**MINUTES OF JANUARY 17, 2017, REGULAR MEETING**

**Board of Commissioners of**

**Bayou D’Arbonne Lake Watershed District Regular Meeting**

Union Parish Courthouse Annex

303 East Water Street

Farmerville, LA 71241

1. Roll Call – President Bruce Hampton called the meeting to order. Commission members present were Bruce Hampton, David Hopkins, Steve Cagle, Cary Brown, and Trotter Hunt. Also present were Bill Carter, Ron Riley, Robert Lemoine, Leslie Towns, Zachary Denney and Tracy Ambrose.
2. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance – Trotter Hunt led the invocation, and Steve Cagle led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Public Comment Registration – No one signed up to make a public comment.
4. Agenda Approval – A request was made to add Item G7 to the Agenda to set dates, times and places of future meetings. A request was also made to add discussion under Item F – Treasurer’s Report - on new audit procedures. Cary Brown made a motion to amend the Agenda to add these items, and Trotter Hunt seconded the motion. There was no objection by the public, and the motion passed unanimously.
5. Approval of Minutes – Motion was made by Steve Cagle and seconded by David Hopkins to approve the minutes of the November 2016 meeting. The motion passed unanimously. At this time, Terri Towns arrived and joined in the meeting.
6. Treasurer's Reports – David Hopkins made a motion to approve the November 2016 financial report and the motion was seconded by Steve Cagle. The motion passed unanimously. Bruce Hampton stated that he and David Hopkins spoke with the legislative auditor about the audit. Mr. Hopkins stated that they received a letter from the State in December. In the past, they had an independent CPA firm to whom Janet Cowart sent all the financials, and the CPA put everything together and sent it to the legislative auditor’s office. Now the State will be doing the audit rather than the CPA. He did not know if it will save us money, but previously they were paying both the CPA and the State. According to the letter, there is a minimum of $2700 that the State charges for the audit. Mr. Hampton said that, according to the letter, it appears as though the Legislative Auditor has contracts with CPAs across the state to do this. However, according to one of Mr. Hopkins’ contacts, they have State employees who do this who are field auditors. Steve Cagle said previously we were reimbursed, but Mr. Hampton said it has changed and we will have to pay the State. Mr. Hopkins stated that Ms. Cowart has been in contact with them so nothing will probably change. He said one thing we need to change is that we need to sign off and approve the bank reconciliations every month and it will have to be in the Minutes. Mr. Hampton stated that they have also sent him some statements to sign regarding our financial position and how the Board is made up. He requested that Bill Carter review them to see if there is anything that needs to be changed.
7. Old and New Business:

1. Channel Markers – (a) FEMA Claims, and (b) Repair Status – Ron Riley said we are still waiting on FEMA. He emailed his contact last week and got a reply that the man was on rotation last week and may be back this week. Steve Cagle was going to cut the channel markers off that were leaning but he had a medical problem so he has not been on the lake. Mr. Cagle stated that he spoke with Jared Cook with Flying Jacks who has a boat with two 90hp motors, and Mr. Cook suggested that once his boat is loaded he will try to push them upright. If he is able to stand one up straight, we will save $2500 because we don’t have to replace it. Mr. Carter asked Ron Riley if he approves of that, and Mr. Riley said yes. Mr. Cagle said Mr. Cook charges by the hour and Mr. Cagle agreed to go with him to watch. Mr. Carter asked if he has insurance, and Mr. Cagle said yes. Mr. Carter said we need a contract with him, and Mr. Hampton agreed. Mr. Cagle said he would be able to begin the work in February and said Mr. Cook’s charge will be $1500 per day. Mr. Cagle stated that he would like to sign a three-day contract for a total of $4500. He feels we should be able to make great headway in three days. He stated that there are nine or ten critical poles, but there are more than that need to be straightened. Trotter Hunt made a motion and Steve Cagle seconded the motion to enter a contract with Jared Cook at a price no greater than $4500 with insurance and a contract prepared by our attorney. The motion passed unanimously.

2. 2016 Drawdown –Update – Ron Riley said the drawdown is over. The gates were closed on December 15 and the water level was one foot down (at 79 feet) as of 3:00 p.m. on this date. Steve Cagle said during the drawdown the repairs were minimal. He stated that the State did go in and overlay both sides of Highway 2. Last week, he marked Ramp Road to keep people from parking in the right of way and he has some signs to put up. The only ramp they worked on is Ramp Road on Highway 2 where they filled in the bottom side of the ramp. They also put culverts on Terral Island, and Mr. Hopkins stated that they put rock around the ramp. Mr. Cagle said the State laid asphalt on the Highway 2 ramp and they left a nice high spot. They didn’t do the parking lot, but they did the turn-around and we put some rock to fill in the parking areas. Ms. Towns stated that there is another spot that needs a No Parking sign. She stated that there were five deputies last weekend taking care of the parking situation. David Hopkins stated that below the spillway to the gate of the ramp, the road washes badly, and he has someone looking at it to see if they can build us a water bar with rock. He has not gotten a quote for that yet. He stated the parish did a little work on it but, unless we can build it up with rock, it will keep washing out.

3. Commission Website – Update – Mr. Hampton said the Committee has not had a meeting, so they will meet and work on it before the next meeting.

4. City of Farmerville Old Highway 15 Request – Update – Mr. Riley had no additional information to add. Steve Cagle asked if we are putting lights on Ramp Road, but no one was aware of that, and Mr. Hampton said we have not voted to do that. Mr. Cagle said there are new poles all the way down the right-of-way on Ramp Road. He thought the City might be doing lights but he thought they would have asked since it is our property. Mr. Carter reiterated that this ramp is owned by the Commission. Mr. Cagle said he has no idea if it’s Claiborne Electric or who it is that are installing the poles. Mr. Hampton stated that he will ask Claiborne Electric, and we will go from there.

5. Discussion by Chamber of Commerce Representative Regarding Regulating and Organizing Lake Activities in Conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce – The Chamber called and said they will not have anyone here for this meeting, and they asked to be placed on the Agenda next month.

6. Election of Officers for 2017 – Bill Carter conducted the election of new officers for 2017. Mr. Carter stated that there are three offices to elect: President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer.

Mr. Carter opened the floor for nomination of President. Some discussion was made wherein Mr. Hampton agreed to stay on a two-year basis, but he believes we should rotate. Cary Brown asked if anyone was willing or desired to serve and no one did. Cary Brown made a motion and David Hopkins seconded the motion that Bruce Hampton serve as President for another term. The motion passed unanimously. There were no other nominations, so Steve Cagle made a motion and David Hopkins seconded the motion that nominations cease. All members voted in favor of Bruce Hampton to continue to serve as President.

Mr. Carter then opened the floor for nominations for Vice President. