

Minutes of September 16, 2013

Bayou D'Arbonne Lake Watershed District Commission

Union Parish Courthouse Annex, 303 East Water Street

Farmerville, LA 71241

- A. President Steve Cagle called the meeting to order. Present were Don Hogan, David Hopkins, Noel James, Edward Lee, Joe Rainer, and Terri Towns.
- B. Mrs. Towns led the invocation, and Mr. Hopkins led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- C. The agenda was approved. Motion by Mr. Hogan and a second by Mrs. Towns. The motion passed unanimously.
- D. The minutes of the September 16, 2013 meeting were approved after a motion by Mr. Lee and a second by Mr. Hopkins. The motion passed unanimously.
- E. The treasurer's report was presented and approved. Motion by Mrs. Towns and a second by Mr. James. The motion passed unanimously.
- F. Old business:

Tainter Gate - Mr. Riley reported that they are looking at a change order at this time. They added more rip rap to help prevent water erosion on the road. The State requested a 16-foot gate by the construction shack so the bush hogs can go in. The State also requested a gate by the structure for equipment to go up and down, and a four foot walk gate to use for reading the electrical meter. Mr. Riley requested a pipe gate with a lock in the box to be installed to prevent vandalism. DOTD would like a siren installed to reach 1-mile out for safety of people fishing downstream.

As far as the tainter gate is concerned the rip rap is in, and the cofferdam is being removed. A discussion was held about closing public access to the tainter gate area on the Downsville side for safety reasons. A request was made to add the closing of public access expenses to the change order. Mr. Hopkins made a motion to approve the change order and Mr. Lee seconded.

Tainter Gate Opening Procedures and Commission Approval – Marshal Hill was unable to attend the meeting, but will be at the October Lake Commission meeting to answer any questions about the procedures. Mr. Ron Riley commented that DOTD really focuses on pages 21, 22, and 23 of the opening procedures.

New Business:

Noodling - Mr. Hogan spoke about key points for having a season for catfish hogging.

- The season would be May 1st – July 15th.
- The person hogging needs to have a valid license.
- Only devices made of wood should be placed in the lake.
- Hogging activities should not occur within 50 feet of the lake bank on any tract of land unless written permission is obtained from the owner of the tract of land.

Resolution authorizing Commission to request reimbursement of Audit – Mr. Rainer requested that the committee approve a resolution so he can write the State to receive reimbursement for the audit that the Lake Commission paid for. Mr. James made a motion to authorize the resolution for reimbursement expenses from the DOTD. Mr. Lee seconded.

H. Public Comment:

Mr. Larry Nichols, a guest, experienced his first drawdown on Lake D'Arbonne this past year. He commented that the end of the ramps has a fall out, and it is very difficult to trailer your boat when the water is low.

Mr. John Nichols, a guest, commented on problems with low fish populations. He also commented on the parking during bass tournaments. He stated, "It is very difficult to park on the lake when these tournaments are going on." He would like the Commission to consider additional and improved parking.

Mr. Cagle addressed the issue with the ends of the boat ramps. The Commission spends around \$3,000 placing rock at the ends of the boat ramps to help maintain them. He also commented that the Commission is working with DOTD to resolve some of the parking issues on the lake.

I. Adjourn: Motion by Mrs. Towns, second by Mr. James. Motion passed unanimously.