

Membership meeting at Lake Gaston Baptist Church at 9:30 am  
February 7, 2024

**Attendees:**

Public: approximately 56 attendees

Board of Directors: Jeff Zimmer, Eric Wooster, Brian Goldsworthy, Patricia Price, John Cataldo, Lewis Mustian, Anne Wood, Shannon McAllister

Co-Chairs: John Franz

Executive Director: Tammy Clarke

**Welcome**

Jeff Zimmer, President, welcomed all attendees and members at 9:30 am and asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Jeff provided updates:**

- The LGA Board members are working on strategic planning.
- All Committee Chairs and members are volunteers.
- Volunteers needed – Financial Review Committee
- Volunteers needed for various activities – Tammy has a volunteer sign up sheet. Please sign up or contact Tammy.
- Based on LGA Survey, Communication is critical to our membership. Tammy – Manages Communications through Splash, Quarterly Newsletter/Bulletin, posting on Facebook and more. Follow LGA on Facebook. Tammy spoke about the service that is used to provide communications to the members (Mail Chimp) and the service only allows one email address per family household or business.

**Updates from the Directors:**

- Eric- Chair of the Safety Committee spoke about the two upcoming events:
  - Shred Event on May 4<sup>th</sup> at Roanoke Wildwood Volunteer Fire Department on Lizard Creek Rd and
  - First Response at the Lake on June 1<sup>st</sup> at Lake Gaston Day Use Area. Be sure to save these dates.
- John C. Chair of the Government Relations Committee spoke about:
  - The Five County Forum is on March 15<sup>th</sup>, at the Lions Club on Stanley Road, starting at 9:00 am. The topic is: What they are planning for the future and the impact on the Lake Gaston Communities.
  - Candidates forum later in the year. More information to come.

**Intro Speaker/Presentation**

Today's Speakers are Ed Woodley and Tony Young, Civil Engineers with the US Army Corps of Engineers. Their topic is how the Quasi-Run-of-River Plan (QRR) has been implemented and its impact on Lake Gaston.

Ed and Tony provided a Power Point presentation on the reasons for the QRR and the benefits that we are seeing here on Lake Gaston. They provided an informative presentation covering:

- Priorities: Flood control and Hydroelectric power
- What QRR Means
- Weekly Energy Declaration
- Relationship/Coordination with Dominion. Dominion schedules hourly release.
- What to expect under QRR – few weeks under declared flood operations
- Ongoing Monitoring/Evaluation Efforts: sustainable Rivers Program

Please see their slide presentation for more information.

There were great questions from the audience which Tony and Ed answered. In addition, Corey Chamberlain from Dominion Energy was present and answered questions related to Dominion.

Here is a little background: In 2016, water management officials with the US Army Corps of Engineers Wilmington District received final approval for a change to flood operations at John H. Kerr Dam and Reservoir. Under the QRR plan, flood release more closely mimics the natural inflows coming into Kerr and releases into Lake Gaston can be increased rapidly during larger storm events. Higher shorter-term releases inundate a larger portion of the downstream flood plan but allow the river downstream of Roanoke Rapides to return to normal much sooner. Kerr is better able to handle subsequent flood events and reduce recreation impacts.

### **Issues/Concerns by membership**

A question was asked:

- related to an on-line article regarding leaches in the Lake. When reading articles ensure the article is from a reputable source.
- Why is the water in the lake murky? The murkiness is natural sediment and will pass through and settle down. This is a natural process.

Meeting adjourned 10:51 am