

## Lake Gaston Weed Control Council Minutes.....February 12, 2019

### Attendees:

Judge Manning, Elton Brown, Bob Etheridge, Tony Moran, Quinton Qualls, Pete Deschenes, Wayne Robinson, Dan Tanner, Tony Brown, John Zubrod, John Cataldo, Wayne Carter, Wally Sayko.

Judge Manning gave the invocation.

### **Regular Meeting:**

Meeting called to order by President Elton Brown at 705PM

A motion to move from the Regular Meeting to the Annual Meeting was made by Dan Tanner and 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Zubrod and approved.

### **Annual Meeting:**

President Brown asked the board if there were any volunteers to run for the 4 officer positions on the board. There being none a motion for approval of current officers to be re-appointed.

A motion by Dan Tanner and 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Zubrod to approve their re-appointment was approved.

Judge Manning noted he would serve only 1 more year as Treasurer. So he requested the members to consider running for an office on the board.

A motion to adjourn from the Annual Meeting back to Regular Meeting was made by John Zubrod and 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Cataldo and approved.

### **Regular Meeting: 720pm**

Judge Manning presented the Treasurer's Report. The reports were given to all members. He reported that for half of FY 2018-2019 (Jul 1, 2018-Dec 31, 2018) funds received were \$916,562.83 and Expenses were \$191,530.76, but there were more FY 7/1/2018-12/31/2018 expenses to be paid after Dec.31, 2018. The LGWCC had just not received the invoices by Dec.31, 2018. A motion to approve the Treasurer's report as presented was made by Wayne Carter and 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Zubrod and approved.

For the year of 7/1/2019 to 6/30/20 the counties will be asked to budget the full amount of \$116,000.00 but the LGWCC will only request the funds if needed.

A motion to approve this request for the counties was made by Pete Deschenes and 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Zubrod and approved.

Judge noted that there could be \$50,000 of NCDEQ money available for use per Rob Emens.

The Audit Report conducted by Creedle, Jones & Alga, P.C. was presented.

A motion by Dan Tanner to accept the Audit report, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pete Deschenes and approved.

## **New Business:**

PLM provided their report for 2018. PLM allowed NCSU to present their results and would answer any questions that came up from the floor.

The PLM contract for applicator at same cost as 2018 was presented.

Dr. Brown informed the Directors that PLM had been approached about extending their contract for another year at the same per acre rate for the 2019 treatment year. PLM had agreed to do that.

A motion to approve the applicator at same rate as 2018 was made by Pete Deschenes and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Tanner and approved.

## **NCSU Report: Jessica Baumann**

Survey consisted of two parts: LGA Volunteers (60) for 720 hours and the sonar survey by NCSU. There were 4 training sessions conducted by NCSU and the LGA.

She noted over 5,000 points were counted and in spite of 2 major rain events this was a very good effort.

## **Hydrilla:**

374 acres were determined to exist by the results of both parts of the survey.

Hydrilla showed up on 13% of rake tosses. The trend is significantly downward. 2012=64% to 6% in 2018.

Rake Toss plant results: Water Willow at 56% and trend is upwards, lyngbya 15% and trend is upwards, hydrilla at 6% and trend is downwards. Hydrilla has leveled off at between 350-400 acres for the past 5 years. Steve Hoyle noted at the peak LKG had about 4-5 thousand acres. At that time it was felt we could never reach the point we are currently. Elton Brown noted the progress was made after we made changes to work with NCSU and end our relationship with other organizations. The LGWCC started providing funds toward an Environmental Extension Agent to work on the Noxious Aquatic Weeds and more direct plans and oversight were provided.

2018 Treatments: Upper Pea Hill about 100 acres and another 100 acres were undesignated. The uptick in Hydrilla on Lizard Creek was addressed with contact herbicide to provide relief to those residents. Vegetation cages and public boat ramps and dry hydrants were treated with contact chemicals.

2019 Treatment for Hydrilla: Treat 200 acres. 100 at Upper Pea Hill and the other 100 spread out among various locations. Lizard may receive a combination of chemical and grass carp (about 3,500). A total of 7,500 grass carp are planned for insertion in early spring. The other half will be in the Hawtree area.

Tuber density varied from below the Eatons Ferry Bridge and above. The lower section showing fewer tubers overall and the upper more tubes overall. Lizard Creek at 49% tubers, Hawtree 59% and Cotton Creek at 67%.

A report on water quality will be forthcoming.

## **Lyngbya:**

The overall trend is upwards. 2012=8%, 2013=5%, 2014=6%, 2015=8%, 2017=16% and 2018=15%.

3 different product utilized and 2 control groups. Several different areas were treated. Hawtree, Lyons and Pretty among the largest.

Findings: no one product stood out. Current lab tests are ongoing and at this point no silver bullet.

Treatment for 2019:

Continue with current sites.

Begin early in March before mats grow.

No change in products.

Increase survey of bio mass

A motion to approve an additional sum of \$17,000 for NCSU for services rendered was made by John Zubrod and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pete Deschenes and approved.

The chemical bid is time sensitive. It was agreed to accept lowest bid. Judge will then put out via email for a vote to speed up the process to assure we begin treatments early.

A motion to approve this process was made by Tony Brown and 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Zubrod and approved.

There being no further business before the Lake Gaston Weed Control Council the meeting was adjourned by the President at 8:10PM

Minutes submitted by: Wally Sayko, Secretary on February 13, 2019