

**Lake Conway Water and Navigation Control District  
Advisory Board Regular Meeting  
September 8, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.  
3165 McCrory Place, Suite 200  
Orlando, FL 32803  
Chain of Lakes Conference Room and Webex**

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**Board Members Present:** Frances Guthrie<sup>1</sup> (Vice Chair), Bobby Lance<sup>1</sup>, Micky Blackton<sup>1</sup>, and Elizabeth Nelson<sup>1</sup>

**Board Members Absent:**

**Staff & Guests:** Tara Urbanik<sup>2</sup>, Melissa Lavigne<sup>1</sup>, Tim Hull<sup>1</sup>, and Liz Johnson<sup>1</sup>, Orange County Environmental Protection Division (EPD); Mayra Uribe<sup>1</sup>, District 3, Orange County Board of County Commissioners (BCC); Sergeant Fred Westerberg<sup>1</sup> and Corporal Bim Lowers<sup>1</sup>, Orange County Sheriff's Office (OCSO); City Mayor Nick Fouraker<sup>1</sup> & City Manager Bob Francis<sup>1</sup>, City of Belle Isle (COBI); Chief Laura Houston<sup>1</sup>, Belle Isle Police Department (BIPD)

**Residents:** Adam Branom<sup>1</sup>, Carol Felsing<sup>1</sup>, Diane Ashe<sup>1</sup>, Donella Altice<sup>1</sup>, Alexa Dowlen<sup>1</sup>, Gary Meloon<sup>1</sup>, John Evertsen<sup>1</sup>, Kelly Jervis<sup>1</sup>, Ken Marks<sup>1</sup>, Kyler Goforth<sup>1</sup>, David Woods<sup>1</sup>, Mischelle Harmon<sup>1</sup>, Alan Horn<sup>1</sup>, Randy Holihan<sup>1</sup>, Pam Crotty<sup>1</sup>, Rick Miller<sup>1</sup>, Ross Man<sup>1</sup>, Sara Dilmore<sup>1</sup>, and Will Mims<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Denotes attended via Webex

<sup>2</sup> Denotes attended in-person at EPD office

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**I. Call to Order**

With a quorum present, Vice Chair Frances Guthrie called the meeting of the Lake Conway Water and Navigation Control District Advisory Board (Advisory Board) to order at 6:33 p.m.

**II. Approval of the August 11, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

**Upon a motion by Bobby Lance, seconded by Elizabeth Nelson, and carried with all present members voting AYE by voice vote; the Advisory Board approved the August 11, 2020 meeting minutes.**

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

Vice Chair Guthrie received five public comment requests.

Alexa Dowlen, a representative of the Police Advisory Board for the City of Belle Isle (COBI), requested funding for a new patrol vessel for the Belle Isle Police Department (BIPD).

Mayor Nick Fouraker stated his concerns of dangerous boating activity, excessive noise and trash concerns, and vessel usage concerns at night on Lake Conway. There is also a concern with the current status of excess sediment within the canals on Lake Conway.

Sara Dilmore, a resident, wished to express a public comment, but had an audio issue and could not state her concern. In the chat feature of the Webex meeting, Ms. Dilmore stated her request to dredge the Barby and Willoughby canals.

Rick Wilson, a resident, stated his support for the BIPD to receive a new patrol vessel. Alan Horn, a resident, is opposed for the taxing district money to be spent on additional law enforcement, which residents are already taxed for that specific service. He would like to see law enforcement efforts to be funded by the general fund, rather than the taxing district.

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

Vice Chair Guthrie stated she is temporarily acting as the Chair, since, unfortunately the prior Advisory Board Chair, Gary Meloon, resigned from the Advisory Board.

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

##### **Lake Gatlin Alum Treatment Proposal Update**

Ms. Urbanik is preparing the paperwork to secure funding for the Lake Gatlin assessment.

##### **Lake Conway Stormwater Study Update**

The Lake Conway Stormwater Study community meeting is scheduled for October 13, 2020.

The routine canal sediment assessment was discussed.

**Upon a motion by Bobby Lance, seconded by Elizabeth Nelson, and carried with all present members voting AYE by voice vote; the Advisory Board approved creating a scope of service to conduct a canal sediment assessment.**

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

Corporal Lowers presented the marine patrol report. For the month of August 2020, the following activities were reported:

- 1 vessel accident
- 12 vessel citations
- 69 vessel warnings
- 37 vessel inspections

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

David Woods presented his water elevation report.

