Minutes of May 19, 2014

Bayou D’Arbonne Lake Watershed District Commission

Union Parish Courthouse Annex, 303 East Water Street

Farmerville, LA 71241

1. President Steve Cagle called the meeting to order. Present were Don Hogan, Noel James, Joe Rainer, and Edward Lee. Terri Towns and David Hopkins were absent.
2. Mr. Hogan led the invocation, and Mr. Lee led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Mr. Hogan made a motion to amend the agenda with moving the “lake water level regulation” topic from number 5 to number 1. Motion was seconded by Mr. Lee. The amended agenda was approved. Motion by Mr. Lee and a second by Mr. Hogan. The motion passed unanimously.
4. The minutes of the March 17, 2014 meeting were approved after a motion by Mr. Rainer and a second by Mr. Hogan. The motion passed unanimously.
5. The treasurer’s report for March and April 2014 was presented and approved. Motion by Mr. Rainer and a second by Mr. Lee. The motions passed unanimously.
6. Old and New Business:

Lake Water Level Regulation – Mr. Cagle commented on the tainter gates. The gates were installed to regulate and control

flooding of structures. Mr. Cagle noted that as of the last rain and opening of the tainter gates no homes were flooded.

The commissioners and the parish met with DOTD and came up with a new opening number for the gates.

A motion was made to open the tainter gates when the level is predicted to reach 82.25 and close the gates when the level is 81.75. If the downstream conditions are favorable try to open 1 foot above the opening number. Mr. Cagle asked for comments from anyone in the audience before the commission voted. Billy Hall commented that he lives on Pleasant

Island and after each rain that their roads will flood. He would like to suggest that the gates be opened early

before each rain to eliminate flooding in the area. Mr. Cagle answered him by stating that the commission is working on

the level numbers to ensure roads are not being flooded. Tony Cortellini commented that he lives on Terral Island and was

under the impression that the tainter gates were installed to protect the land owners that bought land below the 90 foot contour line. He also commented that he would like to see the gates opened more than 40% to see more water move out

quicker. Mr. James commented to amend the motion made to remove the 1 foot and leave it at the standards that are set in the charts. Mr. Cagle made the motion to amend and Mr. James seconded. Mr. Cagle restated his motion to use the

tainter gates when the lake is predicted to reach 82.25 and use the normal opening standards as the charts state and the closing rate to go to 81.75 year round. Motion passed 4 to 1.

Channel Markers Update – Mr. Ron Riley commented that they are about ½ way through with marking all the channel

markers.

Mega Ramp on Hwy 33 – Update – Mr. Ron Riley commented that the permit application to the Corps of Engineers was sent in last week. The estimated cost of the project is pending due to what the Corps of Engineers will allow.

Hogging Regulations – Update – Mr. Bill Carter commented that the commission has been discussing Hogging for several

months. The commission has received many complaints about Hogging in that foreign devices are being placed in the lake such as bath tubs and hot water heaters. This is a litter issue. Most complaints were concerns that persons were coming around someone’s residence moving dirt behind sea wall, moving rocks, placing something under a ramp that could alter the integrity of the device. Mr. Carter will draft some regulations based on some of the complaints that the commission has received with this sport and will present them at the next meeting. The commission will work with the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to come up with a plan that will benefit everyone.

Terral Island Park Survey – Mr. James made a motion for an engineer to survey the land to clear up any boundary issues at the boat ramp. Second by Mr. Hogan. Motion passed unanimously.

Seismic Permits – Bill Carter stated that the commission has been approached on two different tracts of property with request to agree to seismic exploration. Mr. Carter will clarify that those properties are owned by the commission and he will make a slight change to the contract to protect the lake commission. Mr. Carter made a recommendation that the commission authorize the president to enter into the seismic permits. Mr. Cagle made a motion to authorize the president to sign documentation for the seismic services once Mr. Carter has clarified title and amended the contract. Second by Mr. Lee. Motion passed unanimously.

1. Public Comment: Mr. Cortellini asked if the data from the charts that is used to predict the 82.25 is available to the public. Mr. Cagle answered that the charts are not available to the public at this time. Mr. James stated that the information is available online at the USGS website except for the middle part as to how the commission calculate how it will all happen.

Mr. Billy Hall asked how the commission generated revenue. Mr. Cagle stated that the commission generates revenue from franchise fees.

1. Adjourn: Motion by Mr. Lee, seconded by Mr. Rainer. The motion passed unanimously.