**Minutes of Board Meeting**

**Leesville Lake Association, May 12, 2022, Altavista Library**

**Call to order:** President, Dave Rives called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

**Present:** Richard Beaton, Brian Bell, J W Burton, Tony Capuco, Joe Humphrey, Mary Loiselle,

Pam McMillan, Dave Rives, Dannie Smith, Dave Waterman, Chip Zimmerman

**Absent:** Frank Podrebarac, Phyllis Garlick

**Members:** Roy Kelley, Amanda Myers Ramirez

**Quorum:** Yes

**Minutes:** Dave R. asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the past two meetings.

***Motion: JWB made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 10, 2022 Board meeting as presented. Dannie seconded.* *All approved.***

***Motion: Tony made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 16, 2022 General Members meeting as presented. Chip seconded. All approved.***

**Treasurer’s Report:** 1) Reports were completed and sent to board members on Saturday, May 7. Board member, finance committee member and treasurer-to-be Brian Bell assisted.

2) SCC report and annual fee filed and paid on May 4.

3) Treasurer attended the Altavista Chamber of Commerce annual meeting and dinner on April 30. Contacts were made, business cards (created and) passed out.

4) Several expense accounts (General Expenses, Contract Services, Newsletter, and Water Monitoring) have been overspent.

a. General expenses – boat repairs and supplies have been put here due to lack of specific account for the boat. We may need to create a separate expense line for the new FY.

b. Contract services - taxes cost more than expected.

c. Newsletter - $360 so far vs. $175 budgeted. Dave Waterman will check on this.

d. Water Monitoring – we overspent on Pigg River WQM and did not get reimbursed.

Mary needs input for the next FY budget. Committees need to give her the expected income and expenses for their committee. Budget must be finalized by June board meeting to be presented at the annual picnic in July for membership to vote on.

5) Request from Campbell County Sheriff for a donation to the National Child Safety Council. We receive this annually, we usually do not donate, and no motion to donate this year.

6) Sales and Use Tax Exemption renewal process has been started. Mary created an online account but had questions so she called and left a message. One concern is that the website says, “Provide a financial review preformed (sic) by an independent Certified Public Accountant”. We don’t have one and we’d have to get one, hopefully in time to submit. This will probably cost several thousand dollars. I’ve submitted an online message to get clarification. The process may not have to be started until 120 days prior to expiration (June 12, 2022). Discussion – would a several thousand dollar audit be worth the few dollars we save in sales taxes? We will discuss more when Mary gets an answer.

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

**Committee Reports:**

**Executive:**

**ii. Survey Analysis –** The Executive Board will go back through the survey results and the summary of them to ensure that actions are taken to get back to members who responded to the survey. One request was for a children’s fishing clinic and Chip said he’s working on it with possible sponsors like Fishers of Men but nothing may develop this year. The speaker at the last general member’s meeting was meant to answer some of the survey responses with the topic being Buffer Gardens (to prevent erosion). Many of the survey responders need education in the purpose of the lake, AEP and LLA responsibilities on the lake and the FERC license. Hopefully, the newsletter and possibly email blasts will provide insight into those topics. One member cited difficulties while at the annual picnic last year; we will note on the sign-up sheet for this year’s picnic that if accommodations are necessary to please let us know. In the treasurer’s article for the last newsletter, one responder’s concerns were addressed re: more information on the treasurer reports. (We don’t publish them in the newsletter or website; contact the treasurer via email for specific questions).

**Finance:** No updates.

**Nominating:** JW is concerned about the number of people selling their houses and leaving the lake. We need membership and recruiting efforts. We need to consider new and/or additional members of the board. We haven’t done any real recruiting in over 5 years. Tony Capuco suggested meeting with the HOAs on the lake. Dave Rives reiterated that he will serve as President for one more year, fulfilling his promise to serve no more than 5, if he’s nominated and the board and members vote to keep him.

