

MEETING OF THE NORTHWEST LOUISIANA GAME
AND FISH PRESERVE COMMISSION

Meeting held on August 1, 2023

All commissioners were present including Chairman Winfred Lonadier, Chairman Lonadier recognized all guests including Candace Hubbard and two members of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Villis Dowden and Wesley Maddox.

On motion by Hubbard and seconded by Bedgood, the meeting was called to order at 5:55pm.

On motion by Cason and seconded by Tingle, the minutes from the June meeting were accepted as written.

Commissioner Bedgood reported on the boat ramps, recreational area, and fishing piers. All areas have been mowed, trash picked up, and 3 tons of gravel was hauled and spread in the needed areas. Bedgood presented the invoices for the gravel as well as the maintenance totaling \$1500. On motion by Bedgood and seconded by Cason, the commission agreed to pay the invoices in the amount of \$1500.

Wesley Maddox gave a report on aquatic growth and management. Reported application of chemical herbicide to the giant Salvinia on the north end of the lake over the past few weeks. Roughly 790 acres have been treated: 700 of those acres done by contract crews and the other 90 acres by the state. Through the rest of the week, crews will be treating Salvinia on the north end around Bird Island where the Salvinia is scattered over a 200-300 acre area. Hydrilla and alligator weed is found on the lower end of the lake at the Prairie but do not recommend treating due to it enhancing the fish habitat.

Villis Dowden advised that they are not recommending a draw down at this time but they will continue to monitor everything and will let the Commission know if this decision changes in the future.

Commissioner Hubbard had nothing additional to report on the Facebook page.

Commissioner Bedgood states he reached out to the restaurant "Down the Bayou" but was informed they do not open the restaurant on Tuesdays. Much discussion ensued regarding future meeting locations as well as possibly changing from Tuesdays to Thursdays. No resolution at this time.

Chairman Lonadier opened the discussion regarding the new boat ramp and complex construction on the east side of the lake. Commissioners Bedgood, Tingle, Cason, and Lonadier

have all been to the site recently and have questions regarding the scope of work/contract that is to be performed.

Chairman Lonadier opened the discussion for payment of invoice for contract preparation by Chris Guillet. Resolution for payment of services rendered after the completion of the work, inspection, review of itemized invoice, and all commissioners being in favor of passing the motion.

On motion by Hubbard and seconded by Cason, the commission agreed to retain the Johnson/Cunningham CPA firm to assist with end of the year reporting.

Commissioner Hubbard reminded all commissioners they must complete yearly Louisiana ethics training and preventing sexual harassment training. Links to trainings are found online but will further discuss with Steve Crews before the next meeting.

On motion by Tingle and seconded by Bedgood, the meeting adjourned at 6:42.