#### **VIII. Advisory Board Member Report**

- Vice Chair Frances Guthrie: Vice Chair Guthrie stated her thanks to Gary Meloon and his numerous contributions to the Advisory Board, that he added great logic and reason to the concerns the Advisory Board is presented, and she is sorry to see him step down from his position.
- Bobby Lance: Mr. Lance stated he previously spoke with Mayor Fouraker about the concerns he stated during public comment, and he also visited the Barby and Willoughby canals, and the Lake Conway outfall weir and how it relates to the canal depths concerns.

- Micky Blackton: No comment.
- Elizabeth Nelson: No comment.

## **IX. Non-Agenda Items**

Chair elections were discussed.

**Upon a motion by Bobby Lance, seconded by Frances Guthrie, and carried with all present members voting AYE by voice vote; the Advisory Board approved Elizabeth Nelson as Chair.**

Commissioner Uribe stated the Advisory Board is doing a fantastic job, and that she is sad Gary Meloon resigned from the Advisory Board, but also has offered another individual the vacant position.

Commissioner Uribe stated her office and EPD representatives plan to have community meetings to open up communication on what the Advisory Board oversees, and to discuss outstanding concerns.

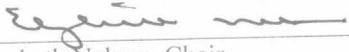
Discussion provided from chat feature in Webex meeting:

- From Alexa Dowlen (privately): I'd like to speak if my email cannot be read.
- From Mayor Nick Fouraker to everyone: I asked to speak, raised my hand, and have the call on my prompt on for last five minutes.
- From Sara Dilmore to everyone: I want to ask if there is any progress on dredging/removing the silt from the canals? Especially the Willoughby/Barby canal?
- From Diane Ashe to everyone: Can you post the correct non-emergency number we should use to report dangerous incidents.
- From Tara Urbanik to everyone: Sara, our contractor is scheduled to be out on the canals to remove tree branches and any other navigation concerns. The Nav Board is aware of the dredging requests on the lake and will look into the concern after we hear the Stormwater Study results in October.
- From Tara Urbanik to everyone: The boating safety number is 407-836-HELP.
- From Sara Dilmore to everyone: Tara- they were out there on August 12th removing tree branches however its more than that. It has been 20 years since the canal has been dredged.
- From Mayor Nick Fouraker to everyone: Rick Wilson also had a public comment.
- From Alan to everyone: I also had my hand raised.
- From David Woods to everyone: The last time the Barbie and Willoughby canals were dredged they were dug down to hardpan. The contract was to restore the canals to near original condition so no further dredging was done at that time.
- From Sara Dilmore to everyone: Can we at least get the silt out?
- From David Woods to everyone: The problem is that these canals were originally created very shallow and it will be necessary to reinforce the banks of the canals to allow dredging deeper. All of the residents along the canals need to provide hold harmless agreements in order to allow dredging to occur. Dredging to a greater depth than original is essentially rebuilding the canals rather than maintenance and would require a FDEP dredging permit. This is a very big project.
- From Sara Dilmore to everyone: There is at least a foot of it if not more.
- From Sara Dilmore to everyone: I can't get the audio to work
- From Frances Guthrie to everyone: Hi Sara. If you can get the audio working, I'll circle back during non-agenda items to give you the chance.
- From Mayor Nick Fouraker to everyone: Thank you!

- From Mayor Nick Fouraker to everyone: Millage is all relative to property values so not always a great barometer.
- From Liz Johnson to everyone: OCSO and BIPD, we thank you for your service.
- From Alan to everyone: Are ride alongs with OCSO Marine an option?
- From Mayor Nick Fouraker to everyone: Jeff Charles with Orange County is coming to speak about the weir at our next Council meeting please, share that.
- From Laura Houston to everyone: Thank you to Gary Meloon for years of support for Lake Conway and law enforcement.
- From Mayor Nick Fouraker to everyone: Thank you, Gary!
- From Alan to everyone: <https://tecengr.yolasite.com/cnb.php>
- From Diane Ashe (privately): Does the Nav Board handle questions about lily pads in the lake? One of the Lake Gatlin residents who could not attend asked me to check. They seem to be going crazy in Lake Gatlin this year. I wasn't sure if the alum treatment would include taking a look at those or not.
- From Tara Urbanik to everyone: [tara.urbanik@ocfl.net](mailto:tara.urbanik@ocfl.net).
- From Mayra Uribe to everyone: Tara, I wanted to let you know I am on the call. - Mayra
- To Diane Ashe (privately): Hi Diane, you can send any plant questions to my email above. The alum treatment is only for water quality. Thanks!

**X. Meeting Adjourned**

Vice Chair Guthrie adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Elizabeth Nelson, Chair

14 Oct 2020  
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Date

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Minutes prepared by Tara Urbanik

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**APPROVED**  
**By Tara Urbanik at 12:49 pm, Oct 15, 2020**