

January 8, 2008

A Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Cypress Black Bayou Recreation and Water Conservation District, Bossier Parish, Louisiana was held in the Nature Center building located inside the Cypress Black Bayou Recreation Area, Benton, Louisiana on the above date with the following Present:

Present: James Huckabay
Ernest Covington
Wes Burdine
:
Jerry Juneau
Sonny Head

Absent None

Also Present: Sandra Baldwin
James Southerland
Mr. & Mrs. Emmett Smith
Melissa Whittington
Bruce Easterly
Mike Strayhan
Jeff Sibley – LW&F

President Huckabay called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m..

Motion to approve the Agenda was made by Mr. Burdine, seconded by Mr. Covington. The motion was unanimously approved.

Motion to approve the minutes of meeting December 11, 2007 and January 5, 2008 was made by Mr. Covington seconded by Mr. Burdine. The motion was unanimously approved.

Motion to approve the revenue and expenditures and bills for payment was made by Mr. Covington, seconded by Mr. Head. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Burdine stated that he still has plans to improve the appearance of the Zoo. Mr. Strayhan said he will be purchasing overalls for the zoo employees to clean the barn and that they will be required to wear black or brown shoes or boots with the uniforms.

At this time Melissa Whittington gave the following Nature Center Report:

Total number of guests to the Nature Center in December, 2007 was 584.

Jimmy Butcher from LDWF will be in the park during the month of January to check on our eagles will be assisting with Science Fairs throughout the parish during the months of January and February.

Mike Strayhan contacted Ronald Dupree , trapper, about the beaver, He will be in the area in about two weeks.

4H W.I.L.D. Conservation Ambassadors collected and delivered a total of 435 christmas trees to Shreveport Green for shipment to Lafourche Parish. These trees will be bundled and dropped along our coastal wetlands to assist in the prevention of land loss

I have had several calls from local Boy Scouts concerning Eagle Projects. Justin Hesterly will replace the boards on the western portion of the Inlet pier and correct the erosion problems that have been caused by the beaver and nutria around the pier pylons. His paperwork has already been signed and he will attempt to be finished by Spring 2008.

Old Business:

Website updates, computer equipment and security cameras:

Mr. Juneau had presented a schedule to the Commissioners to provide Internet Access, computers, security cameras and Web page design and programming. After much discussion it was decided to table this issue until a new Executive Director has been hired.

New Business:

Jeff Sibley, LW&F was present to discuss the salvinia. After much discussion, he suggested for now we inspect the boat launches daily and physically remove as much salvinia from the lakes as possible. If the District plans to do spraying in house, we would have to go through the Department of Agriculture to be certified and to obtain chemicals.

Mike Strayhan stated he spoke to Lesley Johnson, LW&F concerning testing for diseases in the wild deer that roam the park. The Board concurred and asked Mike to handle this issue.

Bruce Easterly's Report:

He received a report on our latest Dam Inspections. There is some grassy areas that need attention, so he will get with Maintenance to take care of this.

Our Capital Outlay request for 2008-2009 is to continue with the overlay of roads in the park. He asked if the District could match their amount with \$51,000. On motion by Mr. Covington, seconded by Mr. Head and unanimously carried provided our CPA has no problem with the matching funds.

Mr. Head asked how the Oxidation Pond was holding up. Mr. Easterly said so far things are looking good and that he will keep an eye on it. Mr. Head asked about the erosion at the beach area. Mr. Easterly said we will have to reclaim the sand again this year until we can find funds to construct bouys to break the wave action. Mr. Head asked if he would bring a presentation to the board in the next month or so concerning this issue.

Executive Director's Report:

Maintenance will begin reclaiming sand at the beach soon.

Maintenance if repairing and replacing boards on all piers inside the park.

President Huckabay called a Special Meeting at the Administrative Office on Friday, January 11, 2008, at 8:00 A.M. to discuss the hiring of a new Executive Director.

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There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

James Huckabay, President

Wes Burdine, Secretary