

## **LWPOA BOARD MEETING Minutes**

**August 12, 2025**

**12:30 PM (CST)**

**Wedowee Winery (Upstairs)**

**Wedowee, AL 36278**

**Call to Order** –(Steve Blaskowski) On August 12, 2025, Scott Blaskowski, Chair, called the LWPOA meeting to order at 12:30 CST. Terri Conkle made a motion to open the meeting, Sonya Miller seconded this motion.

**Attendance**- Woody McClintock, Steve Blaskowski, John Beaty, Tut Smith, Pat Letteri, Terri Conkle, Sonya Miller, Lissa Calhoun and Loretta Coleman (attended virtually via phone).

Guest Present: Rhett Harmon (attended virtually via phone)

Non-Board Present: Secretary/Treasurer: Lorie Teal

Absent: n/a

- **Welcome to Lissa Calhoun**- New LWPOA Board Member for 2025-2027. Lissa Calhoun was elected during July/August 2025 to replace Theroyl Brown after his resignation from LWPOA for health reasons.
- **Approval of May 2025 Minutes** –Steve Blaskowski asked for approval of July 2025 minutes as written. Terri Conkle made a motion to adopt minutes as written. Sonya Miller 2nd this motion. Minutes are approved as written.

**Membership** – **Membership** – (Lorie Teal) As of July 31, 2025 we have **463** members.

- **301** members renewed their membership and **162** are new members for as of July 31, 2025

### **Guest Speakers:**

#### **2025 Easter Seals**

- Rhett Harmon from Century 21 attended virtually. He shared about Reels for Easter Seals Program and how LWPOA could join their efforts for the Spring Fishing Tournament. The date for the tournament is tentatively set for March 7, 2026. This is not confirmed by Randy at the Marina yet. We can help by advertising and getting more people to register to fish (including us). We can also be part of a video they shoot leading up to the tournament. Entry Fee is \$30 per person with \$1500 to \$2000 in 1st, 2nd and 3d prizes. The flyer will be ready to share soon. They do partner with Georgia Division of Easter Seals and do not plan to change this since they have had such success in the past with over \$167,000 donated.

### **ALEA**

**Trooper Jared Brown**- Trooper Brown did not attend the meeting.

### **Old Business:**

- **2025 Directories**- 2025 Directories have been mailed. We were not able to use bulk mailing prices. Lorie took all directories to mail in the previously purchased envelopes with bulk mailing stamps stamped on them. After 3 days of the envelopes being mailed, the post office called to let Lorie know this stamp still needed additional funds and a renewal for the bulk mailing. Since we are not mailing as much, we did not renew this service. We only had to pay for the Wedowee addressed envelopes as the other ones went through the post office without being stopped for more postage.
  - Additionally, one member suggested...In previous years home address and lake address were published. Please consider returning to that format.
- **Fall Meeting Plan**
  - Location- Sonya is working with the Wedowee Fire Department for our Fall Meeting. They have 9 tables, with air conditioned space. The contact at the Fire Department also offered to let us meet monthly for a donation per meeting. Pat stated she felt that Wedowee Winery has been very good to us and only started charging us a meeting fee this year of \$25 per hour.
  - Speakers for Fall Meeting- Possible speakers are: Rob Perry (Wedowee Fire Chief), Adam (from AL Power), Chris (@ PALS) Bob Fincher @ 15 to 20 minutes each. These will be confirmed prior to the September meeting.
  - Food/Decoration- Food and decoration will be planned at the September LWPOA meeting.
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- **Determine Platform to use for LWPOA**

- General Expense Review of Budget- Lorie shared financial documents that Loretta worked to create. These documents show the actual budget for each event.
- **Vote to utilize Zeffy-** All Board Members present voted to give Zeffy a try since there is no cost to join. A few of the Board members will pay for 2026 membership to see how the platform works for our needs.
- **LWPOA Website-** Woody has created new tabs on our website to better organize the LWPOA information. In doing this and sharing more information on Facebook he has seen more traffic on our social media platforms. He will continue this practice for continued improvement in this area. Woody is also working on a job description for someone to help us in creating content to share with members about LWPOA.

### **New Business:**

- **Update on Financial Review (Loretta)**

- Updated Google Sheets were shared to better track financials. Loretta will complete the same process for the 2024 records to show income/spending over a two year time period for better informed improvement. Lorie shared how valuable Loretta's work is for LWPOA. Her expertise in this area is unmatched. We are thankful and appreciative for the time and effort she is devoting toward our improvement.

- **Discussion about expanding lake clean up**

- Steve shared that Alabama Power will help to extend lake clean up days by allowing us to use their dumpster at the office. Steve stated he could use his ATV and trailer to haul trash to the dumpster as needed. In December, the Alabama Power Office is closed so that they can use all their personal time before the end of the year. Crystal will order 140 shirts for this year unless we tell her different for the October dates. For the extended dates selected we will use old t-shirts to give to volunteers.

- **WLIA / LMRA - Crappie Rodeo Discussion(Terri)**

- Update on local fish tournament (Terri Conkle)- See information above about joining Reels for Easter Seals in Spring 2026.

- **Plan for 5 CDS @ Southern States**

- Renewal Date is 9/18/25- Lorie will check rates for renewing all 5 of these closer to the renewal date.

- **New Safety/Existing Concerns for Lake Wedowee**

- Terri shared that someone reported to her that sewage is coming into Wedowee Creek and City of Wedowee is aware of this. Terri will reach out to Susan Urquhart with water testing about this concern.
- Mile Marking #12 is down. Steve shared they have been working to get the new ones installed and replace the ones that are needed. More buoys need to be ordered. The 3 in piney wood do not have reflective tape. They were installed as they came from the manufacturer. This is still a work in progress. 2 more are needed at Foxcreek and 1 on the sand bar.

### **Committees**

- Boating/Lake Safety – John Beaty
- Hospitality – Terri Conkle, Sonya Miller
- Lake Clean-up – **Steve Blaskowski**, Bob May, John Beaty
- Membership – **Tut Smith**, Pat Lettieri
- Publicity/Social Media- Woody McClintock
- Relicensing – **Barry Morris**,
- Water Quality – **Susan Urquhart**, Steve Blaskowski
- Website/Email Broadcast –**Woody McClintock**,
- Facebook- **Woody McClintock**,
- Wake Surf Regulations- **Woody McClintock**

- **Adjourn** – The next general meeting will be held September 8, 12:30 PM, location is Wedowee Winery, upstairs. Sonya Miller made a motion to adjourn, the motion was 2nd by Terri Conkle. The meeting adjourned at 2:30.