

June 14, 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, Lee Aryes, Melissa Whittington, Bruce Arnold, Bob Hardcastle, and Ed Cooper

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 to amend the agenda to move spillway matters to new business was made by Mr. Berry and seconded by Mr. Warren. Public comment was requested with none received. The vote was unanimously carried.

A motion to approve the minutes from the 05-10-2016 Board Meeting 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 bills for payment was made by Mr. Warren and seconded by Mr. Bigby. 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 May 2016 498

Educational Activities

May 2 Plantation Park Elementary; Kindergarten (cancelled weather)

May 4 Waller Elementary; 2nd Grade (54)

May 5 Waller Elementary; 2nd Grade (35)

May 10 North DeSoto Elementary; Kindergarten (72)

May 11 North DeSoto Elementary; Kindergarten (88)

May 12 Bradley Elementary; 2nd Grade (25)

May 17 Plain Dealing High School; Environmental Science (8)

Total number impacted by Cypress Nature Study Center May 2016 748

Memorandum

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.

After further discussion, a motion was made to give Mr. Berry the authority choose materials for the Eagle Scout project by Mr. Warren and seconded by Mr. Bigby. Public comment was requested with none received. The vote was unanimously carried.

The Nature Center garden is 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. Miss Brakeville is doing a great job keeping the garden projects moving forward! Thanks again, Beth!

June is filling up fast with Summer Camps, Day Cares, etc... Looking forward to an awesome Summer.

Coming Soon

High School MSP will utilize the nature center June 15 & 16 from 8:00 am – 3:00 pm. The nature center will be closed to the public on these two days as we will utilize the entire nature center during this training.

August 6, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – Master Naturalist Class will utilize the Nature Center and Trails. The class will be led by Cooperative Extension Agent, Ricky Kilpatrick.

Director Report: Given by Robert Berry

- The marina opened Memorial Day weekend.
- RV pier and mountain bike trails are almost complete.
- Delinquent landowner names have been published in the Bossier Press Tribune on Wednesday, Jun 8 and on our website. We will be sending certified mail regarding revocation of leases. After that, we can authorize to start filing suit for eviction.
- With the help of Wildlife and Fisheries last week, we have stocked the lake.

New Business:

- Spillway Matters:
 - We have had a meeting with the Bossier Parish Sheriff's Department, Bossier Parish Police Jury and our legal counsel. We need to mark areas for no trespassing and prohibit being on the spillway and other water control structures. This is part of an ordinance that dates back to 1975. The Sheriff's Department will enforce as they see fit.

- Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire:

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

- Bruce Arnold:
 - Mr. Arnold's neighbor wants to do an addition which will encroach on the easement. Mr. Arnold presented his side to the board.

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

Old Business:

- Millage Rates:
 - Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Article VII, Section 23(C) of the Louisiana Constitution and La. R.S. 42:19.1, Act 267, that Cypress Black Bayou Recreation and Water Conservation District will hold a public meeting at 3:00 P.M. on Wednesday, July 27, 2016 in the Nature Center at 135 Cypress Park Drive in Benton, LA 71006. The District intends to adopt a resolution levying the ad valorem property tax millage rates for the year 2016.

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

A motion was made to enter back into regular session by Mr. Fowler and seconded by Mr. Warren. 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. Bigby 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