**MINUTES OF JANUARY 19, 2016**

**Regular Meeting of Board of Commissioners of**

**Bayou D’Arbonne Lake Watershed District**

Union Parish Courthouse Annex

303 East Water Street

Farmerville, LA 71241

1. Roll Call – Steve Cagle called the meeting to order. Commission members present were David Hopkins, Terri Towns, Bruce Hampton, Cary Brown and Trotter Hunt. Also present were Bill Carter, Ron Riley, Tracy Ambrose, and Leslie Towns.
2. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance – Terri Towns led the invocation, and Bruce Hampton led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Public Comment Registration – No registration.
4. Agenda Approval – Motion was made by Bruce Hampton (at the request of Bill Carter and David Hopkins) to amend the January 2016 Agenda to add an item as Item 1 "Amend the 2015 Budget" and to renumber Item 1 on the Agenda as Item 1A. Cary Brown seconded the motion. The public had no comment and the motion passed unanimously.
5. Approval of Minutes – Motion was made by Trotter Hunt and seconded by Bruce Hampton to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2015, meeting. The motion passed unanimously.
6. Treasurer's Report – Motion was made by David Hopkins and seconded by Trotter Hunt to approve the November 2015 and December 2015 treasurer’s report. The motion passed unanimously.
7. Old and New Business:
8. Amend 2015 Budget – David Hopkins made a motion and Bruce Hampton seconded to adjust the expenses in the 2015 Commission budget to the actual expenses of 2015. The motion passed unanimously.

1A. Adopt 2016 Budget – David Hopkins passed out budgets for past two years with numbers he would like to use. The accounting fees were increased to $4,000 for this year. Engineering fees are placed at $20,000 for this year. Transcription fees are placed at $2,500. Legal fees will remain at $10,000. Mowing and cleanup are placed at $8,500. There is nothing needed for geological maintenance. The maintenance project line is to increase to $50,000. The miscellaneous line budget is to remain at $1,500. The utilities line will remain the same. Expenses and revenue are to remain the same. DOTD spillway repairs are to be decreased to $50,000. Bruce Hampton stated that the other items are locked in (franchise fees, etc.). A motion was made by Bruce Hampton and seconded by Terri Towns to adopt the 2016 budget. The motion passed unanimously.

1. Boat Ramp Rules/New Signs – Update – Steve Cagle has been out of town for four months, so there is nothing new. He will get in touch with Trotter Hunt to get started on this.
2. Mega Ramp – Update – Ron Riley stated that we still have our application in for Capital Outlay that must go through the Legislature. We have a non-cash line of credit. We should finish the application to State Parks Wildlife & Fisheries tomorrow. He will get the President to sign that application. However, the application, which is a Federal grant, says an application cannot be made unless you have a turn-down letter from the Wallop-Breaux representatives. He spoke with State Parks representatives and the Wallop-Breaux representatives, and they have never heard of that. Informally, they have told us if we have no funds then we will not get Wallop-Breaux money. But we are holding it open in case you do.

We are also waiting for a new appraisal to come in any day now. At that point, we will be in a waiting mode until next fall. Mr. Riley stated that we do not have to reapply every year. Once they gave us the non-cash line-of-credit, then we are in. He stated it must go through the Legislature and the Bond Commission. We hope to be put into the Capital Outlay bill. At best, it will be next October at the earliest. Bruce Hampton asked if we should be in touch with our legislative representatives, and Mr. Riley stated that it would be helpful because the funding must be placed into the budget by the Legislature.

Bill Carter stated that the mode of action during the past three or four years has gone by and he does not know what the new governor will do with the budget. We will just have to wait and see but we definitely need to contact our legislators. It is pretty bleak and will probably not be a priority.

1. Maricopa Island Project – Update – Bill Carter spoke with Christy Hall before Christmas and they have not issued a permit yet. He will continue to monitor that.
2. Election of Officers for 2016 – Bill Carter conducted the election of new officers for 2016. Mr. Carter stated that there are three offices to elect: President, Vice President and Secretary-Treasurer.

Mr. Carter opened the floor for nomination for President. Cary Brown nominated Bruce Hampton for President for 2016. There were no other nominations, so Mr. Cagle made motion and Cary Brown seconded the motion to close the nominations. The motion passed unanimously. All members voted in favor of Bruce Hampton for President.

Mr. Carter opened the floor for nomination for Vice President. David Hopkins nominated Trotter Hunt. There were no other nominations, and Mr. Cagle made a motion and Bruce Hampton seconded the motion to close the nominations. The motion passed unanimously. All members voted in favor of Trotter Hunt for Vice-President.

Mr. Carter opened the floor for nomination for Secretary-Treasurer. Steve Cagle nominated David Hopkins. There were no other nominations, and Mr. Cagle made a motion and Trotter Hunt seconded the motion to close the nominations. The motion passed unanimously. All members voted in favor of David Hopkins for Secretary-Treasurer.

The new President, Bruce Hampton, expressed the Board's appreciation to Steve Cagle for having served and worked so hard for so many years as President. He stated that he was glad Mr. Cagle was still on the Board.

1. Public Comment: (Bruce Hampton conducts remainder of meeting.) Steve Cagle has asked Wildlife & Fisheries to come next month to give a report. Last year they came in February and told the Board about Giant Sylvania. We had one small spot on the water but now it is all over the lake. It is running towards the spillway but he asked them to do a survey of lake and tell us what they are doing and how bad it will be. It doubles daily in size in April and May so it will likely get bad. They had no luck killing it before with their spray and it's everywhere now. David Hopkins asked if the draw down would help. Mr. Cagle said it will help if we get a freeze will the draw down is going on.

Mr. Cagle said the draw down starts the day after Labor Day and as far as this Commission's draw down date, it is over the day after Thanksgiving. Wildlife & Fisheries may request to extend it from Thanksgiving to mid-January for grass. He stated that no date has been set for Wildlife and Fisheries to attend a meeting, but they came in April of last year.

Terri Towns stated that there is a tournament at end of February with all the people coming in, and that's how it is transported by boats to different lakes. Mr. Cagle said there is nothing we can do at this point.

Mr. Cagle said that on March 18, Keep Union Parish Beautiful (Nancy Love) will do a trash pickup from the red light and go this way and host it under the pavilion on Ramp Road.

1. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn was made by David Hopkins and seconded by Terri Towns. The motion passed unanimously.