**Agenda:**

* **Call to Order - J. Atherton**
* **Invocation and Pledge – W. Smith**
* **Adopt / Amend Agenda - J. Atherton**
* **Sign-In Sheet for Meeting - J. Atherton**
* **Lake Volunteer Contact List – List of Volunteers receiving Saline Lake Newsletter - J. Atherton**
* **Introduction of Police Jury Members Present – J. Atherton**
* **Introduction of Wildlife and Fisheries Representatives – J. Atherton**
* **Adopt Last Meeting Minutes – Commission**
* **Discussion of Commissioners’ Responsibilities for 2021**
  + **Duck Blinds – W. Smith**
  + **Short Term Spraying / Drawdowns – B. Carter**
  + **Long Range Tree Cutting – J. Atherton**
* **WLF Status – V. Dowden**
  + State Wide Lake Rules & Regulations – List of requested regulations given to V. Dowden on 8/18/19 for WLF discussion on State wide approval changing from “waterbody” passive gear regulations to “statewide” passive gear regulations. List of regulations on the next biologist meeting (likely December, 2019) agenda to consult with every inland district manager, interested commissions, and the public to streamline all aspects of passive gear within the State. Draft regulation to be submitted for Title 76 public comment period. V. Dowden to give update.
* **LADOTD Dam Inspection – J. Atherton**
  + Inspection performed 4/11/19 – report sent to Commission. Bridge maintenance crew to schedule a time to repair the spalling around the handrail posts, remove the unwanted vegetation from near the spillway on the Natchitoches side, install valve stem covers, and replace the underdrain caps that are broken. B. Sticker has taken new job in Baton Rouge and continues to work on inspection items. B. Sticker has a project with PT funds for numerous levees that need clearing with State’s Brontosaurus machine to clear brush. Also has a project concerning gate / land access to levee. DOTD, Sticker, contacted 6/29/21 concerning Saline Commission operating the gates – item still in hands of lawyers and new hog rooting along levee during drawdown.
  + Level Gauge – Remote level gauge for Saline dam requested from LADOTD. B. Sticker, on 11/8/19. Six lakes on local DOTD list for level gauges. Sticker contacted USGS and Baton Rouge DOTD for availability of money and / or matching funds. USGS typically installs radar type gauges.  Gauges cost about $14,000 for the initial installation and about $7,000 per year for USGS to operate and maintain them. Sticker determined that the Louisiana Watershed Imitative will be installing any in the future. Per Ed Knight, P.E. who is a State Dam Safety Official with DOTD Public Works & Water Resources - the Louisiana Watershed Initiative is currently planning to initially fund several gauges. A formal request was made to the Louisiana Watershed Initiative on 1/22/20 and 1/25/20 to install a stage gauge on Saline Lake. Louisiana Watershed Initiative is currently determining which gauges will be funded by project.
* **Land Donation –** The Saline Lake Commission was contacted on 11/10/20 by Macs-Development, LLC, Matthew Calderone concerning the donation of a 58 acre parcel of land owner by O.M. Cummings in Natchitoches parish. The land is PARCEL# 0020036 100 listed as being N 1/2 OF SE, NE OF SW & SW OF NE SEC. 9-11-5, Less 102 AC TO STATE. The USFS was contacted to determine interest in receiving the land but the USFS was not interested. Owner is still possibly interested in donating to the Saline Lake Commission. Item dropped.
* **Commissioner’s Reports**
  + **Secretary / Treasurer – B. Butler**
  + **Duck Blind – W. Smith**
    - Duck blind status report.
  + **Short Term Spraying / Drawdowns – B. Carter**
    - **Salvinia Evaluation / Problem Areas:**
      * Report of lake Salvinia condition North of boom
      * Report of lake Salvinia condition South of boom
      * Boom relocation behind trees on North side of pipeline / East bank
      * Boom relocated at Mulligan Inn during drawdown.
    - **Drawdown** – Gates opened 5/27/21at 12.5 inches above pool. Lake at pool stage on 6/19/21.
    - **New Cypress Tree Growth –** Discussion of plan / timing spray the growth of new cypress trees between Oak Point #1 and Oak Point #2.
    - **Buck Brush Growth** – Report of spraying at Cooley Creek, Oak 1 to Oak 2, and Little Lake.
  + **Long Range Tree Cutting – J. Atherton** 
    - Initial equipment demonstration for tree removal performed on June 11, 2019.
    - Trees from 6/11/19 demonstration moved to USFS dirt pit on 9/3/19. Tress on hump South of Mulligan Inn removed by WPPJ to open up area around ramp and taken to USFS dirt pit.
    - Second contractor reviewed 10 acre test plot with WLF to determine feasibility and cost. Waiting on estimate. Emails sent requesting pricing sent 9/16/19, 10/4/19, and 1/8/20.
    - Second permit request made to Corp of Engineer for Letter of Permission (LOP) Permit #MVK-2019-139M for additional acres approved.
    - US Forestry Service issued a Nominal Effects Letter on July 31, 2019 for use of the dirt pit for burning of trees.
    - Cypress Chipping – If there are enough (5,000 trees for 1 week of work) trees (assuming pulp wood size) available at the burn pit, then contractor would move in a portable chipper. Can chip up to 30” meaning maybe some limbs / stumps would be left for burning. Calculations: 5,000 trees / 200 trees per load = 25 loads of raw trees. Trailers are 45’ + 15’ over hang = 60’ long. Weight is 30Tons per truck at 25 trucks = 750 Tons for 5,000 trees. Cypress density about same as pine at 32 lb/cf.
    - Sabine River Authority (Mike Carr) contacted concerning equipment used for stump removal on Toledo Bend. Two types of equipment used, cutting head attached to backhoe with hydraulic 404 pitch chain saw with “V”, track hoe barge to push stumps over when water was low. No longer have equipment purchased from Byles Welding & Tractor (Many). Possible barge supplier Leevac Shipyards, Jennings. Byles not interested in giving quote on barge to cut trees.
    - Woodson Incorporated, LLC contacted in August, 2020 concerning tree removal – no interest.
    - To date, no contractor found to remove trees.
    - HB 239 discussion.
    - Contractor David Greer contacted 4/9/21 to obtain price for tree removal – never submitted his proposal.
* **Adjournment**