**MINUTES OF APRIL 20, 2021 REGULAR MEETING**

**Board of Commissioners of**

**Bayou D’Arbonne Lake Watershed District**

Union Parish Courthouse Annex

303 East Water Street

Farmerville, LA 71241

6:30 p.m.

1. Roll Call – Jake Halley called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Commission members present were Jake Halley, Terry Morris, Todd DeMoss, Clint Graham, Richard Royal and Ken Myers. Steve Cagle was absent. Also present were Bill Carter and Neal DeForest and several members of the public.
2. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance – Clint Graham led the invocation and Terry Morris led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Public Comment Registration – No one signed up for public comment.

D. Agenda Approval – Motion was made by Richard Royal and seconded by Clint Graham to approve the April 2021 Agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Approval of Minutes – Motion was made by Clint Graham and seconded by Ken Myers to approve the minutes of the March 2021 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

F. Financial Reports/Budget/Audit:

1. Approve March 2021 Bank Account Summary – Motion was made by Richard Royal and seconded by Terry Morris to approve the March 2021 Bank Account Summary. The motion passed unanimously.
2. Approve March 2021 Bank Statement Reconciliation - Motion was made by Todd DeMoss and seconded by Richard Royal to approve the March 2021 Bank Statement Reconciliation. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Approve March 2021 Financial Report – Motion was made by Clint Graham and seconded by Todd DeMoss to approve the March 2021 Financial Report. The motion passed unanimously.
4. Amend 2021 Budget – Todd DeMoss said that it was recommended that several line items of the budget be revised including the following:
5. Under Income, Boat Launch Fees of $15,000 was added,
6. Under Income, FEMA reimbursement amount was revised to reflect the correct amount provided by Neal DeForest of $14,401,
7. Under Expenses, Spillway Beach Project amount was revised to the quote received from Mayfield of $29,000,
8. Under Expenses, Lake Drawdown Work was removed,
9. Under Expenses, Lake Level Gauges was revised to $4,000, and
10. Under Expenses, Boat Launch Fee Collections of $10,000 were added.

Potential costs involved with the Boat Launch Fees, including collection box construction, payment envelopes, and permits were discussed.

Motion was made by Todd DeMoss and seconded by Richard Royal to amend the budget as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

G. Old and New Business:

* + 1. Channel Markers Project - Reimbursement – Neal Deforest said that GOHSEP is still working on the reimbursement and there is no update.
		2. Spillway Beach Area Improvements/Spillway Bayou Access Road Improvements – Bill Carter said that obtaining floats for Phase 4 of the project is an issue. He said that he has been in contact with a company out of New Hampshire that can provide floats that can be used for $80.00 apiece. Mr. Carter suggested authorizing modification of the scope of work to remove the floats and/or other materials if necessary. Motion was made by Richard Royal and seconded by Terry Morris to authorize changing the scope of work for the project by removing the floats, as well as authorizing the purchase of the floats and all materials needed for the installation of the floats and remaining items for the project, if necessary. The motion passed unanimously.
		3. Lake Level Gauges – Neal DeForest said that the lake level has to recede before anything can be done. No action taken.
		4. Lighting at Boat Launches – This item is complete. No action taken.
		5. Boat Launch / Ramp / Sign Maintenance – No action taken.
		6. Conveyance of Ramps and Roads by DOTD to Commission– Jake Halley said that Jeff Shapiro of DOTD previously indicated that the Stowe Creek ramp area cannot be repaired until the lake level is below 81 feet. There was nothing new to report.
		7. Lake Closure / No Wake Policy – Union Parish Police Jury Ordinance – No action taken.
		8. Lake Drawdown Policy Revisions – No action taken.

* + 1. Ramp Mowing Contract - Bill Carter said that Kade Roberts will start mowing the ramps in mid-April and will be paid $500.00 for April and then $1,000.00 per month thereafter through November. Motion was made by Richard Royal and seconded by Clint Graham to enter into a Ramp Mowing Contract with Kade Roberts beginning April 15, 2021 for $500.00 and $1,000.00 per month thereafter through November. The motion passed unanimously.
		2. Windward Isle Development – Bill Carter said that Tommy Smith desires to build additional condominiums on Windward Isle and had previously sent preliminary drawings of the development. Mr. Carter said that Neal DeForest, Jake Halley, Terry Morris and he met with Mr. Smith at the site and Mr. Smith showed them where the new condos were planned to be built and would be similar to the existing condos nearby. Mr. Carter said that many years ago someone filled in a large area where the existing condos are located all within the original 80-foot contour.

Mr. Smith was in attendance and provided the commission members with specific information regarding the design of each structure and the plan moving forward. He also said he was planning to seek approval from the Corps of Engineers prior to construction.

Ken Myers referred to the stipulation in the Ordinance that no living quarters were to be built over the lake and questioned whether the Farmerville permit office would require permits for this type of construction. Bill Carter said that the permit office needed to be informed of the Commission’s regulations and if someone were requesting a structure over the lake, they would be directed to the Commission. He also suggested modifying the Ordinance to make the regulations broader.

Motion was made by Clint Graham and seconded by Terry Morris to authorize Bill Carter to prepare and send a letter to Mr. Smith indicating that under the unique circumstances applicable, the Commission had no objections to the development. The motion passed unanimously.

* + 1. Scott’s Hideaway Road Project – Bill Carter informed the Commission that the Union Parish Police Jury had received funding for a project to address a segment of Scott’s Hideaway Road which was subject to flooding during severe rain events. He said that during high water events a drain which flows under the road and drains into the lake inundates the road which affects approximately 300 homes and camps. Mr. Carter indicated that the Police Jury has received funding to raise the elevation of the road and install surrounding drainage structures to prevent future flooding. He said it is possible that the Police Jury will need to acquire some property located within the Commission’s flowage servitude in that area in order to construct the improvements.

* + 1. Entertainment Platform in Lake – Jake Halley said that some citizens are proposing to build a structure in the lake near Folley Beach for entertainment purposes. Commission members discussed what would be necessary to approve the construction of such structure if it was presented to the Commission.
		2. Annual Financial Disclosure (Due May 15) – Commission members were reminded of the May 15 deadline to file reports for 2020.

H. Public Comment - Dennis Bratton asked the Commission members about the signage at each pier that says no swimming and wanted to know who enforces that rule. Jake Halley said that once the beach project is complete and the residents have a place to swim, the Sheriff will begin enforcing no swimming at piers. Mr. Bratton also asked about citizens building fences and other structures into the lake and suggested having someone enforce that also.

I. Adjourn – A motion to adjourn was made by Terry Morris and seconded by Ken Myers. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned.