

August 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 present:

Present Ernest Covington
Wesley Burdine
Jerry Juneau
Ralph Whitley
Sonny Head

Absent None

Also Present Dickie Walden
Sandra Baldwin
Mike Strayhan
Melissa Whittington
Roy Schuft
Mary & Emmett Smith
Larry Wiley
George Dennis
Mark Jamroz
Mr. Blount

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

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

Motion to approve the minutes of meeting held July 29, 2008 was made by Mr. Burdine, seconded by Mr. Whitley. The motion was unanimously approved.

After much discussion concerning issues with the financial statement, motion to approve the bills for payment was made by Mr. Head, seconded by Mr. Juneau. The motion was unanimously approved. The monthly financial statement will be tabled until the September meeting. The commissioners were asked to email their questions to the director.

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

Walk-in visitors to the Nature Center for the month of July was 396.

After rehab, the injured immature Bald Eagle was released on July 16 on Cypress Lake.

Met with the family of Jim Robbins who offered to donate several volumes of nature study books (biology, botany, reference, etc. to the Nature Center. I accepted them with great appreciation for the dad's contributions to the creation of the Nature Center.

The National WHEP Competition in Stillwater, Oklahoma – Louisiana team consisted of four youth from all over the state including Bossier Parish – placed second in the nation out of

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sixteen states. This is the highest a Louisiana team has ever placed at the national competition.

I have spoken to Sherry Robbins on several occasions since Mr. Robbins death. She will be sending historical documents and other pertinent information to me concerning the nature center. These documents will provide time frames and dates of the establishment of the nature center. These are documents that I have been searching diligently for since I arrived here ten years ago. Once I receive this information I plan to compile it for a display inside the nature center. I will also contact the Bossier History Center to begin an attempt at preserving this nature center history.

New Business:

Mark Jamroz – landowner was present concerning a gazebo on his property below the flowage easement line. Mr. Burdine stated he should move it or jack it up, the same ruling given another landowner. Mr. Head stated the Board needed to do more research on this issue. The issue was tabled until a later date.

Bruce Easterly's Report:

Bids for asphaltic concrete Overlay Project:

Blount Brothers - \$211,520

Specialty Trackhoe - \$175,826

Benton and Brown - \$138,810

Mr. Easterly stated the Board had 45 days to make a decision.

Executive Director's Report:

Salvinia has still not been sighted on each lake.

The zoo project is progressing well.

We are still doing well with income up and expenses equal to last year.

The Triathlon went well and we got great exposure in the Shreveport Times.

At this time the board agreed to call a Special Meeting on September 2, 2008 at 4 P.M. at the Nature Center to discuss the following issues: Landowner Rules and Regulations – structures below the flowage easement line, the Overlay Project, monthly Financial Statements. Mr. Head asked Mr. Walden to begin a research concerning if the District owns any mineral rights. He suggested that he work with James Southerland to do the research and report to the board their findings.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Ernest Covington, President

Jerry Juneau, Secretary