

**Lake Conway Water and Navigation Control District  
Advisory Board Regular Meeting  
Orange County Facilities Management Training Room  
February 11, 2020**

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**Board Members Present:** Gary Meloon (Chair), Frances Guthrie (Vice Chair), Micky Blackton, and Elizabeth Nelson

**Board Members Absent:** Bobby Lance

**Staff & Guests:** Tara Urbanik, Orange County Environmental Protection Division (EPD); Cortez Whatley, Chief Aide to District 3 County Commissioner Marya Uribe; Corporal Bim Lowers, Orange County Sheriff's Office (OCSO); Mayor Nick Fouraker, City of Belle Isle (COBI); Chief Laura Houston, City of Belle Isle Police Department

**Residents:** Richard Horn, Ward Davis, Marc Chapkis, Woody Johnson, Sue Nielsen, Ryan Smith, and David Woods

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**I. Call to Order**

With a quorum present, Frances Guthrie called the meeting of the Lake Conway Water and Navigation Control District Advisory Board (Advisory Board) to order at 6:34 p.m.

**II. Approval of the January 14, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

**Upon a motion by Micky Blackton, seconded by Gary Meloon, and carried with all present members voting AYE by voice vote, with Bobby Lance being absent; the Advisory Board approved the January 14, 2020 meeting minutes.**

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

Chair Meloon received four public comment requests.

Richard Horn, a resident on Lake Gatlin, expressed his concerns for the water quality of Lake Gatlin and is concerned about the algal blooms and the decreased water clarity of the lake. Marc Chapkis, a resident on Lake Gatlin, also expressed his concern for the water quality of Lake Gatlin. Ms. Urbanik stated EPD conducts regular water quality sampling on Lake Gatlin and will provide the website to view the 2010 Hydrologic and Nutrient Budget Study and recent water quality sample data.

Mayor Fouraker, City of Belle Isle, requested to be added to the email reminder for the Advisory Board meetings. Mayor Fouraker stated a resident on Willoughby Canal is having difficulty navigating through the canal because it is too shallow and requested the canal to be dredged. Ms. Urbanik stated construction projects funded by the taxing district have been placed on a temporary hold until the County receives the results of the ongoing stormwater study. Canal assessments have been conducted in the past to determine the depth of the water and the amount of accumulated muck in each canal. Once the County receives the list of water quality recommendations from the study, the Advisory Board can view the list as well as the ongoing list of resident requests to determine how they want to prioritize the projects.

Ward Davis inquired if loud music and personal watercraft modified mufflers on the lake fall under the enforcement of the Orange County Noise Pollution Control Ordinance. Corporal Lowers stated he spoke with the OCSO legal department regarding this concern. The intent of the Noise Ordinance is to enforce a physical property with a fixed location and a set boundary line. It is difficult to enforce a watercraft because the vessel is always moving, however, a modified muffler can be enforced.

#### **IV. Comments of the Chair**

No comments.

#### **V. Orange County EPD Report**

Ms. Urbanik stated Mayor Fouraker requested to be added to the email reminder for the Advisory Board meetings.

**Upon a motion by Frances Guthrie, seconded by Micky Blackton, and carried with all present members voting AYE by voice vote, with Bobby Lance being absent; the Advisory Board approved adding Mayor Fouraker to the Advisory Board email reminder.**

Chair Meloon asked regarding the upcoming results of the stormwater study, how will the List of Advisory Board Prioritization of Projects and Expenditure of MSTU Funds allow the Advisory Board to address the resident requests for dredging canals? Ms. Urbanik stated the list has separate categories for ranking water quality project recommendations resulting from the study and canal maintenance activities.

#### **VI. Marine Patrol Report**

Corporal Lowers presented the marine patrol report. For the month of January, the following activities were reported:

- 8 vessel citations
- 19 vessel warnings
- 11 vessel inspections

#### **VII. Advisory Board Member Report**

- Chair Gary Meloon: No comment.
- Vice Chair Frances Guthrie: Ms. Guthrie is looking forward to the study's findings to assist the Advisory Board with a clearer understanding of where they should approve funding as it relates to water quality projects and boating safety, and she hopes it will provide a balance to the Advisory Board's priorities.
- Micky Blackton: No comment.
- Elizabeth Nelson: Ms. Nelson introduced herself. This is her first Advisory Board meeting. She is a native Floridian and has lived in her current house across the street from Lake Conway for 43 years. She is a medical doctor, and her educational background is in biochemistry and physics. The Advisory Board welcomed Dr. Nelson.

#### **VIII. Lake Conway Water Elevation Report**

David Woods presented his water elevation report. He reported, based on a review of his historic data, the overall water elevation of Lake Conway has been higher than average for the past four years and the current rainfall has been less than the normal average.

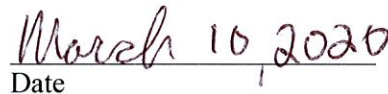
**IX. Non-Agenda Items**

Cortez Whatley, Chief Aide to District 3 County Commissioner Marya Uribe, stated the official appointment of Elizabeth Nelson to the Advisory Board occurred at the BCC meeting this morning, and all expired terms have been re-appointed. In preparation for the City of Belle Isle's Lake Conway Workshop on March 3, 2020, Mr. Whatley has requested information from the Orange County Attorney's Office to assist in answering questions regarding the County's position. Mr. Whatley stated the boating ramp ordinance draft language is still being revised.

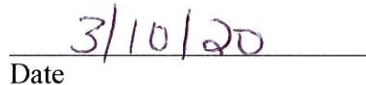
**X. Meeting Adjourned**

Chair Meloon adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

  
Gary Meloon, Chair

  
Date

  
Minutes prepared by Tara Urbanik

  
Date