

Pete Deschenes Lake Gaston Stakeholders Board meeting minutes
March 11, 2025, 9:00 to 14:10
Lake Gaston Lions Club, Henrico, NC 27842

Several speakers/presentations were provided during a morning session followed by lunch. The Lake Gaston Association (LGA) and, jointly with the Lake Gaston Weed Control Council (LGWCC) hosted and provided refreshments. A You Tube video of the presentations is being made available to the public.

Proxy was given by Pete Deschenes, President of Lake Gaston Stakeholders Forum to Lake Gaston Association to facilitate this meeting. As President of Lake Gaston Association, Jeff Zimmer presided over the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 12:41 by Jeff Zimmer.

Jessica Baumann presented 2025 TAG recommendations and covered the following areas:

1. Overall Monitoring efforts
 - Fall Volunteer & NCSU vegetation survey
 - The Aquatic Plant Community
2. Monitoring & Treatment Efforts
 - Hydrilla-Survey & Treatments
 - Lyngbya Management
3. 2025 Recommendations
 - Continue funding & support annual survey
 - Treat no more than 200 acres of Hydrilla
 - No grass carp required to be stocked
 - Treat no more than 500 acres of Lyngbya, monitor efficacy & adjust protocols
 - Continue Habitat Enhancement (native revegetation)
 - Continue research (Tidewater mucket mortality, toxins, Lab Evaluations)

Motion to Accept the recommendations provided and forward to the LGWCC by Drew Goodwin , and seconded by Deb Pulgencio, Auxiliary Coast Guard.NO further discussion. Approved unanimously.

1. Path forward of Lake Gaston Stakeholders
 - Six options presented by John Franz and Jeff
 - After lengthy discussion, option C was selected with slight changes to the wording.
2. Recommended that there be a rotation of leadership with term and roles.
 - After discussion it was determined, by recommendation from Rob Emens DEQ, that each Stakeholder provide one or two reasons why this forum should not be disbanded or why option “B” was not selected. This will clarify the value of the forum and help with the direction forward.
 - Jeff agreed to send an email to all Stakeholders on this topic and send out a list of all Stakeholders contact information.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 14:10 by Elton Brown, and seconded by Deb Pulgencio Auxiliary Coast Guard. Approved unanimously.