

# LAKE ANNA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Richard E. Holbert Building  
Spotsylvania County  
**MINUTES – August 26, 2020 SPECIAL MEETING**

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## DETERMINATION AND CALL TO ORDER

Mr. McCotter called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

## ROLL CALL

**Present:** Chris McCotter, Chairman; Jim White, Orange County; Robert Egan, Spotsylvania; Dick Shrum, Louisa County; Ann Melle; Paulette Mann, Spotsylvania County, Kevin Marshall, Spotsylvania; Sarah Marshall, Dominion Energy; Mr. Palmer, Orange County

Mr. McCotter welcomed Ms. Palmer to the Committee.

## CITIZEN'S INFORMATION PERIOD

Greg Baker from LACA shared an update with the Committee. He stated that they have completed the Phase 1 study and needs to know if LAAC will be requesting funding so he can take that to his Board.

He also discussed that LACA has come up with floating wetlands. These are floating islands to feed HAB and they are testing this concept out.

Mr. Baker also advised that there are 3-4 stakeholder meetings occurring by Webex or Zoom and he encouraged participation. He advised for those interested to reach out by email so that he can send the information to login to the call.

## NEW BUSINESS

### **Contract for Buoy Services**

Mr. Shrum discussed Wolfe Landscaping who is carrying out the buoy maintenance services. There was discussion about whether a draft contract was necessary and how detailed it should be.

Ms. McCormick stated that the Wolfe Landscaping folks prefer to be volunteer and do not want to be compensated. She stated that she has concerns about said contract and that because they are volunteering their time, a contract may turn them off from doing so. She stated that she has worked as a volunteer for years and years and that has worked out just fine. She stated that she suggested the \$500 to cover their fuel costs, but they do not want it. She stated she would guarantee they won't abandon the Committee and their duties at a moment's notice. She stated they are young and foresees them being around for a long time. They do not want to participate in the meetings.

Mr. McCotter stated that we will continue to use Ms. McCormick as our liaison.

Mr. Marshall stated that we need to make sure we send them a letter of appreciation.

Ms. Marshall and Ms. Melle both agreed.

Ms. Melle stated that attention should be brought to the three Boards regarding those who spend their time volunteering on the Lake.

Mr. McCotter and Ms. Melle will work on a recognition letter.

Mr. White stated that it seems to him that the Committee should offer to pay for some of their expenses.

Ms. McCormick stated that they feel it is their contribution to the community. She stated that she would double check with them again to see if they want any compensation.

Mr. Shrum inquired whether we will be doing the contract as discussed.

**Motion and vote:** Mr. White made a motion, seconded by Ms. Marshall to offer gasoline and related expenses to them for up to \$500. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. McCormick suggested that they have an account established at High Point Marina for any expenses they may have.

Mr. McCotter stated that he would talk to them tomorrow.

### **Algae Study RFP**

Mr. Casale discussed that the second treatment on hydrilla was applied and the first treatment worked fantastically and that they are even getting emails from folks who are happy.

A meeting was held this morning to run through the process and one vendor has been selected to interview but he cannot provide the pricing but can say that it costs more than anticipated. He stated that they would be trying to negotiate the price. It's approximately 10-20% more. The RFP has been written in a manner so there are no loopholes. He asked for a top number that LAAC feels comfortable with spending.

Ms. Marshall inquired if there was a major change to the scope.

Mr. Casale explained that there are five major tasks and he explained the process.

He asked if the Committee felt comfortable with paying four times, 20%, 20%, 20%, 40%.

Mr. Shrum discussed the funds available and that there is a CD set to expire in December and that money could be used but that would put the Committee below the \$40k reserve.

There was discussion about other funding that could possibly be applied for from the State.

Mr. White stated he has concerns about starting something we cannot finish and we need to have a serious plan in place. He stated that the State is not very forthcoming with anything right now and we don't want to have to put the other stages on hold.

Mr. Shrum stated that he wants to move forward with Phase 1 because nothing else can ever happen until we pull the trigger on phase 1.

Mr. Marshall agreed.

Ms. Marshall stated that she agrees with Mr. White and has concerns about not knowing the amount of funding we may get from the state.

It was discussed that a lot of this study will tell us what is causing the algae blooms and we can look at other programs that are already out there.

Mr. Marshall stated that he did some quick calculations and it could cost as much as \$51,600. He suggested writing a letter to Dominion to see if they will kick in some funding.

**Motion and vote:** Ms. Melle made a motion, seconded by Ms. Marshall to approve up to \$51,00 but to actively solicit supporters such as LACA and Dominion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **LAAC Lobbyist**

Mr. McCotter stated that Christian Goodwin has been talking to state legislators about funding of Phase 2. He asked the Committee if they would be interested in obtaining a lobbyist to lobby funds to help treat harmful algae

blooms and noxious weeds. The funds necessary are \$10-20K to work for the session. He inquired if this is something that the Committee is interested in doing.

Mr. Marshall suggested giving it to a delegate to carry it through.

Mr. White stated that is why we have VACO and feels this is beyond our authority. He suggested asking VACO for support.

Mr. McCotter stated that we need to make friends with legislators.

Mr. Marshall suggested each of the Counties send a list for the legislative agenda and suggested meeting with a delegate sometime in September or find someone to sponsor.

There was discussion that without a bill, there is no need for a lobbyist.

The Committee decided to work with VACO and other such as Mark Cole and Buddy Fowler.

**ADJOURNMENT**

*The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.*

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Paulette Mann, Spotsylvania County Secretary

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Date