

**Lake Conway Water and Navigation Control District Advisory Board  
Regular Meeting  
Orange County Facilities Management Training Room  
August 14, 2018**

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**Board Members Present:** Rabon Vause (Chairman), Bobby Lance (Vice-Chairman), Micky Blackton, Gary Meloon and Frances Guthrie

**Board Members Absent:** None

**Staff & Guests:** Tara Urbanik, Tim Hull & Bryce Edwards, Orange County Environmental Protection Division (EPD); Commissioner Pete Clarke, Orange County Board of County Commissioners (BCC); Stephen Butler, Lake Anderson Advisory Board Chairman; Corporal Bim Lowers, Orange County Sheriff's Office (OCSO); Mayor Lydia Pisano, City of Belle Isle; Chief Laura Houston, Belle Isle Police Department

**Residents:** Horton Johnson, Randy Holihan, Brian Leahy, Clete and Alice Huhn, David Woods, Dan O'loane, Dave Grant, Richard Horn, and Cindy Lance

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**I. Call to Order**

With a quorum present, Rabon (Ray) Vause called the meeting of the Lake Conway Water and Navigation Control District Advisory Board (Advisory Board) to order at 6:37 p.m.

**II. Approval of the June 12, 2018 Meeting Minutes**

**Upon a motion by Micky Blackton, seconded by Gary Meloon, and carried with all present members voting AYE by voice vote; the Advisory Board approved the June 12, 2018 meeting minutes as presented.**

**III. Public Comment on Propositions before the Advisory Board**

Chairman Vause received four requests during the public comment period. Lydia Pisano, the Mayor of the City of Belle Isle, stated the City has received resident concerns on the Lake Conway water elevation. Discussion ensued. Mayor Pisano also requested if a future lake clean up could be conducted near the "Shallows" on the middle lobe. Brian Leahy, a resident, expressed his concerns with boating safety on the Conway Chain of Lakes. Dave Grant, a resident, stated his concerns with the depth of the Willoughby canal and asked for an update on the muck depth study. Mr. Grant also asked if a navigation sign can be reinstalled at the mouth of the canal. Ms. Urbanik stated the navigation marker previously installed at this location is not noted as a permitted marker within the County's Florida Uniform Waterway Marker permit. Mr. Grant also added concerns with individuals trespassing through private property to reach the "Sandbar" area on the middle lobe. Vice Chairman Lance stated the Willoughby and Barby Lane canals are shallow by nature and cannot be dredged for additional depth. Ms. Urbanik added, the Advisory Board placed the canal depth study on hold until the Lake Conway Stormwater Study is complete, to assess project recommendations and what projects should take priority. Alice Huhn, a resident, stated her concerns with the excessive driving of wake boats through the narrow connector between the two lobes of Little Lake Conway. Ms. Urbanik will reach out to the Water Sports Industry Association (WSIA) for educational assistance.

**IV. Comments of the Chairman**

Chairman Vause welcomed and introduced Frances Guthrie, a new Advisory Board member. Ms. Guthrie provided a brief background.

**V. Lake Anderson Alum Treatment System Update**

In 2016, the Lake Conway Advisory Board approved an expenditure of \$6,000, to assist the Lake Anderson taxing district with street sweeping services within the Lake Anderson drainage basin, until their Alum Treatment System (ATS) is complete. The ATS is now complete. The Lake Anderson Advisory Board Chairman, Stephen Butler, was in attendance to provide the project update. Chairman Butler provided information on Lake Anderson, the ATS project, and how the project is proposed to be funded in partnership with Orange County. Chairman Butler requested that the Advisory Board consider assisting with \$5,000 in annual funding for the operations and maintenance costs of the Lake Anderson ATS. Ms. Urbanik provided a handout to the Advisory Board. Commissioner Clarke provided history on Lake Anderson and the ATS project and recommended the project because of the connectivity to Lake Conway. Discussion ensued.

**Upon a motion by Bobby Lance, seconded by Micky Blackton, and carried with all present members voting AYE by voice vote; the Advisory Board approved to discuss a \$5,000 budget request for the Lake Anderson Alum Treatment System, for Fiscal Year 2019-2020.**

**VI. Cross Lake Beach**

Mayor Pisano presented the proposal to purchase a lakefront lot, which is located at the western end of Cross Lake Road on Oak Island. The property in question is owned by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund (TIITF). The City's intent is to keep the land as green space and as a public park, as it has been for over 50 years. The area is 0.16 acres and has a 50' shoreline, with the City being the upland owner. Vice Chairman Lance asked if the City has worked with the adjacent neighbor on ingress/egress access. Mayor Pisano confirmed the resident would still have ingress/egress access and there would not be boat docks or boat ramps built on the property.

