

MEETING OF THE NORTHWEST LOUISIANA GAME
AND FISH PRESERVE COMMISSION

Meeting held on June 6, 2023

All commissioners were present including Chairman Winfred Lonadier. Chairman Lonadier recognized all the guests including Renee Crews and four members of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

On motion by Hubbard and seconded by Bedgood, the meeting was called to order.

On motion by Bedgood and seconded by Tingle, the minutes were accepted as written.

There was a discussion concerning the boat ramps. Most of the ramps had been cleaned but there was a little work left. Some of the boat ramps still needed some mowing and weed eating. It was determined that there would need to be some rock at CD Baker and on motion made and seconded Commissioner Bedgood was authorized to obtain the rock.

Villis Dowden then gave a report on lake management. He said some of the studies were indicating that there was better recruitment of fish categories but the recruitment was not where it needs to be. He was hoping it would improve. He also said they were about to stock 120,000 Florida strain of one and a half to two inches.

Wesley Maddox then gave a report on aquatic growth. He said some giant Salvinia has been found on the north part of the lake and they had sprayed approximately 119 acres of alligator weed.

Villis Dowden advised that they are not recommending a draw down at this time but they will continue to monitor everything and would request a draw down if it was necessary.

It was reported that there was some hydrilla on the lower end of Prairie Lake.

There was then much discussion concerning the new boat ramp on the east side of the lake complex. Commissioner Hubbard advised that he had submitted a scope of work to several bidders and invited them to show up to submit a bid. Only one bidder showed up and submitted a bid.

After much discussion it was determined that there were some additional things that needed to be added to the scope of work including two six foot gates made out of 2 and 3/8 tubing and six inch poles. The contractor was asked to add cable between the posts and the cable should be 5/8 to 3/4 inch. He was going to look at another location for reference and add it to his bid. The fence and the posts were to be painted black and the wire strand was to sag between the posts. The contract was also asked to erect two "no wake zone" signs. After some review the commission approved contracting with Premier Well Service, Inc. for the scope of work presented at the meeting on June 6, 2023 with the total cost not to exceed \$150,000.00. On motion by Bedgood and seconded by Wilson the bid proposal of Premier Well Service, Inc. was accepted.

After additional discussion Commissioner Lonadier appointed Commissioners Bedgood and Hubbard to monitor the construction project. The representative of Premier Well Service, Inc.

advised that he would have the project completed within three months of the execution of the contract.

Commissioner Hubbard had nothing additional to report on the Facebook page.

On motion by Hubbard and seconded by Bedgood the commission agreed to pay the invoice in the amount of \$495.00 for the cleaning and upkeep at the various boat ramps.

There was then discussion concerning the Act 170 Funds that were received from the State of Louisiana. After discussion and on motion by Hubbard and seconded by Bedgood the commission did pass Resolution No. 2 of 2023 authorizing Assistant Secretary Treasurer Steven D. Crews to open a construction checking account with City Bank and to deposit the Act 170 Funds of \$150,000.00 into the account and then use the funds concerning the construction project on the new boat ramp. The resolution included that the checking account would require two signatures, Winfred Lonadier and Steven D. Crews.

Commissioner Hubbard advised there was a possibility of investing some of our money in an account which would give us higher interest rates.

Commissioner Bedgood advised he would check with the restaurant “Down the Bayou” to see if they could host a Tuesday night meeting.

On motion properly made and seconded, the commission agreed to change location in order to keep our Tuesday night meeting nights in light of Ms. Jan’s closing on Tuesday nights.

Durwood Wilson advised the commission that he was going to resign affective June 6, 2023. After much heartfelt discussion the commission did pass Resolution No. 3 of 2023 thanking Durwood Wilson for his many decades of service to the Black Lake Complex. The motion was made by Bedgood and seconded by Tingle and unanimously adopted.

On motion by Bedgood and seconded by Tingle, the commission did agree to ask Attorney Chris Guillet to prepare a construction contract for the additional work on the boat ramp.

On motion by Hubbard and seconded by Cooper, the meeting did adjourn.

STEVEN D. CREWS

