

December 8, 2016

Minutes of the Lake Gaston Weed Control Council

Submitted by: Tom Weinbrenner, Secretary

Approved: March 9th, 2016

7pm: Meeting called to order by President Elton Brown

Members Present: Elton Brown, President; Judge Manning, Treasurer; Dan Tanner, Wayne Robinson, Nathan Pearce, Larry Liles, Jack Saunders, Bob Etheridge, Pere Deschenes, Tony Moran Alt, Wayne Carter, John Cataldo, Wally Sayko

Rives Manning gave the invocation

Due to the illness of Tom Winebrenner, the minutes weren't available for the meeting. Upon motion of Pete Deschenes, seconded by John Cataldo, action was postponed on the minutes.

Judge Manning gave the Treasurer's report which showed an income of \$867,700.94 and expenses of \$161,094.02 since July 1, 2016. The biggest expense in the budget is for the chemicals used in treatment, which will be purchased in the upcoming spring. Mr. Manning stated that we had a good year again from a treatment standpoint, with less infected hydrilla than previously anticipated. The Board discussed that with the spread of Lyngbya, which is much more expensive to treat than hydrilla, that localities should continue with their proposed budgeted amount. Pete discussed the need for the LGWCC to make sure that the County Managers and Boards understand the treatments and their associated costs and suggested that Elton make a presentation at the 5 county meeting held in March. Upon motion of Dan Tanner, seconded by Wally Sayko, the Treasurers report was accepted.

Aj Reyes presented a report on the treatment year as well as the volunteer survey. He stated that there was a decrease from 27% to 6% this year of areas checked that had hydrilla and that these were mostly in the rear of coves where treatment is very difficult. The plants were also fairly short with less than 1 foot in height which shows that the carp are effective. Lyngbya showed an increase in acreage from 9% to 11%. Fall treatments were performed in an effort to knock down the mats during the winter. It is difficult to get the product on the mat due to their depth so solutions are being discussed. The vegetation cages are working well and show that the carp are eating the hydrilla. The LGA will be back in the spring for financial help with the computer equipment to help with the volunteer survey.

PLM gave the year-end report. A total of 462.4 acres were treated on both the first and second treatments in June and July. The third treatment was only 6 acres in August for hydrilla. There was evidence that the Carp are really effective this year as they became active when the water temperature increased and ate a lot of hydrilla. A total of 10.8 and 8.4 acres of Lynbya were treated this year in June and October.

President Brown passed out the audit for FY 2016 and stated it would be discussed at our next meeting.

Rob Richardson stated that while hydrilla treatment looked good this year, lyngbya will need additional treatments in future years.

Wally Sayko stated that there a lot of conern about Lyngbya in the community. Pete Deschenes stated that the Council should go on record stating our concern over this new threat. Upon a motion by Pete Deschenes, seconded by Jack Saunders the Board instructed a letter be written to DENR stating that the LGWCC would like for Lyngbya to be included in the noxious species list.

Everyone was reminded that the Shoreline Management Plan does not allow for grass clippings or leaves to be placed in the lake per Dominion.

Mr. Richardson answered some questions regarding the Grass Carp and stated that DENR uses a 20% mortality rate and therefore he does not see any new stocking in the next couple of years.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.