



# Big Bear Municipal Water District

## Lake Management

### Board of Directors

Steve Ludecke – Division 1  
Bob Rehfuß – Division 2  
Craig Brewster – Division 3  
Mark Lee – Division 4  
Tom Bradford – Division 5

### Operations Committee Meeting Marina Task Force Minutes November 14, 2023

**Present:** Director Rehfuß

Director Brewster

Drew Pappas, Lake Operations Supervisor

Mike Stephenson, Chief Operations Officer

Brittany Lamson, Interim General Manager

**Public:** Sonia Long, Miranda Cryder, John Saunders, Ryan Goss, John Osborn, Steve Fengler, Rouke Fengler, Cliff Fowler, Jon Rouse, Loren Hafen

#### Agenda:

##### 1. Operations Priorities:

- a. Drew started the meeting with an introduction and importance of the meeting.
- b. Public safety, we been fortunate not to have a death in a couple years so that is a huge accomplishment.
- c. Our priority is to keep the lake free of invasive species.
- d. Reviewed District ordinances/compliance.
- e. Public education, not citation, is the goal of the district.

##### 2. Lake Levels:

- a. Low lake in Nov, and almost did not open in April because of ice and snow so late into the year.
- b. We actually finished the year 2 ft higher than we started, which does not happen often, if ever.

##### 3. Ramp Hours:

- a. Lake level determines when and what ramp will be open, this will not, and has not changed.
- b. Other than that, the ramps are pretty consistent with hours of operation.

##### 4. Inspections/Decontaminations:

- a. Failed inspection means they are done for the day.
- b. Can come back next day, for another inspection, but decons are by appointment only.
  - i. Make sure the public knows the difference between inspection and decontamination.
- c. Do not use decon as a failsafe if boat fails, requires 24-hour cancellation to be considered for a refund.

##### 5. WID Stats:

- a. We really need to continue to use these tablets as the data is extremely helpful to us.



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- b. Decons have about leveled out, we have about a 75% pass rate which is a huge increase from when we had decons on a walk up basis.
  - c. Rouke of BBLM would like the MWD to have the WID training to help use the tablets better.
  - d. However, this is included in the quagga training already but we can increase the training to a larger portion of that training, or do a two day training.
    - i. This helps us communicate with marinas without having to call them.
    - ii. This helps everyone stay on the same page by using the tablets.
  - e. Jon from Pleasure Point enjoys the tablets, but for new boaters the entry does take a bit longer than the existing boaters, but thinks it definitely will be faster in the long haul.
  - f. Also the logged in data was not a large quantity, the information that was logged was great data.
- 6. Lake Use Data:**
- a. 27,091 vessels for this year, broken down into categories.
  - b. Increased from 24K last year.
  - c. 32% rental vessels, but this doesn't always include non-registered because of difficulty with identification.
  - d. July is busiest month, per usual.
- 7. Patrol Enforcement:**
- a. 5 patrol officers, Memorial Day through labor day.
  - b. 7am – 9pm
  - c. 2 employees with cite authority, hoping for 2 more next year.
  - d. Two major incidents, hand injury and prop strike.
  - e. Boater card was a big citable offense this year.
  - f. Transom stop was the number 1 stop as always, and probably always will be.
    - i. Followed by speed control.
    - ii. No PFD for under 13 yrs old.
- 8. Rental Rules/Violations:**
- a. Swimming is a huge issue of both your rules and our ordinance.
    - i. Please really push the no swimming as it tends to be the biggest issue.
  - b. Non-registered, going beyond the 5mph buoys is another continued issue.
    - i. The buoys were placed even further out, and they continue to go pass this point.
  - c. Still having issues with rental pontoons and people not answering the phones when they are disabled.
  - d. If you send rentals out, make sure they have access to contact you.



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### 9. Tours Boats:

- a. Liberty, Pirate boat, Cruiser have all had reports this year.
- b. They are speeding within the 5mph buoys and running too close to the docks causing damage.

### 10. Registration/ Quagga Sticker:

- a. This is a citable offense, these stickers need to be on the boats.
- b. This continues to be an issue with our rental boats and it should not be the responsibility of the renter, it's up to the marina to keep their fleet up to date.
- c. Make sure these vessels are all properly marked.
- d. E-foils are new and becoming more popular, must have a registered permit and registration, high visibility, and must stay 100 ft on either side of the 5mph buoy.

### 11. Boater Card:

- a. It's enforceable, 60 years or younger are required to have one in 2024.
- b. There are no plans to enforce this card to the rental companies.
- c. These numbers and enforcement are something that we report as part of our grant requirement.

### 12. Commercial Activity:

- a. AirBNB for boats, please be aware of this possibly happening in your marina.
- b. We do shut it down when we see it.
- c. Loren wants to thank MWD for enforcing what we can do.
- d. Drew encourages marina owners to download the app and see CF numbers and check slip holders.
- e. The landing site where the purchase is being made is the big detail.

### 13. Charter Numbers:

- a. \$30 per trip, we are still behind when comparing fish taken vs fish purchased, Committee members agreed that this charge will continue.

### 14. Mountain Water Dispatch:

- a. Letters for advertising were sent out, please let us know if you're interested in the ad in our magazine again.

### 15. GM Updates/ Open Forum:

- a. Jon is still concerned about tablet and failing inspections and then having a reinspection within 24 hours.
  - i. This would not happen if the boat is logged in the system, any other inspector would then we able to see if they were just inspected.
- b. Lakewide EIR environmental document is being worked on by our environmental engineering team.
  - i. Different approach than last time, this will be a more usable document for everyone.



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- c. Another environmental document is being completed for additional emergency services ramp off the west side of the jetty.
- d. Dam lining RFP to go out shortly.
- e. All buoys and markers are pulled out.
- f. Algae was at a caution level this year, but that is what we consider a baseline for us.
  - i. Our lab results were so low and non-detect that our lake was in great shape.
  - ii. With the large inflow of new water, we had great water quality.
  - iii. So with another good winter, we could eliminate the milfoil weed because the littoral zone will be increased.
- g. We go to marinas when they request it, or we will go by when we are doing residential docks.
  - i. If there is a specific call out from a marina that we do not feel needed weed services, we will cut but there would be a charge for the services.
  - ii. Probably only about 25% of normal weed loads.