John K. Kelly – Grand Bayou Reservoir Commission

Regular Meeting Minutes

February 9, 2023, 4 pm

Grand Bayou Resort

5286 Hwy 784

Coushatta, LA 71019

Commission Chairman Peggy McCoy called the meeting to order. All commissioners were present:

Becky Craig, Anita Hinds, Tom Jones, Faerie Sledge, and Antony Thomas, along with resort manager David Pickett. There were no guests present.

The minutes of the Jan. 12, 2023, meeting were read. Commissioner Hinds moved to approve them as read; Commissioner Jones seconded and the minutes were approved.

Continued business was discussed including replacing signs in the park. Commissioner Hinds will check on prices and report back. Seawall repairs were discussed and manager Pickett reported that he had been contacted again by two of the companies that he had spoken with earlier. It was noted that the next time a contractor likely will be able to access that area will be fall 2024, when the next drawdown will probably take place. Commissioner Jones updated the board on local businessman David Beard’s decision to purchase the mechanical equipment that he plans to use on the lake to mitigate some of the weeds, particularly salvinia. Both the resort and local lake and pond property owners may be able to use his services on a negotiated fee basis. Other routine cabin and park maintenance issues were noted, along with some office equipment matters.

New business was discussed. Mr. Pickett updated the board on some checking account issues that he is working with the bank on. Several fraudulent checks were recently written on the resort account by parties unknown. The bank has reimbursed the resort for all monies and the sheriff’s department is investigating the matter. Mr. Pickett will keep the board updated. Mr. Pickett noted that the resort needs two additional golf carts for use by staff. He has located two possibilities for good used carts. Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the purchase of the two based on Mr. Pickett’s assessment. Commissioner Hinds seconded; motion carried.

Mr. Pickett had some questions about duck hunting rules. After a brief discussion, it was decided that the issue will be re-visited in the near future, prior to the time that hunters must obtain their duck blind permits.

At Mr. Pickett’s request, the board entered into executive session to discuss a possible pay raise for an employee. After coming out of executive session, the board reviewed the January bills. Commissioner Jones moved to pay those bills; Commissioner Sledge seconded; motion carried. There was no other business to come before the board, so Commissioner Jones moved to adjourn; Commissioner Craig seconded and the meeting was adjourned.

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