

**April 8, 2008**

**A meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Cypress Black Bayou Recreation and Water Conservation District, Bossier Parish, Louisiana was held at 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  
Sonny Head

**Absent:** Jerry Juneau

**Also Present:** Dickie Walden  
Sandra Baldwin  
James Southerland  
Mary and Emmett Smith  
Melissa Whittington  
Bruce Easterly  
Mike Strayhan  
Charles Smith

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

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

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**Motion to approve the Minutes of Meeting held March 11, 2008 was made by Mr. Burdine, seconded by Mr. Covington. The motion was unanimously approved.**

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**Motion to approve the Bills for Payment was made by Mr. Head , seconded by Mr. Covington. The motion was unanimously approved. The March financials were not available.**

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**Melissa Whittington presented the following Nature Center Report:**

**Total number of visitors to the Nature Center for March was 1,376.**

**Met with Taylor Bright Scout Troop #330 concerning Eagle Project. Taylor's project will be to construct various animal feeders for the nature trails.**

**Bass Pro Nature Rangers had about 25 visitors to their program on water safety.**

**Cypress Garden Club planned to rework our flowerbed but the weather prevented them.**

**Material were purchased for Ryan Turek's Eagle Project. He picked up these materials during spring break and will have the benches constructed by April 5, 2008.**

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**Old Business:**

**Ms. Michan D. Holbrook, P. E. with Coyle Engineering presented the calculated fill and excavation for the construction of a proposed house in order to not decrease the storage capacity of Cypress Lake for Dr. Bakowski. The Commissioners agreed that the calculations were in order and would give the approval as soon as the new flowage easement was deeded and dedicated back to the District.**

**Mr. Walden stated that he received a letter from the Louisiana Ethics Board on our request for an Opinion concerning financial reporting to the State. The request is on their agenda for April 10, 2008.**

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**New Business: Drawdown of Cypress Lake.**

**Mr. Burdine said he had received calls concerning a draw down in 2008. On motion by Mr. Burdine, seconded by Mr. Head and unanimously carried that the lake will not be drawn down in 2008.**

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**Bruce Easterly's Report:**

**He will bring the presentation on the buoys for the swimming area at the next meeting May 13, 2008.**

**He is continuing to search for grant money to repair the oxidation pond.**

**He will check with the Bossier Parish Police jury on Friday to finish the overly work in the park.**

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**Executive Director's Report:**

**Computers: The donated computer equipment from the City of Bossier are to arrive Wednesday, April 09, 2008. Larry Wiley is in the process of updating our website.**

**Salvinia: The rangers are checking both reservoirs each week for salvinia. To date none has been seen. We have posted posters at all the launches identifying salvinia and will hang tubes with fliers for the fishermen to take with them.**

**Marina: The marina was leased by the owner of Perky's Pizza and opened for business on Saturday, April 5, 2008. Mr. Covington asked that we put this information on our website.**

**Cypress Zoo: We have hired a Zoo Supervisor, Charles Smith, who is working on getting the zoo in shape. Mr. Walden requested permission to purchase a building in the amount of \$4,400 to use as an office. Mr. Smith will be able to finish it out with electricity. On motion by Mr. Head, seconded by Mr. Burdine and unanimously carried permission was granted to purchase the building.**

**House Bill submitted by Senator Robert Adley has been sent for approval.**

**Mr. Walden picked up the new car for the Executive Director on Wednesday, April 2, 2008.**

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

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**James Huckabay, President**

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**Wes Burdine, Secretary**