

**Butler Chain of Lakes Advisory Board
Windermere Water and Navigation Control District
Regular Meeting – Chain of Lakes Middle School
Wednesday, February 20, 2019**

Board Members Present: Lloyd Woosley, Ijaz Ahmed, Lorraine Burch

Board Members Absent: Lee Chira, Albert Gallof

Staff & Support: David Hansen, Orange County Environmental Protection Division (EPD)
Lt. Jeff Hudson, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)

Guests: Jay Williams, Mayor Gary Bruhn (Windermere)

I. Call to Order:

With a quorum present, Chairman Ijaz Ahmed called the meeting of the Butler Chain of Lakes Advisory Board (Advisory Board) to order at 5:40 p.m.

II. Approval of the February 20, 2019 Meeting Agenda:

Upon a motion by Lloyd Woosley, seconded by Lorraine Burch, and carried with all present members voting AYE by voice vote, with Lee Chira and Albert Gallof being absent; the Advisory Board approved the February 20, 2019 meeting Agenda as presented.

III. Approval of the January 22, 2019 Meeting Minutes:

Upon a motion by Lloyd Woosley, seconded by Lorraine Burch, and carried with all present members voting AYE by voice vote, with Lee Chira and Albert Gallof being absent; the Advisory Board approved the January 22, 2019 meeting Minutes as presented.

IV. Public Comment on Propositions before the Advisory Board:

There was no public comment.

V. Butler Marine Patrol Report:

Lt. Jeff Hudson reported that the Butler Patrol provided 200 hours of patrol time in January. They inspected 111 vessels and made contact with 269 users. They assisted 2 disabled vessels and issued 8 citations and 41 warnings.

No noise complaints were reported to the officers. The largest number of boats that were noticed at Bird Island at any given time by the officers was 16.

David Hansen discussed with the Advisory Board the motion made at their previous meeting (January 22, 2019) to allow for increased funding to provide surveillance at boat ramps in an effort to reduce alcohol misuse on the Butler Chain. The motion had been made in Lt. Hudson's absence. Mr. Hansen asked Lt. Hudson if he would share his perspective on the alcohol use issue and his observations on the current state of law enforcement in general on the Butler Chain of Lakes.

Lt. Hudson reminded the meeting attendees that while there are about 40 spaces available for boat trailers at the R.D. Keene Public Boat Ramp, there are perhaps 1,000 private docks and boat slips around the Butler Chain from which boat access is gained and alcohol can be brought onto the lakes. He offered that increased surveillance at the boat ramps was not a realistic solution. He also mentioned that officers specifically trained and certified for marine-type duties were in short supply and were generally mandated to work during certain events. He offered that if a big event is planned and advertised out on the Butler Chain or elsewhere, there is communication and cooperation between the various agencies to make sure the event is covered. He closed with the observation that Bird Island on Lake Butler is safer than it was ten years ago.

No further action was taken.

VI. EPD Report:

1. Current Projects

David Hansen reported that preparations were underway to install the educational signage on Egret (aka Bird) Island. He mentioned that Orange County Survey staff would perform the specific purpose survey of the Safe Upland Line for sign placement. He also mentioned that he was in receipt of a letter from the Audubon Society giving county staff, and any contractors hired for the project, permission to access the island. He reported that he planned for an early March 2019 completion of the project.

David Hansen reported that the vegetation surveys on the Butler Chain of Lakes were almost complete. He mentioned that Lake Down will require treatment given the amount of *Hydrilla verticillata* present both along the periphery and in deep water. He suggested that a full lake treatment may be required for control. He went on to say that a full lake treatment with SONAR herbicide could cost \$500,000 or more. Mr. Hansen also reported that the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) had recently put a pause on their State-funded aquatic plant management program. The pause means that FWC is not treating invasive aquatic vegetation with herbicide and is not funding herbicide or labor for other program cooperators, e.g., Orange County, for this purpose. He explained that it was possible that the Windermere Water and Navigation Control District Municipal Services Taxing Unit (MSTU) may need to fund the full cost for the Lake Down treatment. Mr. Hansen discussed with the Advisory Board a

resolution to be sent to FWC requesting a resumption and continuation of the State-funded aquatic plant management program.

Upon a motion by Ijaz Ahmed, seconded by Lorraine Burch, and carried with all present members voting AYE by voice vote, with Lee Chira and Albert Gallof being absent; the Advisory Board approved a Resolution requesting that the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission resume and continue their Aquatic Plant Management Program.

David Hansen reported that comments had been submitted to the geotechnical engineers that had performed the investigation of the short-circuiting around the weir at the Lake Down Alum Facility. He mentioned that responses to the comments had been received earlier in the day and would be reviewed as soon as possible.

David Hansen reported that the update of the Lake Tibet sub-basins 1 and 2 evaluation was proceeding and distributed the latest progress report from Environmental Research and Design.

David Hansen reported that he had informed the Public Works Engineering staff that the water quality project in Lake Butler sub-basin 10 was being resumed.

2. Future Projects

David Hansen briefly mentioned the next project as recommended in the 2007 Butler Chain Hydrologic/Nutrient Evaluation was Lake Butler sub-basin 15, also referred to as Tilden Groves. He reminded members of the upflow filter evaluation that had been submitted by David Hamstra for review and discussion.

Lloyd Woosley requested that a discussion by the full Advisory Board take place to consider re-evaluating the internal loading of nutrients in the lakes as had happened for Wauseon Bay. He suggested that this re-evaluation was important before committing funds to any other major structural best management practices (BMPs).

Lorraine Burch offered that it would be useful to have some kind of tracking mechanism like a spreadsheet to know which projects have been completed, were under consideration, etc. David Hansen said that he would work on getting one together for the members.

3. Meeting Schedule

David Hansen mentioned that the next meeting of the Advisory Board is scheduled for Monday, March 11, 2019 at 5:30 PM.

VII. Member Reports:

- 1. Ijaz Ahmed:** no report

2. **Lee Chira:** not present
3. **Lorraine Burch:** Ms. Burch distributed a Development Report handout to the attendees. It was a printout from the OCFL Atlas showing a number of development projects in the vicinity of the Butler Chain of Lakes. It included a key identifying each project.
4. **Lloyd Woosley:** no report
5. **Albert Gallof:** no report

VIII. Non-Agenda Items:

None

IX. Meeting Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 P.M.



Ijaz Ahmed, Chair

3/11/19

Date



David Hansen, Minute Preparer

3/11/2019

Date