

February 12, 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 being present:**

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

**Absent:** James Huckabay

**Also Present:** Dickie Walden  
Sandra Baldwin  
Melissa Whittington  
Mary & Emmett Smith  
James Southerland  
Bruce Easterly  
Mike Strayhan  
Dan Wolff  
John Whittington  
Sean Hintz  
Jeff Hood

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**Vice President Covington called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Mr. Covington welcomed Mr. Jon Walden, New Executive Director for Cypress Park.**

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

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**Motion to approve minutes of January 8<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, 2008 was made by Mr. Burdine, seconded by Mr. Juneau. The motion was unanimously approved.**

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

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

**Total number of guests to the Nature Center for January, 2008 was 592.**

**Met with Don Anderson to plan floor care at the Nature Center.**

**Bass Pro Nature Rangers – six Ambassadors and adults assisted with the January activities.**

Attended the School Board Meeting to give my yearly report.  
Welcome Mr. Dickie Walden at 8:30 a.m. at the Nature Center.

Outdoor Festival at the Shreveport Gun Club on February 18 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Tours crank back up this month and continue through May.

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Old Business: Letter to Senator Adley to help us take back control of both lakes. Mr. Burdine requested the board send a letter to Senator Adley to introduce a Bill on our behalf to try to regain control of both lakes. On motion by Mr. Head, seconded by Mr. Juneau and unanimously carried the motion was approved.

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**New Business:**

John Whittington, Beasley Keith Insurance, came to explain to the board why we have an additional premium for our General Liability each year. He explained that the insurance company conducts an audit and if the revenue is higher than what we projected on the renewal date this increases our liability and therefore an additional premium.

Sean Hintz – Landowner: Mr. Hintz approached the board concerning the construction of a swimming pool in his back yard. Mr. Easterly inspected the site and found the pool location was on the flowage easement line where it would be necessary to backfill behind the pool wall. On motion by Mr. Head, seconded by Mr. Juneau and unanimously carried it was agreed to allow the backfill over the flowage easement line with the stipulation that an equal amount of fill dirt would be taken out below the flowage easement line and that Mr. Hintz would amend the existing flowage easement line and grant a new flowage easement line to the District with the approval of Mr. Easterly.

Jeffery Hood – Landowner: Mr. Hood recently contracted with a landscaping company to construct a fire pit at his property. The location of the fire pit is on the infee owned by the District. After much discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Head to allow the construction, no second was made to his motion, so the motion was declined. Mr. Burdine made a motion to table this issue until next month's meeting to give time to define "Permanent Structure". Mr. Juneau seconded this motion and it was unanimously carried.

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**Bruce Easterly's Report:**

Mr. Easterly presented a proposal to develop property on Parks Road. He stated the developers had not received permission from the Police Jury so there was no need to act on the proposal today. He is still working on our road and parking lot overlay programs.

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**Executive Director's Report:**

**Mr. Walden informed the board of his meetings with each of their appointing agencies and other meetings to begin marketing the park.**

**He has been in touch with the coordinators of the Monroe Zoo and Greenwood Zoo to get some input into what we can do to make our zoo more appealing and possibly what we can add to the zoo.**

**He reported that he and Mr. Huckabay met with Sheriff Dean Monday morning and it was decided that Dan Wolff, Cypress Ranger, will receive his commission next week. Since Dan Wolff will be full time commissioned Ranger, the marina lease will go to someone else this year as he felt this would be a conflict on interest.**

**Mr. Walden stated that we sustained wind damage to the boat stall roof. He has received one estimate for the repair at \$1,183.00.**

**Mr. Walden stated he had ordered a Ford Taurus for the Executive Director and it will cost \$4,000 less then what we budgeted.**

**He asked the board for guidance on spending and what amount must be approved by the board. He was given the authority to spend up to \$5,000, anything from \$10,000 to \$20,000 we must get three bids.**

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**There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.**

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**Ernest Covington, Vice President**

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**Wes Burdine, Secretary**