

**Minutes for the Leesville Lake Association Board of Directors Meeting  
June 9, 2022**

1. At 6:30 PM the meeting which was held at the Altavista Library was called to order by LLA President, Dave Rives.
  - a. Directors in attendance:  
Dave Rives, President  
Roy Kelley, Co-Chair, Beautification committee  
Mary Loiselle, Treasurer  
Dave Waterman  
Pam McMillan  
Richard Beaton  
JW Burton  
Charlie Hamilton, Chairman, Water Quality Committee  
Chip Zimmerman, Vice President  
Brian Bell
  - b. Directors absent:  
Dannie Smith  
Frank Podrebarac  
Phyllis Garlick, Secretary  
Tony Capuco  
Joe Humphrey
  - c. Quorum was met
2. The first order of business was to address the meeting minutes from the previous board meeting held on May 12, 2022. The board determined that the minutes as presented were good. No discussion followed. A motion was made by Brian to accept the minutes, and was seconded by Dave W. and motion carried. Meeting minutes were approved by unanimous vote.
3. Committee Reports:
  - a. Executive Report: Dave R. emphasized that some vacancies were occurring and that many of the officers have held positions for a long time and that is time for some to step down and other members to step up for the good of the organization. Focus of this meeting will be on the LLA Beautification Day and planning for the Membership Meeting in July.
  - b. Treasurer's Report: Mary presented the Treasurer's Report. The May monthly reports were sent out by email on June 6th and copies were presented at the meeting. Property tax for the boat, \$9.00 was paid to the county via drop box on Jun 7th. As of the meeting date \$3000 has been received for Beautification Day. Mary stated that she will be late to the Membership Meeting but invoices will be available. For any that remain they will be mailed out. The post office box

renewal is due this month and \$92 was paid out. The rates are going up so the cost will be higher next year. No update this month for Sales Tax and Exemption because we are not within the 120 day window yet. Mary will check on the status after June 16th. Discussion ensued regarding dates for the fiscal year, to which she stated that the LLA fiscal year begins on September 1st of each year and ends on August 31st of the following year. The proposed budget for FY 2022 was presented. Changes from the previous year's budget were offered and explained. Recent expenditures on the LLA pontoon boat indicated that an increase was warranted for the future. The "All-Hands Newsletter" budget was also increased to account for greater anticipation of growth of the general membership. A proposed increase in the water monitoring fund was presented. Mary pointed out that most of the expenditures generally occur on the back half of the year. Dave R. stated that the budget would be voted on by the Membership Meeting in July 2022. JW made a motion to accept the budget. . Pam seconded the motion. Members voted unanimously to carry the motion and the budget was accepted. Chip Zimmerman made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, Dave W seconded the motion and members voted unanimously to carry the motion.

- c. Finance Report: No updates since the last BOD meeting.
- d. Nomination Report: JW Burton stated the addition of two pending Directors would increase the total membership to 15. Dave R. suggested that the nomination of new Directors be deferred until the July membership meeting whereupon the new Directors nominations would be put to a vote by the general membership. Dave R. mentioned that Phyllis is resigning as Secretary at the end of this FY, creating an important vacancy, and stated that he is open to suggestions or volunteers for that position. By August all new officers must be voted on in order to be in place for the new fiscal year. Dave R. said that he would take the lead on establishing committee chairs. Some term limit position holders have agreed to stay on in their positions; those include Dave R., Frank Podrebarac, Chip Zimmerman and Dannie Smith.
- e. Leesville Lake Beautification Day: Roy Kelley presented a list of volunteers who have signed up to help with the effort on Saturday, June 11, 2022. 65 people signed up to be volunteers and others not listed are anticipated based on previous Beautification Day showings. He stated that all of the sites would have dumpsters no later than Friday and that would be operators to load debris into those dumpsters. T-shirts were received and inventoried. Dave R. said that he would deliver the shirts to the sites for the site coordinators for further distribution to volunteers based on the numbers and sizes stated in the request. Roy said that his inventory showed that none of the XXL-Tall or XXXL-Tall shirts were shipped (*later found*). Discussion ensued emphasizing the need to have plenty of water available. Roy stated that he would ensure water was available at all sites. Sam Skillman will be using the LLA boat. Organizations that have

been contacted regarding the Beautification Day include: APCO, HOAs, the LLA website, various local dignitaries, TLAC, and local media. The Chatham Star contacted President Dave R. and subsequently posted an article on their website and Facebook page highlighting the benefits of the LLA and the Beautification Day efforts. Signs have been posted and the T-shirts have listed the major sponsors who financially or in-kind support the effort. Roy presented a list of contributors and discussed some of the feedback he received from those solicited. Mary suggested that in the future it might be a good idea to contact the Altavista Chamber of Commerce as they could be an excellent resource for future contributors.

