

January 12, 2010

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 in the Cypress Black Bayou Recreation Area, Benton, Louisiana on the above date with the following present:

Present: Wes Burdine, Jerry Juneau, Sonny Head, Ernest Covington

Absent: Ralph Whitley

Also Present: Dickie Walden, Sandra Baldwin, Bruce Easterly, Robert Berry, Emmett and Mary Smith, Bill Hine, Bobby Hardcastle, Kyle Ristig, Darrell Gilbert, Richard Hiller

President Burdine called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M.

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

Motion to approve the Minutes of meeting held December 8, 2009 was made by Mr. Covington, seconded by Mr. Juneau. The motion was unanimously approved.

Motion to approve the Revenue and Expenditures and Bills for Payment was made by Mr. Juneau, seconded by Mr. Head. The motion was unanimously approved.

In Melissa Whittington's absence the commissioners reviewed the following Nature Center Report:

Total number of visitors to the Nature Center in December was 341. The week of December 7-10, the Cypress work crew conducted maintenance inside the Nature Center and Dr. Morgan, Hulya and I worked to prepare for the Benton Festival. During the week of December 14-18, the Cypress work crew conducted maintenance on the Arboretum area. I emailed everyone the link for the nature center website. I have been very concerned about our Bald Eagle population since December when viewing the nest it appeared significantly small. My concerns were for naught. Jimmy Butcher came by 1/12/10, we had a long discussion because he had concerns, too. On a second trip to look, both adults were spotted on the smaller nest. The beaver trapper, Harold Renfro, will be setting traps soon for the resident beaver in the Inlet. He and I have had a long discussion about how to best handle the problem. Thank you, everyone (Dan, Mr. Head, Mr. Walden, and anyone else that had an impact on the accomplishment) for getting us set up on the internet again. Over the next few weeks I will be assisting our schools judging Science Fair Projects around the parish. I hope to find some Environmental, Life Science, and Botany projects that can be displayed at the Nature Center.

Old Business:

At this time the board reviewed Mr. Hardcastle's seawall. Mr. Covington asked who brought the seawall plans and Mr. Walden said Mr. Aiello did. Mr. Easterly said he had not had time to review the seawall and meet with Charles Coyle. He will review all seawall plans and meet with Charles Coyle and get back to the board next month.

On motion by Mr. Head, seconded by Mr. Juneau and unanimously carried the board approved the Executive Director's raise for 2010.

Landowner Rules and Regulations "Toilet facilities below the Flowage Easement Line". On motion by Mr. Head, seconded by Mr. Juneau and unanimously carried the following was approved: Bathroom facilities, septic tanks, nor drainage lines will not be permitted below the flowage easement line (Cypress Bayou Reservoir 187.5 MSL; Black Bayou Reservoir 190.3 MSL).

New Business:

Mr. Kyle Ristig approached the board concerning the 2010 draw down. After much discussion the board advised Mr. Ristig that they do have plans to draw both lakes down sometime after September, 2010.

Bruce Easterly's Report: Mr. Easterly said he and James Southerland had not gotten together concerning putting together some standards for excavating across the Flowage Easement line and "In Shore Boathouses". He will get back to the board next month.

Executive Director's Report: Mr. Southerland has competed the "Cooperative Endeavor Agreement" between Cypress Black Bayou Recreation and Water Conservation District and Brown Contractor LLC concerning tree removal for a pasture for the zoo. Since Mr. Southerland could not make today's meeting this was tabled until next month's meeting. Baton Rouge called to say the \$40,000 given to us for spraying salvinia was cut by \$7,500. On February 9, 2010 there will be a meeting of the Zoological Association immediately following the regular board meeting. Cameras for the entrance gate will be installed sometime next week. Mr. Bates will attend next month's meeting to discuss approving our millage rate for 2011.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Wes Burdine, President

Sonny Head, Secretary