**Upon a motion by Micky Blackton, seconded by Gary Meloon, and carried with all present members voting AYE by voice vote; the Advisory Board voted for a motion of No Objection to the purchase, as presented.**

**VII. Orange County EPD Report**

**Annual Approval of Routine Services**

Ms. Urbanik discussed the projected costs of the 2018-2019 fiscal year routine services (curb inlet basket cleaning, street sweeping, off duty lake patrol, aquatic weed control, baffle box cleaning, and gate keeper costs) for the Lake Conway Water and Navigation Control District (a handout was passed out). The Advisory Board discussed the various services and costs.

**Upon a motion by Bobby Lance, seconded by Micky Blackton, and carried with all present members voting AYE by voice vote, ~~with Rabon Vause and Gary Meloon being absent;~~ the Advisory Board approved up to \$394,000 for the annual routine services for the 2018-2019 fiscal year.**

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**Canal Assessment**

At the time of assessment, the water level was at Normal High Water Elevation (NHWE). The canal depth was approximately four to five feet in Willoughby canal and three to four feet in Barby Lane canal. The dead end of Barby Lane canal was approximately two feet deep. The muck depth was approximately one to two feet in various portions of the canal. Currently there is not a navigation concern within the canals. Ms. Urbanik stated the current water elevation of Lake Conway has finally reached the NHWE which has helped immensely with the navigability of these canals.

**Aquatic Plant Management Biobase Update**

Ms. Urbanik handed out a copy of the recent 2018 Biobase vegetation density survey. The presence of Pondweed (*Potamogeton illinoensis*), which was abundant in the lake during the summer and fall timeframe of 2015, has also significantly receded.

**Clarification of Off-Duty Lake Patrol Schedule**

Ms. Urbanik requested a clarification on the days of weeks and timeframes approved for off-duty patrol. Chairman Vause requested to table the off-duty patrol schedule discussion until the next meeting. An invoice was received from the Belle Isle Police Department (BIPD) for off-duty patrol while the Orange County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) provided two to three on-duty patrol vessels during Memorial Day weekend. The invoice for the day is pending approval, Ms. Urbanik requested discussion if the invoice can be approved.

**Upon a motion by Bobby Lance, seconded by Micky Blackton, and carried with all present members voting AYE by voice vote; the Advisory Board approved the BIPD invoice for May 27, 2018, in the amount of \$280.00.**

Discussion ensued regarding the upcoming Labor Day off-duty and on-duty lake patrol schedule.

**Upon a motion by Micky Blackton, seconded by Bobby Lance, and carried with all present members voting AYE by voice vote; the Advisory Board approved one Belle Isle Police Officer to work in an off-duty status, for eight hours each day, during the 2018 Labor Day weekend, on Saturday, Sunday and Monday.**

**Sunshine Law Update**

Chairman Vause requested to table the Sunshine Law discussion until the next meeting.

**VIII. Marine Patrol Report**

Corporal Lowers presented the off-duty patrol report and also provided a report for the July 4<sup>th</sup> on-duty holiday patrol. The on-duty patrol dive unit conducted an in lake cleanup within the Hoffner canal and removed a lot of submerged trash. Residents have called in and requested extra patrols within the canals to address speeding. Discussion ensued.

**IX. Advisory Board Member Report**

- Chairman Ray Vause: Chairman Vause thanked residents for attending the meeting and for providing their comments and concerns to the Advisory Board.

- Vice Chairman Bobby Lance: Vice Chair Lance discussed an “end of pipe” trash collector solution to prevent trash from entering the lake. Ms. Urbanik explained the County does not recommend covering the end of an outfall pipe because the concern of upstream flooding.
- Micky Blackton: No comment
- Gary Meloon: Thanked everyone for coming, and asked what is required by law, for a personal watercraft company to use a public boat ramp, for their business. Corporal Lowers gave information on the boating law.
- Frances Guthrie: Thanked the Advisory Board for a great first meeting.

**X. Lake Conway Water Elevation Report**

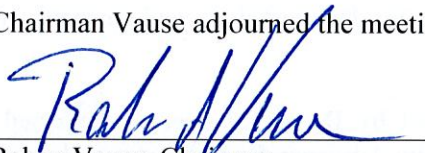
David Woods presented his Water Elevation report. Mr. Woods described the fluctuating lake levels, the predicted rainfall for the future fall and winter seasons, and recommended the County lower the lake level by six inches. Ms. Urbanik stated the Daetwyler Weir is managed by Orange County Public Works Stormwater. The Daetwyler weir boards are typically removed in preparation of an upcoming tropical storm. The County follows a lake elevation scheduled noted in their Water Management District permit and has to be mindful of affecting residents downstream.

**XI. Non-Agenda Items**

Vice Chairman Lance requested an update on the concerns with the Wallace Road outfall. Mr. Meloon stated the turbidity leaving the stormwater pipe outfall is bad again. Ms. Urbanik stated she forwarded the complaint for water quality sampling.

**XII. Meeting Adjourned**

Chairman Vause adjourned the meeting at 8:52 p.m.

  
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Rabon Vause, Chairman

Sept 11, 2018  
Date

  
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Minutes prepared by Tara Urbanik

9/11/18  
Date