# LAFOURCHE PARISH GAME & FISH COMMISSION

**Minutes: July 11, 2016**

The regular monthly meeting of the Lafourche Parish Game and Fish Commission was held on

Monday, July 11, 2016, at 6:30 p.m., in the meeting room of the Lockport Town Hall, the meeting was called to order by Chairman Vincent Guillory. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

**Roll Call:** Present – Vincent Guillory, Josh Champagne, Dean Savoie and Lloyd Ledet; absent – Oray Savoie.

**Meeting Protocol for Public Input:** Chairman Vincent Guillory distributed a copy of the proposed “meeting protocol for public input”. He asked the Commission to consider adopting this protocol. A motion was made by Lloyd Ledet and seconded by Dean Savoie to accept the “meeting protocol for public input” as written:

* The Chairman shall solicit public input at the beginning of the meeting to address any items not listed on the agenda, and prior to any action or vote on any agenda item.
* At other times, the public will be allowed to comment after any board member or the Chairman acknowledges the pubic request after they raise their hand or verbally ask to speak.
* To facilitate written minutes and audio recordings recording, individuals must identify themselves and appear in front of board members to record their input.
* For each appearance, the individual is allowed two minutes; the Chairman (or the majority vote of the Commission), however, may extend the two-minute limit.
* The Chairman may disallow repeated appearances by the same individual on the same agenda item.
* For individuals who are invited by the Commission to provide information, etc., their comment period is not limited to two minutes.

Voting yes - Dean Savoie, Josh Champagne, and Lloyd Ledet; no - none

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Dean Savoie and seconded by Lloyd Ledet to approve the minutes as presented. Voting yes – Lloyd Ledet, Dean Savoie and Josh Champagne; no – none

**Approval of Agenda:** A motion was made by Lloyd Ledet and seconded by Dean Savoie to approve the agenda as presented. Voting yes - Josh Champagne, Dean Savoie and Lloyd Ledet; no - none

**Secretary Report**: The following work was done: checked post office box daily; did paper work for the meeting and posted the notice for the meeting yesterday; transferred 3 leases with the permission of the Commission; referred several technical calls to Vincent Guillory another to the LA Dept of Wildlife and Fisheries about license requirements.

**Approval of Financial Report**: A motion was made by Dean Savoie and seconded by Lloyd Ledet to accept the financial reports for May and June as presented. Voting yes —Josh Champagne, Dean Savoie and Lloyd Ledet; no-none

**Public Input**: none.

**Alligator Tag Bids:**  Two bids were received for the alligator tags. Eugene Eiskina bid 60% of gross revenues for the Commission and R. J. Molinere, Jr. bid 85% of gross revenues for Commission. A motion was made by Dean Savoie and seconded by Lloyd Ledet to award the alligator tags to R. J. Molinere, Jr. Voting yes - Josh Champagne, Dean Savoie, and Lloyd Ledet; no - none

**Commission (Membership Update, Parish Ordinance, Training)**: Joe Dantin and Rudy Laris have resigned and both vacancies have been posted on the Parish Council, although the announcement is still open; after the application deadline, the Council may approve the applicants at a regular meeting. Josh Champagne has also turned in his resignation effective August 31, 2106; his resignation will be forwarded to the Parish Council. Each Commissioner was provided a copy of the Parish Ordinance concerning absences and a copy of the ethics training that is scheduled for August 9, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at that Central Lafourche High School Auditorium. Vince Guillory advised that an online ethics class is also available to satisfy the mandated training.

**Reported Lease Violations:** At the May meeting,Cory Alario stated that the grass on an adjacent lease was tall and stated, that he has complained about this before and nothing has been done. Chairman Vince Guillory later inspected the lot and he reported that the grass had been recently cut and was very neat. He further stated that Mr. Smiley had a similar violation in 2009 and again later and both were addressed, but after a third violation his lease could be terminated.

**Restricted Access Corridor Signs:** Oray Savoie was commended for placing numerous “restricted access corridor signs” along the east bank of lower Bayou Folse. Other areas will be posted within a few months after the weather is cooler.

**Volunteer Cypress Plantings:** The Commission was contacted by a person from Bourg that wished to plant Cypress trees along the spoil banks near Lake Long. Vince Guillory requested that if anyone know of cypress trees for sale please contact the Commission.

**Update on Lake Fields Restoration**: Vince Guillory reviewed the status of the Lake Fields restoration project. Dustin Rabalais of T. Baker Smith had agreed to submit grant applications using the Commission match but was not successful. Dustin stated that while they wished to remain a partner, that a public agency or institution should sponsor the project. Ducks Unlimited, the Barataria Terrebonne Estuary Program, and other agencies have expressed interest in the project and a meeting will be held later.

**Falling Tree Liability Issue**: The Commission earlier was contacted about a dead tree near the lease property line which could damage the adjacent lease holder physical structures. The involved parties would not cooperate to remove the tree. Thanks to lease holder and Council member Armand Autin, a request was sent to the Lafourche Parish attorney office about potential falling tree liabilities on a Commission lease. Chairman Vince Guillory was later contacted by a parish attorney, who advised that the Commission may be liable without the appropriate verbiage in the camp lease document. A motion was made by Josh Champagne and seconded by Dean Savoie to contact the lease holder concerning the dead tree and subsequent removal. Voting yes - Josh Champagne, Dean Savoie and Lloyd Ledet; no - none A motion was made by Dean Savoie and seconded by Lloyd Ledet to include the presented verbiage into the new 2017 lease document. Voting yes - Dean Savoie, Lloyd Ledet, and Josh Champagne; no – none

A copy of the new 2017 lease document will be presented at the August 8, 2016 meeting.

**Other Business:** Lease holderJohn Bergeron requested that a cancelled lease adjacent to his property be added to his lease; Vince Guillory advised that this request was within the Commission’s policy, and should be granted.

The exclusion of camp lease holders on the Commission because of potential conflicts of interest was brought up. A motion was made by Josh Champagne and seconded by Lloyd Ledet to request a new legal opinion from the District Attorney whether or not lease holders could serve on the Commission. Voting yes - Dean Savoie, Lloyd Ledet and Josh Champagne; no – none If the District Attorney ruled that it was legal, then the Parish Council would have to modify the Parish Ordinance concerned Commission membership requirements.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made by Josh Champagne and seconded by Dean Savoie to adjourn the meeting. Voting yes - Josh Champagne, Dean Savoie and Lloyd Ledet; no – none

The next meeting will be on Monday, September 12, 2016.

Vincent Guillory

Chairman

Anne Thibodeaux

Secretary