 **i. New Directors for 2022-2023 –** Annual Meeting Election

**ii. Term Limit Returning Directors – Are they interested in staying on?**

1. Rives – Y, Zimmerman – Y, Podrebarac – Y, Smith – Y

Member Amanda Myers-Ramirez attended the meeting so all the board members introduced themselves.

**Beautification Day: Update -** Dannie reported that he was awaiting a mass email to all members reminding them of Beautification Day and the need to sign up and notify us of t-shirt sized. Frank was notified and said he will send one out..

ii. T-shirt orders . Discussion of last year’s order with the remaining surplus vs. recommended order for this year.



***Motion: Dave Rives made a motion to modify the Beautification Day t-shirt order per the above chart. Dannie seconded. All approved.***

Sam Skillman from Runaway Bay requested to use the LLA boat on Beautification Day. There have been no requests by board members or anyone else to use it so it was okayed.

The pontoon boat has been fixed (again) by C&C Piping & Fabrication in Altavista. There was a split in a factory weld which is now sealed and the boat is floating as it should. Joe H approached C&C about being a Beautification Day sponsor and they are considering it.

**Communications: *Newsletter:***  Due to Diane’s upcoming schedule, articles for the July 1 newsletter are needed NLT May 25.

***Calendar:***  Dave W reported that there is an error in the current calendar. Mother’s Day is off by one week (it occurred on May 8, calendar says May 15.) The 2023 calendar needs to be proofread and double checked before printing next time!

***FB/Website:*** No update to report.

**Debris: Pam McMillan reported:**

-There were 0 debris reports submitted to TLAC in March and only 4 in April.

-45 tons of debris was removed in April with a total of 95 tons since January.

-There were no high water flows in April.

-AEP’s April regular lake survey on April 19th reported the main was “predominantly clear” and the highest concentration of debris was observed on the shoreline between MM 5-7 on the Bedford side and MM 7-8 on the Pittsylvania side.

-AEP overall plan for the remainder of May or until the next survey will be to work from the lower dam up to MM 8.

(However they did come up to location at MM 10 1/2 to retrieve reported tied up logs.) They are also reducing the number of days they work on the lake from 4 10-hour days per week to 2-3 10-hour days per week. This is due to the current debris level. AEP says they’ll be flexible and if more hours are needed, they’ll consider increasing the number.

-On April 26, 2022 Appalachian held a virtual TRC meeting and on May 11, 2022 the Smith Mountain Project No. 2210

Article 411- Debris Management 2021 Annual Report and the Documentation of Supplemental Consultation (final) was

submitted by APCo to FERC. The minutes of the TRC meeting that was submitted were nondescript. Due to the content, further comments from LLA were not provided or relevant.

Discussion – it is imperative that every TRC committee representative submit something in writing to Liz Parcell’s reports of the meetings. If we don’t respond and contradict, correct or modify her comments, we are complicit in submitting what she wants and not getting our voice heard.

[Pam submitted her notes from the TRC meeting but they have not been made part of these minutes. ]

**Membership:** Chip stated that we have 241 paid members.

i. Annual Meeting - Venue – Proposed Leesville Lake Marina. The menu is under discussion. The regular booths (Dues, t-shirts, Bob Rankin, etc.) will be set up. Dave Rives has asked Rob Gallimore from AEP to be the guest speaker. No confirmation of that yet.

***Motion – Tony Capuco make a motion to select Leesville Lake Marina for the annual picnic on Saturday, July 16. Pam seconded. All approved.***

**Navigational Aids:** Joe reported all 12 hazard buoys have been installed. He has yet to hear back from Liz at AEP concerning the status of the Aids to Navigation plan for LVL.

**Property:** The board discussed modifications to the LLA pontoon boat which have been determined to be – remove front seating and install a tow bar.Next steps are to remove the seat(s) and Joe H will get an estimate for a tow bar.

