

The Lake Gaston Weed Control Council met on February 8, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Lake Gaston Volunteer Fire Department.

Directors and Alternates Present: Elton Brown, Chairman, Rives Manning, Jack Saunders, Nathan Pearce, Jay Warfel, John Cataldo, Wayne Robinson, Wayne Carter, Pete Deschenes, L.J. Dornak, Robert Davie, Richard Waterman, Tony Brown

Also Present: Steve Hoyle and Rob Richardson – NCSU; Brent Silk and John Jessup – PLM

The Chairman called the meeting to order.

Rives Manning gave the invocation.

A quorum was verified.

Upon a motion of Mr. Saunders, seconded by Mr. Tony Brown, the Council went into Closed Session to discuss personnel matters pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711A (1).

Upon a motion of Mr. Deschenes, seconded by John Cataldo, the Council went back into Open Session.

Upon a motion of Mr. Cataldo, seconded by Mr. Warfel, the Council adopted the following Certification Resolution.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION

WHEREAS, the Lake Gaston Weed Control Council convened a Closed Session on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provision of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Lake Gaston Weed Control Council that such Closed Session was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lake Gaston Weed Control Council hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the Closed Session to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the Closed Session were heard, discussed or considered by the Lake Gaston Weed Control Council.

Upon a motion of Mr. Deschenes, seconded by Mr. Saunders, the Council by unanimous vote authorized NC State staff to prepare a proposal for the treatment of Lyngbya and to improve water quality issues in Lake Gaston for the period of April 30, 2018 until March 31, 2021 using a new extension agent and graduate/staff at NCSU.

This survey shall include management tools that can be used on Lyngbya; expanded water quality monitoring and how this can improve treatment of noxious weeds; using technology to improve our survey methods; improving vegetation techniques to improve long-term sustainability; and to evaluate new techniques to be used for small patch hydrilla stands.

Upon a motion of Mr. Warfel, seconded by Mr. Cataldo, the Council voted to approve the agenda as presented.

There were no public comments.

Upon a motion of Mr. Cataldo, seconded by Mr. Robinson, the previous minutes were unanimously approved as sent.

A motion was made by Mr. Desechenes, seconded by Mr. Warfel to recess the regular meeting and convene the Lake Gaston Weed Control Council's Annual Meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

The current slate of officers was presented.

Upon a motion of Mr. Tony Brown, seconded by Mr. Robinson, the Council by unanimous vote approved the following slate of Officers.

- Elton Brown – Chairman
- Pete Deschenes – Vice-Chairman
- Rives Manning – Treasurer
- Wally Sayko – Secretary

Upon a motion of Mr. Saunders, seconded by Mr. Warfel, the Council by unanimous vote adjourned the annual meeting and reconvened to the regular meeting.

Under the Treasurer's report, Mr. Manning submitted the current report as well as the revised 2017-2018 budget.

Upon a motion of Mr. Saunders, seconded by Mr. Warfel, the Council unanimous approved the documents as presented.

Mr. Manning presented the Financial Report.

Upon a motion of Mr. Saunders, seconded by Mr. Robinson the Council unanimously accepted the Financial Report as presented.

Under New Business, Mr. Manning presented the FY 2017 Audit. The Council reviewed the report.

Upon a motion of Mr. Deschenes, seconded by Mr. Cataldo, the 2017 Audit was unanimously accepted as presented.

Brent Silk with PLM reviewed the 2017 Noxious Weed Treatment Report and the 3 treatments for Hydrilla on 43.12 acres. He also reviewed the treatments for Lyngbya and the different chemicals used at each site as well as their success rates. He stated that there wasn't a chemical that seemed to work well in treating Lyngbya. An electronic version will be sent to Wally Sayko upon request, to be placed on the website.

Mr. Hoyle and Mr. Richardson reviewed their findings from the 2017 Noxious Weed Treatment Report. They stated that it appears that 2016 had the lowest amount of Hydrilla in the Lake by acreage. They also stated that Hydrilla appears to be increasing in total acreage, but that the acreage seems to me more scattered and in smaller patches.

As to Lyngbya, its concentration is increasing each year, and without a good treatment chemical. They noted that the volunteers had replaced several of the vegetation cages over the past year.

The Council discussed the need to send the Chemical RFP and the Applicator RFP out for the 2018 treatment year.

Upon a motion of Mr. Saunders, seconded by Mr. Cataldo, the Council unanimously authorized the RFP's to be sent out to the respective companies.

The next item was the article about Bow Fishing in the NC Wildlife 2018 Spring Fishing Guide. Mr. Manning felt that it promoted Bow Fishing of Grass Carp in Lake Gaston and this will hurt with our treatment program for Hydrilla. He is requesting authorization to send a letter on behalf of the Lake Gaston Weed Control Council expressing its displeasure with the article to the State of North Carolina.

Upon a motion of Mr. Saunders, seconded by Mr. Deschenes, the Council approved sending the letter to the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission.

The FY 2018-2019 budget and 2018 Treatment year budget was discussed. Due to some concerns, this matter was postponed until the next meeting.

Upon a motion of Mr. Deschenes, seconded by Mr. Saunders, the Council authorized the Treasurer to write letters to the appropriate Federal, State and Local Agencies requesting funding in their upcoming budgets.

Under other matters, Mr. Deschenes stated that the annual TAG meeting will be held on March 1, 2018, at the Roanoke Rapids Power Station. Information gathered from this meeting will be used to formulate the upcoming treatment year.

Ms. Bass with the press discussed the success of the Revegetation Project sponsored by the Newspaper this fall.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.