

August 9, 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: Alan Warren, Jerry Fowler, Gary Wyche, Robert Berry

Absent: Walt Bigby

Also Present: Chelle Carroll, Nancy Scripture, Stacey Smith, Melissa Whittington, Robert Verret, Madora Abney, Laura Lee Leflett, Horda Semdani, and Charles Keene

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 by Mr. Warren. 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. Fowler and seconded by Mr. Wyche. Public comment was requested with none received. The vote was unanimously carried.

A motion to approve the minutes from the 07-12-2016 Board Meeting was made by Mr. Wyche 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 07-19-2016 Special Meeting was made by Mr. Fowler and seconded by Mr. Wyche. Public comment was requested with none received. The vote was unanimously carried.

A motion to approve the minutes from the 07-27-2016 Special Meeting was made by Mr. Wyche 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. Fowler and seconded by Mr. Wyche. Public comment was requested with none received. The vote was unanimously carried.

**New Business:**

- 2015 Audit from Travis Moorhart
  - We had one finding regarding that when we secured the bond, the district's bank accounts were not secured in accordance with state laws. After correspondence with the bank, this issue has been fixed.
- Robert Verret purchased a property from Dirk Rainwater. This is the property that the corner of the driveway is on district property. Mr. Verret wants to build and cannot. This information was not divulged in the purchase. We will have legal counsel look into this.

**Nature Center Report:** Given by Melissa Whittington

Walk-in visitors to Cypress Nature Study Center for July 2016 544

**Educational Activities**

July 1	Bossier Council on Aging (75)	
	Small Group tours (6)	
July 5	Small Group tours (18)	
July 6	Small Group tours (11)	
July 8	Small Group tours (19)	
July 11	Small Group tours (21)	
July 13	Kiddie Summer Camp (7)	
	Small Group tours (23)	
July 19	Small Group tours (31)	
July 20	Small Group tours (23)	
July 21	Small Group tours (22)	
July 28	Kids Company (no show – weather)	
Total number impacted by Cypress Nature Study Center July 2016		800

**Memorandum**

The Nature Center is implementing new security procedures for the parents/adults that attend field trips. I will give you a more detailed explanation at the next monthly meeting. A big "Thank You" to this board and Mr. Berry for our new security system. It is greatly appreciated!

Miss Brakeville (Beth) attended WETSHOP at Grand Isle this month and has returned with a new wealth of knowledge to share with other educators and youth.

It is official, I will retire on December 4, 2016. Mr. Scott Smith, our new BPSB Superintendent determined that my successor should be chosen immediately to insure a smooth transition. We have a new Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Dr. Nichole Bourgeois, a new Supervisor for the Nature Center, Horda Semdani, Supervisor Action Research, Traditional and Job-Embedded Staff Development, and Professional Learning Communities. Ms. Semdani and I worked together during the selection process and today, I am proud to introduce my successor Mrs. Madora Abney. August 10, 2016 (tomorrow) will be her first official day at the nature center. Please drop by and meet her.

**Coming Soon**

August 1 & 2 -- School Inservice Trainings for Teachers

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.

August 8 – Students return to school

**Director Report:** Given by Robert Berry

- Congratulations to Melissa Whittington on retirement. We will miss you!
- We have been looking into putting wi-fi throughout the park. We have received a proposal on this.
- The Triathlon went well. Thank you to Bossier Parish EMS, Bossier Parish Sheriff, Homeland Security, and Bossier Parish Police Jury. It is always a team effort!

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

---

Alan Warren, President

---

Jerry Fowler, Vice-President