John K. Kelly – Grand Bayou Reservoir Commission

Regular Meeting Minutes

Aug 10, 2023, 4 pm

Grand Bayou Resort

5286 Hwy 784

Coushatta, LA 71019

Commission Chairman Peggy McCoy called the meeting to order. Other commissioners present were Becky Craig, Faerie Sledge, Antony Thomas, and Richard Worsham, along with resort manager David Pickett. Anita Hinds was absent due to family illness and Tom Jones was out of town due to work. David Harvey, lakeside property owner, had asked to be on the schedule to speak, but did not attend.

The minutes of the meeting on July 13, 2023, were reviewed. Commissioner Craig moved to approve them as written; Commissioner Worsham seconded. Motion carried.

Under new business, Mr. Pickett advised the board that the new exit gate/panel at the gatehouse has been installed and is working properly. Under old business and in conjunction with the manager’s report, Mr. Pickett provided the names of the three fishermen who have chosen to have replicas made of their bass under the Lunker program this year.

He also noted that the extremely hot weather and hot water temperatures this summer have been a problem with regard to tournament fishermen trying to keep the big bass that they have caught and placed in live wells alive for tournament weigh-in. Mr. Pickett is aware of several instances where the fish expired before that could be done. He requested that the board move to prohibit bass tournaments on the lake from June 1 through September 30 starting in 2024 to alleviate the problem. In the long run, this should benefit the bass population in the lake. After some discussion by the commission, Craig moved to prohibit bass tournaments for that time period beginning in 2024; Thomas seconded; motion passed unanimously. The park will post any necessary signs.

Mr. Pickett also noted that the new gatehouse generator has been installed, along with a new propane tank. Other business discussed involved some interior cabin improvements and routine grounds work.

Mr. Pickett requested that the board go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter. Thomas moved to do so and Craig seconded. Following the discussion, the board came out of executive session.

Mr. Pickett presented the board with the July bills. Craig moved to pay the bills; Worsham seconded. Motion carried. The July financials were reviewed. Sledge made a motion to approve; Hinds seconded. The financials were approved. There was no more business to come before the board. Commissioner Craig moved to adjourn; Commissioner Sledge seconded. Motion carried; the meeting was adjourned.

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 Faerie Sledge, Secretary