

# Lake Gaston Weed Control Council (LGWCC) meeting minutes

March 2, 2023: Zoom Meeting 6:30pm

Approved: July 20, 2023

Director Attendees: Elton Brown, John Zubrod, Jeff Zimmer, Wayne Carter, John Cataldo, Pete Deschenes, C. Wells, Larry Liles, Glenn Barbour, Wally Sayko (10)

Other Attendees: Jessica Baumann, NCSU. Citizens: G. Hayes, F. Lilley, K. Cheney, R. Lasher, Donna ?, 3 guys named John, B. Goldsworthy, Laurie I. Pad, Mary/Tim Kuzman, T. Giordano, Tony Moran, W. Masselli, D.Sircis (15)

**Call to order:** President Elton Brown at 6:30pm.

**Roll Call of Attendance by Secretary Wally Sayko:** Quorum met with 10 directors present.

Wally explained meeting procedures.

**Motion to approve Agenda:** Motion by John Zubrod, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Carter, approved.

**Motion to approve Sept. 22, 2022, Minutes:** Motion by Wayne Carter, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pete Deschenes, approved.

**Open Public Comments:** Elton Brown: Wally noted receiving several email/phone calls requesting a more detailed map of Lyngbya sites found by the survey.

**2022 Vegetation Survey and Treatment results:** Jessica Baumann

Jessica reported almost 6,000 rake tosses by Lake Gaston Association (LGA) Volunteers in 2022. A slight decrease in Lyngbya to 1285 from 1317 acres.

TAG Recommendations:

1. Overall Monitoring Efforts • Continue funding and supporting volunteer survey  
• Reduce overall efforts to align more with NCSU monitoring protocols • Extend survey period for area of least concern • Promote use of kayaks to improve shallow water surveys

2. Monitoring & Treatment Efforts

★ Hydrilla • Treat no more than 166 acres • Do not stock Grass Carp •

- ★ Lyngbya • Treat no more than 500 acres • Explore Cold Water Applications • Explore New Chemical Treatment Protocols • Continue to minimize Impacts to Tidewater Muckets • Expand Understanding of Interactions between Lyngbya and Tidewater Muckets

3. Revegetation Efforts • Continue funding and supporting revegetation efforts.

**Motion to accept recommendations from the Stakeholders for 2023 as presented by Pete Deschenes, President to the LGWCC:** Motion to approve by Jeff Zimmer and 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Zubrod and approved.

This report is available at [www.lgwc.org](http://www.lgwc.org).

**Treasurer's Report:** Jeff Zimmer



Treasurers Report  
March 2023.pdf

Jeff reported he is working with NCDEQ on a MOA for hydrilla funding support. Also, that we have a \$800,000 certificate of deposit with First Citizens Bank. All the surplus chemicals which were being held at PLM in storage have been properly disposed of. Jeff stated as agreed at the last board meeting, our applicator contract with Aqua Services was extended 2 years. We discussed the need for all counties to fully fund (\$116,000/yr.) the council so that multi-year lyngbya treatments can be successful. The two counties not participating fully: Brunswick currently at \$90,000 is now budgeting (FY23-24) the full amount of \$116,000 according to Supervisor John Zubrod and Halifax at \$58,000 is still in the planning stage. C. Wells will let us know of the budget cycle to present the Lgwcc case for full funding. The opportunity to increase our treatment sites to more than 376 acres will be reviewed by Jessica and Jeff. Jessica noted the success in two areas may allow us to cease treatment in these areas in 2023 and conduct a post treatment evaluation. She said they would look at additional treatment areas in replacement of those discontinued areas.

**A motion to approve the Treasurers Report was made by:** Wayne Carter and 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Zubrod and approved.

**A motion to approve a 2-year extension for Hydrilla control with PLM was made by:** Jeff Zimmer and 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Zubrod and approved.

**Final Report on Integrated Research to Address Lake Gaston's water quality, Biodiversity, and noxious weed management was presented by: Jessica Baumann.**

Jessica presented some highlights of this 160-page report. It is the final report out for this research project contracted by the LGWCC with NCSU. It was initiated in 2018. Jessica covered some of the more important aspects. This report in its entirety is on the LGWCC website for your review.

At the end of Jessica's presentation, she took questions, and provided answers.

**Old Business:**

Ms. Wells noted that the LGWCC should make plans to attend a hearing for the upcoming FY2023/24 budget. She will let us know when. A short 10 min presentation with Q/A is suggested.

**Any other business:**

It was noted that no county appointed representatives from Northampton was present.

**A motion to adjourn by Wayne Carter and 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Zubrod was made and approved. Adjourn at 7:30PM**

This report submitted by: Wally Sayko, Secretary Lake Gaston Weed Control Council: March 7, 2023