



Cane River Waterway Commission

Minutes

March 19, 2019

There was a regular meeting of the Cane River Waterway Commission on March 19, 2019 at 6:10 pm located at 244 Cedar Bend, Natchez, Louisiana.

The meeting was called to order and roll was called, the following members being present: Mr. Rhodes, Mr. Paige, Mr. Methvin, Mrs. Vienne, and Mr. Wiggins.

Also present were administrator, Betty Fuller, and attorneys, Tommy Murchison and Chris Guillet.

Present as guests of the Commission were Hunter Lancaster, Henry Shuler, Nick Wright, Cary Blanchard, Benny Dodson, Van Erikson, J.D. Cox, Karen Canerday.

The Vice-Chairman advised that the Commission needed to go into executive session for a strategy session regarding pending litigation. The Vice-Chairman opened the floor to public comments, after discussion the Vice-Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mr. Paige, seconded by Mr. Wiggins and unanimous vote by Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Paige, Mrs. Vienne, and Mr. Methvin the Commission went into executive session at 6:01 pm. At 6:21 pm the Commission exited executive session and went back into regular session.

Vice-Chairman Vienne is expecting her first grandchild in May, the Commission expressed congratulations and wished her a life time of great memories.

Van Erikson addressed the Commission regarding the annual Dragon Boat Race, which is scheduled to take place on the lake again this year. He requested that the Commission consider renewing their partnership and support of the program. The Vice-Chairman opened the floor to public comments, and after discussion the Vice-Chairman closed the floor to discussion. After discussion the Commission advised Mr. Erikson that it has no objection to the Dragon Boat Race being held on Cane River Lake. Upon motion by Mr. Paige, seconded by Mr. Wiggins, and unanimous vote by Mrs. Vienne,

Mr. Paige, and Mr. Methvin, and Mr. Wiggins the Commission authorized the expenditure of \$3,500.00 to sponsor the event due to its positive impact on the lake.

Cary Blanchard addressed the Commission regarding the annual Bike Natchitoches Event, which will take place in April this year. The Event will include two biking routes around the lake. He requested that the Commission consider a partnership or financial contribution. The Vice-Chairman opened the floor to public comments, and after discussion the Vice-Chairman closed the floor to discussion. After discussion the Commission advised Mr. Blanchard that it has no objection to the Bike race and use of Commission property located at Shell Beach. Upon motion by Mr. Paige, seconded by Mr. Methvin, and unanimous vote by Mrs. Vienne, Mr. Paige, and Mr. Methvin, and Mr. Wiggins the Commission authorized the expenditure of \$500.00 to sponsor the event due to its positive impact on the lake.

Benny Dodson board member of the Soil and Water Conservation District, presented a comprehensive presentation about its education program. The Vice-Chairman opened the floor to public comments, and after discussion the Vice-Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mr. Wiggins, seconded by Mr. Paige, and unanimous vote by Mrs. Vienne, Mr. Paige, Mr. Wiggins voted in favor and Mr. Methvin abstained, the Commission authorized the expenditure of \$25,000.00 in support of the education program of the Soil and Water Conservation Board as well as the projects that help protect the watershed of Cane River Lake.

Mr. Shuler advised the Commission that he has completed the feasibility study, and he presented a comprehensive report regarding the feasibility study regarding the dredging project. After discussion the Commission tabled the project pending further review.

The minutes of the February 19, 2019 meeting of the commission were presented. After discussion, the Vice-Chairman opened the floor to public comments, and after discussion the Vice-Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mrs. Vienne, seconded by Mr. Paige, and unanimous vote by Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Paige, Mr. Methvin, and Mrs. Vienne, the Commission approved the minutes of the February 19, 2019 meeting, as written.

Mrs. Fuller presented Ordinance 3 of 2019 which provides for regulations for the removal and disposal of unattended, junked or abandoned vessels on Cane River Lake. After discussion, the Vice-Chairman opened the floor to public comments, and after discussion the Vice-Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mr. Methvin, seconded by Mr. Paige, and unanimous vote by Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Methvin, Mr. Paige, and Mrs. Vienne, the Commission introduced ordinance 3 of 2019. The Commission further authorized Mrs. Fuller to advertise, and post at the Commission facility.

Mrs. Fuller provided the treasurer's report for the month of January. She presented invoices from Corkern, Crews, Guillet in the amount of \$1,920.00, and Richard Robertston in the amount of \$280.00. She also presented the budget to actual comparison for February for Commission review. After discussion the Vice-Chairman opened the floor to public comments, and after discussion the Vice-Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mr. Paige, seconded by Mr. Wiggins, and unanimous vote by Mr. Paige, Mr. Wiggins, Mrs. Vienne, and Mr. Methvin, the Commission approved the financial report and payment of bills.

Mrs. Fuller presented gas, mileage, and activity logs for the period from February 18 – March 18, 2019 for the review of the Commission. After discussion the Vice-Chairman opened the floor to public comments, and after discussion the Vice-Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mr. Paige, seconded by Mr. Wiggins, and unanimous vote by, Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Methvin, Mrs. Vienne, and Mr. Paige, the Commission approved the logs for the period from February 18 – March 19, 2019.

Mrs. Fuller presented the tier 2.1 for Commission member review. After discussion the Vice-Chairman opened the floor to public comments, and after discussion the Vice-Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mr. Paige, seconded by Mr. Wiggins, and unanimous vote by, Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Methvin, Mrs. Vienne, and Mr. Paige, the Commission authorized Mrs. Fuller to certify send the documents to the State.

Mrs. Fuller presented the administrator's report. The current lake level is 98.3 MSL. She issued two building permits, issued two fishing tournament permit, worked one incident, obtaining supplies for the upcoming school project, is treating the lake chemically for overgrowth of vegetation and addressing giant salvinia in a canal leading into the North end of the lake, maintained the office/public landings, maintained the state/commission web site, service agreements, and prepared all documentation, reports, and request that are required for the commissions review, authorization and knowledge. There were fireworks held on the lake on March 06, 2019. Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries submitted no report. Sheriff's Office issued no citations and made no arrests. After discussion, the Vice-Chairman opened the floor to public comments, and after discussion the Vice-Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mr. Wiggins, seconded by Mr. Paige, and unanimous vote by Mr. Paige, Mrs. Vienne, Mr. Methvin, and Mr. Wiggins, the Commission authorized the administrator monthly report, and the February 18-March 18, 2019 expenditure report contained therein.

There being no further business to come before the Board, upon motion by Mr. Methvin, seconded by Mr. Paige, and unanimous vote by Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Paige, and Mr. Methvin, Mrs. Vienne the meeting was adjourned.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: Betty Fuller

Date Approved: April 16, 2019