

May 13, 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:

Also Present: Dickie Walden
Sandra Baldwin
James Southerland
Bruce Easterly
Melissa Whittington
Dan Wolff
Jamie Geimer
Mary Smith
Joan Turek
Ryan Turek, Eagle Scout
Taylor Bright, Eagle Scout
Jeff Williamson
Douglas Skelton
Douglas Skelton, II, Eagle Scout

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

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

Motion to approve the Minutes of April 8, 2008 was made by Mr. Covington, seconded by Mr. Burdine. The motion was unanimously approved.

Motion to approve March, 2008 & April, 2008 Revenue, Expenditures, and May 2008 Bills for Payment was made by Mr. Head, seconded by Mr. Covington. The motion was unanimously approved.

Nature Center Report:

At this time Melissa Whittington recognized three Eagle Scouts, Douglas Skelton, II, Ryan Turek and Taylor Bright, for their projects.

Total number of visitors to the Nature Center in April was 1,378.

Melissa and Jan have been working to get the big tank ready to put the big fish back.

4H State Shooting Sports Competition was held May 2 – 3 in Alexandria, LA. Three Bossier Parish 4-Her's placed in the top in the Regional Wildlife/Hunting competition. These three youth will compete with ten other youth from across the state.

Bas Pro Nature Rangers will continue through June then break for the summer. Things will start back some time in the Fall.

The Center will host a summer workshop for middle school teachers from Bossier and Caddo Parishes. The focus for the two-day workshop will be water quality testing and environmental issues that youth can understand.

Tour forms for the 2008-2009 will be sent out to the teachers the week of May 12-16.

4H Wildlife Training, 4H Outdoor Skills Training and ATV Training have been set for the end of May and for the month of June.

On Wednesday, May 21, 2008, Melissa will be hosting a special night at the Nature Center just for the Bossier 4H W.I.L.D. Conservation Ambassadors. We will stay overnight and youth will be picked up by 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 22, 2008.

New Business: Mr. Walden stated this is a reassessment year and we have the option to roll forward our current millage of 1.54. Michelle Rogers, Bossier Parish Tax Assessor's office, will send us the reassessment figures soon for the Board to consider.

James Southerland read a letter from Dr. Bakowski's attorney concerning his relocation of the flowage easement line. The Board concurred that Mr. Southerland rewrite some portions of the conditions of the relocation and agreement and report back to the Board next month.

Bruce Easterly's Report:

The Capital Outlay request for road overlay has been mailed.

Mr. Easterly will ask the Department of Health for funds to repair the oxidation pond.

Beach erosion report will be next month.

Executive Director's Report:

Computers and Internet service have been a source of problems. AT&T dialup Internet service is the only one available in this area. Mr. Walden read a letter to Foster Campbell, Public Service Commissioner, requesting his assistance in getting DSL to the Park. Mr. Head requested the letter include Cypress Point Subdivision and a new subdivision under construction in the same area. Mr. Walden will redo the letter to include the subdivisions and surrounding areas.

Zoo Goals: Repair and clean the following: Squirrel cage, Dive cage, Flight pen, Beaver pen, skunk and fox pens, prairie dog cage, Tami's office and Barn. Animals we would like to add in the future as pens are repaired: Eagles, Mini Horse, Mini Donkey, Pigmy Goats, Fallow Deer, turkeys and more prairie dogs. **Miscellaneous Plans;** Develop written Job descriptions on all Zoo employees, computerize all animal records, health, shots, care and feed orders.

Update on Financials: We continue to increase our revenue while lowering our expenses each month.

Oil/ Gas Leasing Possibilities: There was much discussion concerning the ownership of mineral rights on land acquired to build the park and reservoirs. Mr. Southerland said in most of the land purchases the seller maintained the mineral rights. However, without

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extensive research on those purchases of land he could not say if the District would be able to lease the land.

At this time Mr. Walden recognized Dan Wolff, recent graduate of the Academy, who was commissioned by Sheriff Deen on Monday, passed his final tests on Tuesday as well as being voted Class President by his peers.

Salvinia: To date Wildlife and Fisheries has spotted only small patches of Salvinia on both lakes.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

James Huckabay, President

Wes Burdine, Secretary