

**MINUTES OF THE NORTHWEST LOUISIANA
GAME AND FISH PRESERVE COMMISSION**

Meeting held on February 4, 2020

Present were Commissioners Self, Cooper, Hubbard, Tingle, Bedgood, Wilson and Chairman Winfred Lonadier.

Villis Dowden and Wesley Maddox with the Department of Wildlife & Fisheries and Renee' Crews were recognized as guests.

On motion by Hubbard and seconded by Cooper, the meeting was brought to order.

On motion by Bedgood and seconded by Self, the minutes were accepted as written.

Concerning old business there was some general discussion concerning possible revenue sources. Steven D. Crews agreed to meet with the new Senator and Representative to see if there was any possibility.

The Commissioners then gave a report concerning the condition of the boat ramps. Commissioner Bedgood advised that there was some trash at the Dickson Boat Ramp but it was cleaned up and he also advised that there was a marker down. C.D. Baker is okay but will need some rock at some point. No report concerning Westwind or Allen Dam. The recreation point needs some trash pickup.

There was then much discussion concerning giant salvinia. Villis Dowden and Wesley Maddox gave a presentation concerning infestation. They have been treating the area around the bridge. They also admitted that there was a great deal of salvinia coming from Grand Bayou. Chairman Lonadier advised that there was a lot of salvinia moving through Black Bayou.

Villis Dowden advised that there appears to be the necessity of a summer drawdown which would more than likely occur around July 1 and end around the end of January.

Wesley Maddox brought a graph which showed the amount of acres that have been treated since 2014. 2017 was by far the largest year and this year they have treated approximately 560 acres.

Wesley Maddox also advised that the cold water temperature makes decomposition occur very slowly. He also advised that there are some promising new chemicals but they are still experimental.

Chairman Lonadier then recognized Mr. Buddy Evans who brought a sample of water at a pond next to Chivary Dam which is clear of salvinia. He also brought a photograph of the pond. He was asking if the pond water could be sampled as compared to Black Lake to see what was or was not in the pond water that seemed to stifle the growth of salvinia. Chairman Lonadier advised that this was the Heister Pond. Villis Dowden agreed to do some preliminary testing in the office and report back.

Wesley Maddox also advised that state universities are working on the salvinia problem.

Chairman Lonadier advised everyone that there was a meeting set up with the Corps of Engineers concerning the new boat ramp location. He and Assistant Secretary Steven D. Crews would meet with the Corps in mid February of this year.

Concerning new business Chairman Lonadier advised that he wanted to discuss, at the next meeting, some new regulations concerning duck blinds. The preliminary discussion at this meeting involved raising the cost of the permits to \$25.00 per permit, using GPS coordinates for locations, better all weather permits and the possibility of closing the application process at the beginning of duck season.

There were no invoices to submit.

On motion by Cooper and seconded by Bedgood, the meeting did adjourn.

Steven D. Crews

STEVEN D. CREWS