

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

Meeting held on February 7, 2017

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

Chairman Lonadier recognized guests including Renee' Crews, Larry McGee and Wildlife & Fisheries personnel including Biologists Villis Dowden, Patrick Ireland, Brittainey Thaxton and Vegetation Specialist Wesley Maddox.

On motion by Bedgood and seconded by Hubbard, the meet was called to order.

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

During old business there was much discussion concerning the boat ramps. Durwood Wilson advised that everything was in good condition. Commissioner Bedgood advised that the markers had been installed as instructed. Chairman Lonadier pointed out that there was still some repair work needed at C.D. Baker.

There was then a motion by Wilson and seconded by Bedgood to take matters out of order and go ahead and accept the appointment of Jackie Tingle to the Commission.

On motion by Hubbard and seconded by Bedgood the Commission did accept the appointment of new Commissioner Jackie Tingle.

There was then much discussion concerning lake management. A great deal of discussion was had by the public in attendance. Villis Dowden, on behalf of the Department of Wildlife & Fisheries, advised that a request for a drawdown had been submitted and they were waiting on approval and the tentative dates were July 3 - December 4, 2017.

The Department of Wildlife & Fisheries further advised that there has been a crew spraying the lake and they have sprayed about 2,100 acres and hope during the second round of spraying to spray between 2,000 and 2,200 acres. The spraying involved giant salvinia. They were hoping to eventually cover between 4,000 and 4,200 acres. There was also some discussion concerning a possible third spraying.

The Commission was advised that the salvinia will float with the wind and they were trying to catch it before it broke up and spread through the lake.

There was also discussion concerning using a helicopter but this was not feasible due to the tree density and the cost.

The Department of Wildlife & Fisheries also advised that the funds for the contract spraying are not allocated for certain areas but are on a statewide basis.

Villis Dowden further advised that a BOOM had been ordered to use near the bridge to try and slow the path of the hydrilla.

Biologist Dowden further advised that sampling would be going on for some time to determine the anticipated population of fish in the lake. There was also discussion concerning how giant salvinia negatively impacts the bass spawn.

Various invoices were submitted including one from Mr. Reiley and one from Derreck Dubois. On motion by Bedgood and seconded by Hubbard all submitted invoices were approved.

On motion by Hubbard and seconded by Wilson the meeting did adjourn.

*Steven D. Crews*

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STEVEN D. CREWS