

**CAROLINA TRACE ASSOCIATION**

**Board of Directors' Meeting**

Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 7:00 pm

**Agenda**

1) Call to order **7:04 PM**

David Smoak

2) Approval of April 2022 minutes. **Approved.**

3) Groups

i) CTCC

Raymond Reyes

**Ray is available anytime for discussions. There is a lot going on with golf and hospitality. He wants to be a good steward of what we have here and is striving to improve the relationship with the community.**

ii) Utilities

Vince Roy

CWSNC Water/Sewer Rates  
Effective April 8, 2022  
By  
Vince Roy/ Utilities Rep.

OLD Rates	CWSNC Proposed Rates	NCUC Approved Rates
Base	Base	Base
W \$28.92	W \$31.00	W \$24.53
S <u>\$58.91</u>	S <u>\$64.09</u>	S <u>\$41.03</u>
\$87.83	\$95.09	\$65.56
Water	Water	Water
\$2.21/1000	\$2.21/1000	\$2.21/1000
Sewer	Sewer	Sewer
\$4.59/1000	\$5.77/1000	\$11.69/1000

Avg bill 3,500 gal/mo.  
Old \$108.00  
New \$65.56 + \$8.74 + \$40.92 = \$114.22

iii) Fire Dept

Chief Myers

Newsletter Available at <https://www.carolinatracevfd.org/>

**YTD CALLS: We have run 107 calls so far this year. This is a substantial increase in call volume over last year. There are 29 members on the roster. We are actively recruiting new members. We also have a junior program for 16- and 17-year-olds. We have applied for two grants and have received one \$10,000 Covid relief grant that will provide additional equipment. We have paid staff at the station from 7AM-7PM, Monday through Friday. After receiving no negative feedback from the board, the budget was submitted to the county on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Our proposed budget should not require any significant tax rate increase, pending any Fire advisory board and county commissioner approval.**

4) President Remarks

David Smoak

**Full remarks on NextDoor and CTA website. Some highlights: 1) David is thankful for the recent surge of volunteers. He stated we are planning on another nice Memorial Day event at the Country Club this year thanks to the Cameron family. It will be held on May 30<sup>th</sup> at 0830.**

**2) He has nominated Lisa Navas as the assistant CTA Secretary. Lisa will help manage our communication to the POAs in a timely manner and may assume the full role of Secretary in the near future.**

**3) The asphalt on the North/South gates will be treated which will require a day of shutdown for the sealant to cure, this should happen in June and more information on the timing will be publicized when known. There is also planning for an expansion of the main gate approach lanes in May which will help process the growing amount of traffic we are experiencing.**

**4) During the summer with longer days, the number of people that are roaming around increases a lot, which sadly corresponds to an increase of opportunistic thefts/petty crime. Keep your vehicles, boats and homes locked up. He encourages adding exterior lights, cameras and having a good dog to help protect your properties.**

**5) If there are projects that any POA would recommend for CTA to consider, we need to hear feedback within the next month to consider them for the initial budget proposal. There should be a modest assessment increase with increased costs for our security personnel due to inflation. Some costs for the common property will also go up due to inflation/labor costs.**

5) Financial Report

Candace Cochran

**Golf North has paid insurance for the year.**

6) Secretary Remarks

Kelly Dorman

**Nothing to report.**

7) Committee Reports

a) Security & Safety

Kate Woods

**CERT-upcoming course in September. Penny Turner is the contact.**

**Currently down two guards at the gatehouse who voluntarily chose to leave. They are moving on with new hires and positive changes.**

**Recently a Ford Ranger rammed the South Gate and Kate ended up pressing charges.**

**Tailgating: 1<sup>st</sup> warning document. Next time, sticker will be deactivated. Hopefully with the North Gate being moved further back from Cox Mill, there will be a reduction in tailgaters. She emphasized that RESIDENTS SHOULD NOT TRY TO BE POLICE OFFICERS. Get the time and description of the vehicle and the infraction. Report the details to the VP email. There should be no trailers going through the Cox Mill Gates. An additional license plate camera will be added to the exits. CTA does not have the ability to level fines.**

b) Traceway Roads & Maintenance

Mike Dussault

## **Completed**

- 1) Removal of large bushes in the middle across from the old bus area.
- 2) Planting of area where bush was removed. (Peggy Hudson, Susan Violon, Janet Alicia)
- 3) Planting of planter boxes at the gatehouse.
- 4) Structural surrounding around media sign at the gatehouse.
- 5) Shade cover on South gate tv/media.
- 6) New plantings at South entrance at Cox Mill Rd.
- 7) Completion of South gate area at Cox Mill to comply with DOT.

