

May 10, 2016
Board Meeting

A Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Cypress Black Bayou Recreation and Water Conservation District, Bossier Parish, Louisiana was held in the Nature Center building, located in the Cypress Black Bayou Recreation Area, Benton, Louisiana on the above date with the following:

Present: Jerry Fowler, Robert Berry, Gary Wyche, Alan Warren, Walt Bigby

Absent: None

Also Present: Chelle Carroll, Nancy Scripture, Stacey Smith, Roy James, Henry Cantrell, Charles Keene, Robert Aiello, Melissa Whittington, Janice Smith, Dorothy Martin, Mike and Denise Karamales, and Johnny Hood

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 by Mr. Wyche. Roll call was made by Chelle Carroll. The pledge of allegiance was led by Mr. Fowler. The prayer was given by Mr. Warren.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Warren and seconded by Mr. Fowler. Public comment was requested with none received. The vote was unanimously carried.

A motion to approve the minutes from the 04-12-2016 Board Meeting was made by Mr. Berry and seconded by Mr. Fowler. Public comment was requested with none received. The vote was unanimously carried.

A motion to approve the bills for payment was made by Mr. Warren and seconded by Mr. Fowler. Public comment was requested with none received. The vote was unanimously carried.

Nature Center Report: Given by Melissa Whittington

Walk-in visitors to Cypress Nature Study Center for April 2016 _____ 235 _____

Educational Activities

April 5 Sun City Elementary; 1st Grade (50)
April 6 Sun City Elementary; 1st Grade (107)
April 7 W. T. Lewis Elementary; 1st Grade (81)
April 8 Waller Elementary; Pre-K (180)
April 9 Girl Scout Troop
April 11 Kerr Elementary; Pre-K (cancelled weather)
April 12 Praise Academy; K-6th Grade (7)
April 13 Waller Elementary; 1st Grade (91)
April 16 Cope Middle School 4-H Outdoor Skills & Activities
Boy Scouts of America Troop #777 (10)
April 19 Sun City Elementary; Kindergarten (cancelled weather)
April 20 Sun City Elementary; Kindergarten (cancelled weather)
April 21 Benton High School; APES (cancelled weather)
April 22 Meadowview Elementary; Pre-K (cancelled weather)
April 26 Alexander Learning Center; (no show)
Logansport High School; S. E. (20)
April 27 Meadowview Elementary; Kindergarten (cancelled weather)
April 28 Warner Park Elementary; S. E. (24)

{525}

Total number impacted by Cypress Nature Study Center March 2016 _____ 760 _____

Memorandum

The walk-in visitor numbers are way down this month due to rain and more rain. The center has had six days of cancelled classes this month. That is approximately 450 students/teachers that we would have impacted. That is the most cancellations in one month since I have been here.

Boy Scout Douglas Graham is moving forward with his Eagle Project. His proposal has passed the review board and he is now in the next phase which involves the gathering of materials and monies.

The Nature Center garden projects are looking great. Big "Thank You" for all the help from Coty Wilson for getting our fence around the hay bales so the deer don't have a feast. Now if we can keep the squirrels out of the Salad Bagged Garden things will be much better. Miss Brakeville is doing a great job keeping the garden projects moving forward! Thanks again, Beth!

The Benton High School A.P. Environmental Science students conducting research are winding their project down for this semester. Their Power Points were due this week and from what little I have seen they are going to do well on their presentation.

Coming Soon

BPS Seniors Last Day will be Friday, May 6, 2016
BPSchools – Graduation Day May 14, 2016
Last Day of School – May 20, 2016

Director Report: Given by Robert Berry

- Weather will continue and it is important to know that 179.6 is pool stage. At 181.05 we need to prepare to close down the lakes. At 181.5 we need to shut down the lakes. We will then open back up at 181.00.
- The new marina is around 10 days out from opening. They will have fuel, hamburgers/hotdogs, bait, and ice. The front gate building is around 30 days out. RV pier is halfway complete.

New Business:

- Robert Aiello Woodlake Ridge Utility Easement
 - He wants to extend utilities across to the other side of the lake.
 - Provided a dedication for easement using the specifications required by the commission.
 - Lorne Mosely owns two lots in existing street. He granted an easement and signed it.

A motion to take this under advisement was made by Mr. Warren and seconded by Mr. Fowler. Public comment was requested with none received. The vote was unanimously carried.

- Permanent Markers for Flowage Easement and In-Fee Line

A motion was made to put permanent markers to mark the flowage easement and in-fee line by the developers or the landowner by Mr. Berry and seconded by Mr. Fowler. Public comment was requested with none received. The vote was unanimously carried.

Old Business:

- North End of Black Bayou
 - One suggestion is to do a feasibility study to see what it will take to scrape the area.

A motion was made to entertain a feasibility study to figure involvement, cost, and time frame by Mr. Berry and seconded by Mr. Warren. Public comment was requested with none received. The vote was unanimously carried.

A motion was made to enter into executive session by Mr. Warren and seconded by Mr. Bigby. Public comment was requested with none received. The vote was unanimously carried.

A motion was made to enter back into regular session by Mr. Warren and seconded by Mr. Bigby. Public comment was requested with none received. The vote was unanimously carried.

There being no further business at this time, a motion was made by Mr. Warren and seconded by Mr. Fowler to adjourn the meeting. Public comment was requested with none received. The vote was unanimously carried.

Gary Wyche, President

Alan Warren, Vice-President