- f. Communications Report: Dave W. stated that he has an author for fishing for the next newsletter in July. Mary said that there was feedback from the survey where some people have asked for a "for sale" section on the website. Dave said that he was aware of the request, but stated that it would be difficult to maintain a dynamic section like that. Not impossible but impractical due to the amount of time and hands-on manipulation that would be required to keep it current. The Committee Chair did not recommend adding this feature.
- g. Debris Report: Pam McMillan said that a new AEP Debris Report is due on June 10th. She stated that APCO has a new hydro plant manager, Steve Doland, effective June 2nd. He indicated to Pam that he wants to actively support the debris management effort on the lake and that he has crews working the lake debris issues 2 to 3 days per week, 10 hours per day. There have been fewer debris reports this year and they are not supportive of more crews or more hours of work. Dave R. pointed out that there were fewer high water events this year which is why there is less debris. The focus of the crews for the remainder of the month of June the areas of debris removal efforts by AEP crew and barge will be from mile marker 8-13. Pam said that she recommended to Mr. Doland should contact the LLA President, Dave R. to establish a line of communication. Dave R. requested that Pam invite Rob and Mr. Doland to both come to the Membership Meeting. Meyers Creek offload site issues remain unresolved. An issue exists between Pittsylvania county and AEP over who has jurisdiction of the site with Pittsy saying that the property must be rezoned from residential to A-1 and AEP saying they have the authority granted by FERC and that they don't need county approval to proceed.

Membership Report: Chip reported that there are currently 242 members and that there are several new potential members from new families that have relocated to Leesville Lake. Discussion turned to preparations for the Annual Membership Meeting. It will be held at the Leesville Lake Marina. An additional 8 tables and 20 chairs will be needed on July 14th and 15th to set up the tent. Several Directors indicated that they have folding tables that can be used. Dave R. requested that Phyllis canvas directors to get an actual account of tables that can be provided by directors. People are expected to show up around noon on

the day of the event. It was pointed out that only 10 or so people have signed up, including Board members, so it is imperative that we get signed up and promote through media to the membership to sign up. Chip said that the cost of \$1662.50 for 75 people needed to be approved by the BOD. Mary made a motion to accept the cost, Pam seconded the motion and the members voted in favor of the motion. Dave R. asked if we needed a welcoming committee to greet members as they arrived. It was pointed out that one of the survey responders felt that they were not properly greeted and had other issues with the steps and overall access at last year's meeting. Much discussion followed regarding measures that would improve the overall welcoming and personal attention some people might require. Perhaps a member to oversee anyone with special needs. These people could be identified with a visible but inconspicuous red dot on their name tag so that they could be quickly identified. Tables to be set up for welcoming and initial contact with attendees Brian volunteered to work that table and Dave R. said that Pam Rives would also help. Another table to collect dues will be staffed by Anne Waterman and Julie Moore (if possible). Other tables for T-shirt sales, and a table for Bob Rankin. Mary suggested name tags for BOD members should be worn so that attendees can identify board members. Christine will take photos. Set up team should be in place NLT 10 AM. Attendees should each bring a dessert as has been the tradition. Dave W. agreed to update the LLA webpage.

- h. Navigation: It was reported that the buoy across the cove from Waterman's on the Parker point had moved and may no longer identify the actual hazard. Further discussion indicated that the change in water level affected the buoy rather than it having actually moved. It is partially submerged during periods of high water.
- i. Water Quality: Charlie Hamilton stated that we have begun our water monitoring efforts for 2022. Dr. Shahady/University of Lynchburg sampled at the end of April and May, 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 Project Plan. Current testing shows that the overall quality of the water indicates that there are no issues for recreational use. There are two overall health concerns for the lake which are being closely monitored: Low dissolved oxygen from the tailwaters of the Smith Mountain Dam and poor quality water flowing into Leesville Lake from the Pigg River. Water Quality Committee leads met with the APCO chaired Water Quality Technical Review
  - i. Dissolved Oxygen: Committee (WQTRC) on 4 May 2022. We reviewed the findings of APCO's 2021 WQ report (prepared by enviroScience). The report provided ample documentation that Appalachian Power Company (APCO) has not been meeting its operating license requirements regarding the minimal dissolved oxygen 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).

