



RESERVATION ASSOCIATION

City of Atoka – City of Oklahoma City
Oklahoma City Water Utilities Trust

LARA Agenda
Item. V. A
3/13/2025

TO: Board Members, Lake Atoka Reservation Association

FROM: Chris Browning, General Manager

Lake Patrol and Activity report, as provided by the Police Chief, City of Atoka.

Activity Period: August 2024 through January 2025

The winter season at Lake Atoka was relatively quiet and uneventful. There were no major incidents, and Lake Patrol operations proceeded smoothly. Interactions with citizens and violators were resolved without any issues.

Staffing continues to be a challenge for both the Lake Patrol and the Police Department overall. In December 2024, two Lake Patrol Officers resigned, bringing the total to six out of the last eight Police Officer resignations coming from the Lake Patrol unit. On a positive note, one of the new Lake Patrol Officers recently completed the six-hundred-hour CLEET Basic Peace Officer Academy in Ada, Oklahoma.

Noteworthy events during the specified period include:

- a) Occasional limited access due to road construction and other issues resulted in reduced activity around the southern end of Lake Atoka property.
- b) Lake Patrol Officers encountered multiple cases of individuals abandoning dogs across various areas of Lake Atoka property. In all instances, the City of Atoka's Animal Control Officer was called upon to address the situations.
- c) Lake Patrol Officers addressed multiple camping related violations, including abandoned travel trailers and campers. On at least two occasions, Officers addressed and removed squatters attempting to 'homestead' on Lake Atoka property.
- d) On September 10, 2024, Lake Patrol Officers responded to a report of a large, unoccupied pontoon boat that had been adrift on Lake Atoka for several days. The subsequent investigation revealed the true owner of the vessel. It was also determined that the boat had come loose from its mooring, pending removal due to mechanical failure.

- e) On October 3, 2024, the new 2024 Ford F-150 First Responder 4WD Lake Patrol truck was delivered. The truck was purchased from Vance Fleet Services on the Oklahoma State Vehicle Contract. After the emergency equipment was installed and the related equipment transferred, the truck was placed into primary service in late October 2024.

The 2005 G3 Lake Patrol boat remains in fair condition. However, considering its current state, it would be prudent to plan for its replacement within the next couple of years.

Lake Patrol Officers have historically faced challenges patrolling the remote areas of Lake Atoka property. The closure of public access to the Fred's Fish Camp area has exacerbated these difficulties, as evidence indicates individuals are accessing these and other areas using ATVs and UTVs. To address this issue, the FY2025/26 Budget includes provisions for the purchase of a UTV and trailer for use by our Lake Patrol Officers.

Recommendation: Report be received.