**MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2015**

**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 – President Steve Cagle called the meeting to order. Commission members present were Steve Cagle, Edward Lee, Bruce Hampton, Terri Towns, and Cary Brown. Also present were Bill Carter, Ron Riley, Tracy Ambrose, Robert Lemoine of the Bernice Banner and several members of the public.
2. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance – Edward Lee led the invocation, and Bruce Hampton led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Public Comment Registration – Billy Bryant signed up for public comments.
4. Agenda Approval – Motion was made by Bruce Hampton and seconded by Terri Towns to approve the September 2015 agenda. The motion passed unanimously.
5. Approval of Minutes – Motion was made by Cary Brown and seconded by Edward Lee to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2015, meeting. The motion passed unanimously.
6. Treasurer's Report – The August 2015 Treasurer’s report was presented. Motion was made to approve the report by Terri Towns and seconded by Bruce Hampton. The motion passed unanimously.
7. Old and New Business:
8. Boat Ramp Rules/New Signs – Bill Carter said the template for the new sign prepared by the Sign Committee was previously emailed by Trotter Hunt and a copy was also passed out to the Commissioners. He suggested that one person handle the sign quotes and one person handle the welding quotes. Steve Cagle stated that he spoke with two welding shops and two sign companies about prices, and he is working with David Hopkins on that. Mr. Carter requested that they notify Trotter Hunt of quotes received from the companies, and Mr. Cagle advised that he will send the information to everyone. Mr. Cagle said they needed the names and physical addresses of the ramps before they could obtain the quotes.
9. Channel Markers – Update/Budget Increase – Ron Riley said bids were taken the day after the last meeting. A work order was issued to start Monday or possibly Friday, and they are only waiting for paperwork. Mr. Cagle said the contract went to RHTC, Inc. Work should start on or before Tuesday, September 22, 2015.
10. Mega Ramp – (a) Update and (b) Mitigation – Ron Riley said that at 4:30 this afternoon he received an email transmitting information that must be in Baton Rouge by 5:00 p.m. tomorrow to complete the application. He stated that it appears we have a chance to get the project funded this year because they are asking for an application to release bond funds. If true, we might be underway by the end of the year. Mr. Carter questioned how much we would get if we received funds this year. Mr. Riley did not know but stated that it depends on whether it is for one year or split into two years. Mr. Riley said it was broken down into Priority 2 and Priority 5. Priority 2 has $180,000 and Priority 5 has approximately $1,600,000 but some of this is land-match, engineering, permitting, etc. Mr. Riley said his firm has done a lot of preliminary work but no actual plans have been prepared. Regarding mitigation, Mr. Riley stated that he checked and we cannot get our money back if the credits are bought and the project falls through. Also, the credits are not assignable and are specific to that project. Mr. Carter asked Mr. Riley when he anticipates the funding request for this project would go to the Bond Commission and when we would need to have mitigation done. Mr. Riley said there is an item on the agenda at the Bond Commission meeting tomorrow for Priority 5 money. If our project is on there, he needs to know what happened to Priority 2. Mr. Riley said it may have been funded in a Bond Commission meeting we did not know about. He said this may be what is prompting the urgency to have the paperwork done for the meeting tomorrow. Mr. Carter suggested that the Board hold off on mitigation until the project is actually funded. Mr. Cagle said if we need to approve the mitigation quickly, we could call an emergency or special meeting to do that.
11. Spillway Repairs – Update – Ron Riley said the project is moving along. November 9 is the completion date. The DOTD figured out last week why two gates would not close, and it was just a simple problem. The gates have all been inspected, and three are operable now. One will not be operable unless replaced, and the cost to replace it is $100,000 which is not cost-efficient. We can draw the lake down 10 feet with the tainter gate plus another four feet with those gates if we have to. The high water ramp is gone and has been hauled off. Mr. Riley also advised that the bottoms of the signs that say to stay away 300 feet are in, and we are waiting for the rest of the signs to come in. The non-overflow sections have been repaired. They are in the process of repairing the aprons and should be finished next week. There is also a little work left to be done in the gallery. Next week they will do the downstream gauge, so everything is coming together. Mr. Cagle asked about the gate on the spillway where it leaked on the Downsville end, and Mr. Riley said it has been repaired for first time since 1962.
12. State Park Lake Level Gauge – Update – Ron Riley said it is working and is as calibrated as it is going to get.
13. Designate Official Names for Boat Launches - Update – Mr. Cagle said we handled this last month. Mr. Carter distributed an email and spreadsheet from Danny Smith of the 911 Commission to all members. He said the designated names approved by the Commission were sent to Mr. Smith, and Mr. Smith had spoken with Mr. Cagle and suggested that some of these names be revised slightly. Mr. Cagle said only two words were added, Downsville and Farmerville, on the spillway ramps. The spreadsheet shows the revised name, address, and GPS coordinates for each launch. Bruce Hampton asked about the ramps in Lincoln Parish and whether the Mega Ramp Road name has been changed. Mr. Cagle said this does not include Lincoln Parish, and the Mega Ramp Road name has not changed. Mr. Cagle said the parish will not be putting any green road name signs because the names and addresses will be on our signs. The only exception may be the Highway 33 Ramp Road where Mega Ramp will go, we might leave it blank or leave it changeable. Everyone was in agreement about that. Mr. Carter said they can get with the Lincoln Parish GIS and get the information for the Lincoln Parish ramps. Cary Brown made a motion to approve the revised names on the list which Mr. Carter distributed. Bruce Hampton seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.
14. Maricopa Island Project – Mr. Riley said he has heard nothing from the Corps of Engineers since the last meeting. The request for information from interested parties was due August 31 and he has not heard whether the Corps will or will not have a public hearing but will notify us one way or the other.

H. Public Comment: Billy Bryant spoke to the Board and said there were 28 poles for the new boat runs and now there are only seven left. He wanted to know what happened to the poles. Mr. Cagle said he will find them. Mr. Bryant also asked if there was a noise limit on the lake. Mr. Cagle said no. Billy Bryant also stated that, when he checked online, it said meetings are held on the third Monday of the month. He was informed the meetings are actually held on the third Tuesday of each month.

I. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn was made by Bruce Hampton and seconded by Steve Cagle. The motion passed unanimously.