- ii. It was determined LVL Association missed the formal comments reclama window (April 18, 2022) to comment on APCO's 2021 WQ report. 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 a timeline for mitigation, to get APCO in compliance with their license. We formally requested FERC to mandate action for APCO to achieve License requirements.
- iii. While awaiting FERC direction, APCO is initiating Phase 3 of their Feasibility Study:
  - 1. Evaluate the practicality, effectiveness and cost efficiency of methods that increases dissolved oxygen in the tailrace without causing other water quality issues (e.g., increased water temperature).
  - 2. Determine life cycle costs and decide whether to act, or not.
  - 3. The completion of the Feasibility Plan is timely as Appalachian's VDEQ Virginia Water Protection Individual Permit No 08-0572 (Permit) expires on March 31, 2025. It is Appalachian's intent to file for a new permit at least one year prior to the expiration date.
- iv. The LVL WQ Committee will continue to press APCO, DEQ, and other regulatory agencies to make APCO meet its Operating License Requirements; including comments on the new permit application.
- v. Two opportunities exist near term to continue this pressure. First at the TLAC quarterly meeting on 14 June 2022, and second with the APCO rep at our 16 July 2022 LVL annual meeting.
- vi. 2022 Pigg River Study: The Pigg River is the major tributary flowing into Leesville Lake (LVL). Although water quality in LVL remains good, the Pigg River is classified as an impaired river for bacteria by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) and this poor water quality has been confirmed by the Leesville Lake Association (LLA). Indeed, monitoring efforts by the LLA indicate that the quality of water flowing into LVL from the Pigg River has been worsening in recent years as documented in the annual LVL Water Quality Reports. Of greatest concern is the sediment and bacteria suspended in the waters of the Pigg then transported to Leesville Lake. This has resulted in degradation of

water quality in the upper region of Leesville Lake, which is concerning to residents and visitors. Furthermore, storm events promote entrainment of poor- quality water in the upper regions of LVL and pumping of that water into Smith Mountain Lake during pump-back operations. We initiated monitoring of water quality in the Pigg River during the 2018 season, and continued 2019-2021. Our 2022 Objectives are:

1. Closely study the area between Chestnut Hill and Colonial Turnpike (the area implicated as contaminated with sediment from the Power Dam removal) to quantify the extent to which the sediment in this area impacts bacterial/nutrient/sediment water quality in the Pigg River.
  2. Identify sources of bacterial contamination by identifying the bacterial content of water during both low flow and storm events.
  3. Quantify the impact of this sediment by conducting sediment disturbance experiments (water collected before and after sediment disturbance) in conjunction with bacterial source tracking to specifically characterize how this underlying sediment contributes to bacteria in the water.
  4. Evaluate the efficacy of E. coli / Enterococci ratios in determining the source of bacterial contamination. We need to identify this impact to suggest management of sediment as it impacts water quality to Leesville Lake and continues its migration into the lake.
- vii. LVL Survey Question: “Do you have concerns over low dissolved oxygen, harmful algae blooms, or other environmental issues? Our low dissolved oxygen concern is documented above. During late summer and fall months oxygen levels in water released during power generation is low and often fails to meet the AppalachianPower Company’s (APCO) licensing requirements. At these times, fish can be seen piping for air in the upper regions of LVL. For the fishermen and fisherwomen amongst us – its an issue worth maintaining focus on. The submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) beds in Leesville Lake have remained limited in areal extent and geographic locations, with the same species and only one of them an invasive species (i.e.,Curly-leaf pondweed). No new beds of SAV have been reported during the past seven years of SAV surveys.
4. TLAC Update – next TLAC board meeting is on June 14, 2022. They have announced a new Executive Director to replace Paula Shoffner – Kristina Sage takes the position effective June 13.

5. AEP TRC Updates – none except Richard received minutes from a Habitat TRC meeting that he was not notified was going to happen. Dave R. emphasized the need to respond regarding the lack of notification.
6. Old Business –
  - a. Speakers for 2022 Membership meeting:
    - i. July - Rob Gallimore is confirmed.
    - ii. October – Tony Capuco is working on a FORVA Rep.
7. New Business – None
8. Next meeting is Saturday, July 16, 2022 at 12:00 Noon at Leesville Lake Marina.
9. JW Made a motion at 8:00 PM to adjourn the meeting; Mary seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.