# LAFOURCHE PARISH GAME & FISH COMMISSION

**Minutes: January 25, 2021**

The regular monthly meeting of the Lafourche Parish Game and Fish Commission was held on Monday, January 25 2021 at 3:00 p.m., in the Parish Council meeting room at the Lafourche Parish Building in Mathews.

**Call to Order**: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Vince Guillory. Vince Guillory noted that we must vacate this room before 5 pm; consequently, we may not be able to finish all agenda items.

**Roll Call:** Present – Vincent Guillory, Oray Savoie, Jake Cheramie, and John Guidry; absent - Marty Vedros. A legal quorum was present.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Oray Savoie and seconded by to approve the December, 2020 minutes as presented. Voting yes – all. Motion passed.

**Approval of Agenda:** A motion was made by Jake Cheramie and seconded by Oray Savoie to approve the agenda as presented. Voting yes – all. Motion passed.

**Secretary Report:** In the absence of our secretary, Chairman Vince Guillory listed work activities of the Secretary since the December meeting: paid monthly bills; check mail; sent minutes and agenda to Clerk of Court; sent minutes to Daily Comet for publication; monthly financial report; recorded lease transfers; answered phone calls and emails; etc.

**Approval of Financial Report**: A motion was made by Jake Cheramie and seconded by Oray Savoie to accept the December, 2020 financial report as presented. Voting yes - all. Motion passed.

**Public Input**: None.

**Future Commission Meetings:** For many months last year, the Commission did not meet because of the COVID-19 pandemic or the unavailability of the Lockport Town Hall for meetings. The Parish Council meeting room is available from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, which is inconvenient for many but it was our only option. Our February meeting may or may not be held. Unless the Lockport Town Hall, or another public facility meeting room, is available for future meetings will continue to be held at the Parish Council meeting room. If anyone knows of a meeting room that would be available at night for free, please advise the Commission.

**DOA And Census Bureau Reports:**  Vince Guillory advised the Commission that

**t**he annual reports for the State Division of Administration and Federal Census Bureau were completed. Additionally, emails were sent to board meters and lease holders advising them that the State report contains historic minutes and agendas, financial information, etc. of the Commission, and how to access this information.

**Maintenance Dredging Permit:** Vince Guillory stated that an extension of the Commission’smaintenance dredging permit for Camp Canal and Nolan Toups was approved by the State Department of Natural Resources but not yet by the US Army Corp of Engineers. The Corp is requesting updated drawings of the spoil disposal sites. I have what information we need and will provide it to Jake, who has volunteered to complete the drawings to be submitted to the Corp. The permit was extended to August 15, 2023 use of the dredging permit will be available to individual camp lease holders along lower Bayou Folse and Nolan Toups Canal that have camps on lots that are not wetlands. Dredge spoil deposited on wetlands may require very expensive mitigation by the Commission to create additional wetlands.

**Unapproved Camp Sale And Division of Lease:** Vince Guillory stated thatwithout permission from the Commission as required in their lease document, a camp lease holder recently sold his camp and also wanted to divide the lease property in half, park his house boat on one-half of the original lease, and that both the original lease holder who had to according acquire a new lease agreement would not have to pay the new lease fee. After a long discussion, the Commission agreed that the buyer would be subjected to the new lease holder fees and that the prior lease holder would continue to pay the prior lease fee; a motion was made by Oray Savoie and seconded by John Guidry to accept this recommendation. Voting yes – Oray Savoie and John Guidry; no – Jake Cheramie. Motion passed.

Last month a suggestion was made to allow a lease holder to transfer their camp to an immediate family member without incurring the new lease fees. No action was taken, but it was agreed that it would be discussed further at the next meeting. Oray Savoie moved and John Guidry seconded to allow a lease holder to transfer their camp to an immediate family member without incurring the new lease fees. Voting yes – Oray Savoie and John Guidry; abstain – Jake Cheramie. Motion passed.

**Sewage Treatment Violation:**  Last month an email was received concerning an inadequate camp sewer system by a lease holder. Vince Guillory stated that he would, as soon as possible schedule a field trip to inspect the camp. However, an email was submitted to the Commission stating that the sewer system issue was resolved. On our next field trip, the camp sewer system will be checked.

**Commission Bylaws Revision:** At our last meeting, Vince Guillory commented that that a few items of the Commission bylaws are no longer appropriate and should be changed, and that it will be addressed in future meetings. A very rough draft of suggested bylaw changes was prepared and is in everyone’s packed. However, because of time limitations at the Parish Council meeting room, this agenda item will be discussed in future.

**Other Business:** Several topics were discussed under other business: further work on bylaws; commercial crab fishing restrictions; and, enforcement of duck hunting closer than allowed in the Parish Ordinance.

**Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman:** The election of chairman and vice-chairman normally takes place in December, but because only three board members were present the election was deferred by the Chairman until our January meeting.

Oray Savoie moved to accept Vince Guillory as Chairman, and John Guidry seconded. Voting yes – all. Motion approved.

Vince Guillory recommended Jake Charamie as vice-chairman. John Guidry moved to recommend Jake Cheramie as vice-chairman and Oray Savoie seconded. Voting yes – all. Motion approved.

**Next Meeting / Agenda**

Vince Guillory announced that other options will be explored for the next meeting at night to allow better access for both board members and the general public.

Suggested agenda items for the next meeting included: restriction of commercial crabbing; Commission bylaws; and, enforcement of duck hunting restrictions within 500 feet of camps.

**Adjournment**

Oray Savoie moved and John Guidry seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

Vincent Guillory

Chairman

Shontelle Cockerhan

Secretary