021 is October (next month) and the speaker is Dr. Tom Shahady. It was agreed to have pizza after the meeting. It was recommended that we serve it rather than leaving the boxes open for people to help themselves. We’ll get with Phyllis to discuss details regarding how many and what to order; where to order from; cut-off date for signing up for the meeting; supplies, etc.

Leesville Lake Apparel – a question or two will be on the survey about other clothing items.

**New Business:** The board discussed the topic of businesses as members of LLA as opposed to individuals. We currently have at least three who would have to identify an authorized representative in order to vote on LLA items. No plan of action was developed.

**Executive Session:** There was no Executive Session business.

**Confirmation of Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be a general member meeting on Saturday, October 9, 2021 at 10:30AM at the Altavista Train Station.

**Adjournment:** JW made a motion to adjourn. Joe Humphrey seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 7:46 PM.