## **Upcoming**

- 1) Bridge inspection report review. (May 4th) We will give board members an overview at the June CTA board meeting.
- 2) Asphalt work on several locations, including main entrance expansion. Work scheduled to take place toward the end of May.
- 3) Sealcoating review for North/South exits, old bus turnaround, back of gatehouse. Work should take place in June.
- 4) Reflector replacement. About 1/3 of Traceway completed.
- 5) Work starting on the relocation of the North exit gates.
- 6) Possible removal of trees and hedges at the corner of Rt 87 and Traceway.
- 7) Planting in the area in front of the gatehouse.

c) Trace Lake and Dam Committee

David Smoak

**\*\*\*Attached, once again, is the Committee report from last month for those that may have missed it. There is lots of information regarding Trace Lake maintenance.**

- 9) Old Business 'Issues to consider with Lake Trace Maintenance Spending Proposals' tabled until next meeting.

10) New Business **Nothing.**

11) Next meeting: **Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 7 pm**

12) Adjournment

## TRACE LAKE AND DAM COMMITTEE REPORT

April 2022

Two meetings were recently held with Escalante management and the following issues were discussed:

1. Escalante has affirmed their commitment to resolving the maintenance issues with the Trace Dam. A Certificate of Work has been issued by the state describing work to be done on both the earthen and concrete portion of the Lake Trace Dam. This work is supposed to commence by February 2023, however Escalante is going to try to coordinate the work with our expected lake lowering which should begin in January 2023.
2. The ownership and maintenance cost issues between Escalante and CTC remain, and will hopefully be resolved by the fall of this year. Escalante intends to review and renew attempts to resolve this issue so that the planning and bidding process can begin so the maintenance work can proceed as discussed above in #1.
3. An unexpected additional project has been the work done by a Carolina Water Service contractor that installed a new sewage pipe across the Creek 18 bridge/Carr Creek area of Lake Trace. The information that has been provided to us is that the rock wall will be removed later when the concrete supports have been cured. It is anticipated that this work will happen next winter during the Lake Trace lowering also.
4. The maintenance work will be supervised by an engineering firm hired by Escalante. The required scope of lowering of Lake Trace in 2023 is still unknown. However, with the work on the concrete portion of the Dam as well as the work removing the rock wall on Carr Creek it is anticipated that a substantial lowering of Lake Trace should be expected. This expectation of another large-scale lake lowering should be considered when planning any projects for Lake Trace this year.
5. The status of the hydrilla weed infestation was also discussed. In 2021 the explosive growth of the hydrilla and how it was choking out some of the shallow harbor areas of

the lake was a serious community concern that led to stocking 150 sterile grass carp in August 2021. It is unknown how many carp remain after the lake lowering or where they have settled. The carp's ability to move upstream in the Carr Creek area has also probably been impacted by the rock wall installed and discussed above in #3. The impact on the hydrilla that went dormant over the winter and then exposed by the lake lowering and freezing weather is also unknown. The control of the hydrilla weed infestation remains a serious concern and this situation requires further monitoring so the impact of all these recent changes can be measured, further action may be required this year or in 2023. One member of the TLDC strongly disagrees with waiting and recommends that we proceed with an aggressive spraying schedule in April/May of this year.

6. There are many recent projects and future projects that have impacted the Lake Trace environment, we recommend that decisions regarding the stocking of additional fish and/or control of the Lake Trace maintenance funds are retained by this committee. The stability and preservation of the Lake Trace Dam should be the primary concern of our community to avoid the disaster of the Woodlake Dam breaching. After the Trace Dam issues are remedied, then a thoughtful plan for improving the stabilized Lake Trace ecosystem can be implemented.

Trace Lake and Dam Committee