

**CYPRESS BLACK BAYOU RECREATION & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Regular Meeting Minutes  
May 14th, 2024

A Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Cypress Black Bayou Recreation and Water Conservation District, Bossier Parish, Louisiana was held on the 14th day of May, 2024, at 4:00 p.m., in the Nature Center building, located at 135 Cypress Park Drive, Benton, Louisiana. The meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. Gary Wyche. The pledge of allegiance was led by Commissioner Jerry Wilhite, Roll call by Lisa Free, with members present as follows:

Gary Wyche                      Rodney Madden  
Kelly Long                        Jerry Fowler - Absent  
Jerry Wilhite

Others present include Lisa Free, Director of Finance and Administration, Alex Vozzella, Legal Counsel for the District, Jordan Sparks, Waggoner Engineering, Inc., and Ben Rauschenbach, Waggoner Engineering, Inc. Please see sign-in sheet for members of the public who were also present.

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**Motion was made by Kelly Long and seconded by Jerry Wilhite to approve the minutes from the April 09th, 2024 meeting,**

Public comment was requested with none received.  
**Votes were cast, and the motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion was made by Kelly Long and seconded by Jerry Wilhite to approve the minutes from the May 07th, 2024 Workshop meeting.**

Public comment was requested with none received.  
**Votes were cast, and the motion carried unanimously.**

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**Non-Action Item:**

Ben Rauschenbach gave update on the Bob Morgan dredging project at 229 Vance Rd. There is no objection in principal of what Mr. Morgan wants to do, pending plans and Corps of Engineering being in agreement. There are several variables involved and a detail plan would need to be in place and the permitting process would need to be followed.

Jordan Sparks discussed the rebuild of boathouse/seawall for Ryal Siem, 235 Jessie Jones. Mr. Siem's boathouse has been in place for more than 25 years. Mr. Siem and Lindsey Allen are wanting an opinion on the variance of the height of the seawall which exceeds the allowed limit of 23" and the length of the pier exceeding the 90'. Jordan will communicate to Lindsey Allen that the Board is comfortable with them proceeding with the plans and permitting process to rebuild at the same location.

Ben Rauschenbach discussed the cleanup project for Shawn Phillips at 127 Sunny Trail. Some of the cleanup would be within the flowage easement and would not be bringing in any additional fill or taking anything out. They would simply be cleaning up and improving flowage

Ben Rauschenbach discussed a request from Phillip Rodgers at 368 Merritt Road on an opinion from the Board on the extension of his seawall all the way across and tie into neighbors wall, Ben did not feel comfortable with extending the wall all the way across but leave a 30 to 40 foot gap to leave room for natural drainage. Board agreed that Mr. Rodgers could put together a plan and proceed with permit process leaving a gap for the natural drainage.

**Old Business:**

Consideration of remediation plan for Richard and Linda Havens Boathouse as recommended by Raley and Associates

**Motion made by Kelly Long and seconded by Jerry Wilhite to approve the remediation per the plans from Raley and Associates.**

Comments from Ben Rauschenbach.  
Public comment requested with none received.  
**Votes were cast, and motion carried unanimously.**

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Consideration of donation for dig-in and boathouse for Heath Robinson, 1303 Sanibel Point. Donation to be processed without mortgage company signature.

**Motion made by Kelly Long and seconded by Jerry Wilhite to move forward with the Donation Deed and Boathouse for Heath Robinson, 1303 Sanibel Point, without the mortgage company signature.**

Comments from Alex Vozzella  
Public comment requested with non received.  
**Votes were cast, and the motion carried as follows:**

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Gary Wyche	X			
Kelly Long	X			
Jerry Fowler			X	
Rodney Madden	X			
Jerry Wilhite	X			

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**New Business:**

Consideration of variance for Mickie Parker Boathouse, 195 Jessie Jones Road to be rebuilt at current length which exceeds the allowable 60'.

**Motion was made by Kelly Long and seconded by Jerry Wilhite to approve variance for the boathouse to be rebuilt at the same distance it is currently (88') at 195 Jessie Jones.**

Comments from Jordan Sparks, Waggoner Eng.  
Public comment was requested with none received.  
**Votes were cast, and motion carried unanimously.**

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Consideration for act of donation of dig-out for George and Amy Snowden Allgood, 1203 Big Pine Key.

**Motion made by Kelly Long and seconded by Jerry Wilhite to approve and execute the act of donation for George and Amy Snowden Allgood to move forward with the permit for seawall.**

Comments from Jordan Sparks and Ben Rauschenbach, Waggoner Eng.  
Public comment requested with none received.

**Votes were cast, and the motion carried unanimously.**

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Consideration of approval of the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire for the 2023 Audit.

**Motion made by Kelly Long and seconded by Jerry Wilhite to approve the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire for the 2023 Audit.**

Some discussion by board and Lisa Free.  
Public comment requested with none received.

**Votes were cast, and motion carried as follows:**

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Gary Wyche	X			
Kelly Long	X			
Jerry Fowler			X	
Rodney Madden	X			
Jerry Wilhite	X			

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Consideration to adopt a Resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the special election held in Cypress Black Bayou Recreation and Water Conservation District of Bossier Parish, Louisiana, on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024, to authorize the renewal of a special tax therein.

**Motion made by Kelly Long and seconded by Jerry Wilhite to adopt the Resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the special election held in Cypress Black Bayou Recreation and Water Conservation District of Bossier Parish, Louisiana on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024, to authorize the renewal of a special tax therein.**

Public Comment was requested with none received.

**Votes were cast and motion carried as follows:**

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Gary Wyche	X			
Kelly Long	X			
Jerry Fowler			X	
Rodney Madden	X			
Jerry Wilhite	X			

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Planning for the Freedom Fest July 4<sup>th</sup> Event.

**Motion made by Kelly Long and seconded by Jerry Wilhite to establish a \$5,000 budget for costs associated with the Freedom Fest July 4<sup>th</sup> Event to help with planning .**

Some discussion by board and Alex Vozzella.

Public comment requested with none received.

**Votes were cast and motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion made by Kelly Long and seconded by Jerry Wilhite to waive the Day Pass Fee for the Freedom Fest July 4<sup>th</sup> event to be free to the public.**

Some discussion by board and Alex Vozzella.

Public comment requested with none received.

**Votes were cast, and motion carried unanimously.**

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**Adjournment:**

**Motion made by Kelly Long, and seconded by Jerry Wilhite to adjourn the meeting.**

Public comment requested with none received.

**Votes were cast and motion passed unanimously.**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned by Gary Wyche at approximately 5:35 p.m.

Gary Wyche, President  
Cypress Black Bayou Recreation &  
Water Conservation District

Kelly Long, Vice President  
Cypress Black Bayou Recreation &  
Water Conservation District