***Mile Marker Maintenance:*** Joe will get a price from Estes signs for MM#7 sign, which needs to be replaced.

**Safety:** Dave R. stated that Gerry is still willing to provide Vessel Safety Inspections with an appointment. There is still a need for a Safety Committee Chair.

**Water Quality:** Submitted by Charlie Hamilton, reported by Tony Capuco. We have begun our water monitoring efforts for 2022. Dr. Shahady/University of Lynchburg sampled at the end of April and the Water Quality Committee will begin its water monitoring in June – August, in accordance with our 2022 MOA. In the fall we will continue sampling of the Pigg River, using the 2022 Pigg River MOA (still in draft).

Current Water Quality health of LVL:

1) No overall health concerns for recreational use.

2) Two threats to the lake are evident and are being carefully monitored. These are:

a) poor water quality of the Pigg River

b) low dissolved oxygen in the tailwaters from Smith Mountain Lake Dam.

LVL Water Quality Committee – Tony Capuco, Charlie Hamilton, Dave Waterman, Kathleen Giangi and Debbie Oliver, and Tom Shahady met on 3 May 2022 in preparation for the APCo chaired Water Quality Technical Review Committee WQTRC meeting on 4 May 2022, and to review the 2022 MOA on LVL WQ, and the draft MOA on the Pigg River Study.

Tony Capuco, Tom Shahady, Charlie Hamilton, and Dave Rives (wearing his TLAC rep hat) met with the WQTRC on 4 May 2022. EnviroScience input to APCo’s 2021 WQ report stimulated the bulk of the Committee discussion. The report provided ample documentation that Appalachian Power Company (APCo) has not been meeting its operating license requirements regarding the minimal DO content permissible in water released during SML dam operations for both 2021, and the six previous years (2015-2020). Further, the problem has been known (by APCo) since March 2008, without an active plan for remediation (only studies). It was determined LVL Association missed the formal comments reclama window (April 18, 2022) to comment. APCo was gracious enough to extend the comment window to 9 May 2022. LVL WQ submitted comments on 9 May 2022 which highlighted each of the License breaches, the lack of transparency on APCo studies, and the inadequacy of the report’s Recommendations (page 32), which take no action, provide no clear or comprehensive plan, and provide no timeline for mitigation, to get APCo in compliance with their license. We formally requested FERC to mandate action for APCo to achieve License requirements.

Tony Capuco, Debbie Oliver, Dave Waterman and Charlie Hamilton attended the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Technical Advisory Committee Meeting - Clean Up Study (TMDL) for Frying Pan Creek, Pigg River, Poplar Branch, and Beaverdam Creek in Franklin, Pittsylvania, and Bedford on 10 May 2022. We will use this interaction to enhance our 2022 Pigg River MOA and study, and we were fortunate to expand our contacts network with DEQ, Department of forestry, and Friends of the Virginia Rivers.

**TLAC:** The TLAC Executive Committee is searching for a new Executive Director since Paula Shoffner resigned, effective March 31, 2022.

**AEP TRC Updates:** Debris – see Debris Committee Report

Recreation – Richard’s idea of proposing bank fishing sites on the lake should be forwarded through this committee (Chip). Although sites on the lake are limited, we have funds that we can offer to match AEP funds.

**Old Business: Speakers for the 2022 Membership Meetings:** See picnic information above.

**New Business:** Chip took the new Pittsylvania Director of Tourism for a boat ride on the lake. They were accompanied by 3 photographers – 1 video, 1 drone and 1 still. They plan on coming back on Memorial Day weekend and another date TBD to interview lake users.

Pam asked about having a section on the LLA website for “Wanted” or “For Sale”. The board discussed options, especially putting an expiration date on any items posted. Dave Waterman will look into it and report back.

**Confirmation of Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be a Board Meeting on Thursday, June 9, 2022 at 6:30PM at the Altavista Library.

**Adjournment :** ***Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 was made by Joe Humphrey and Dave Rives seconded. Meeting was adjourned.***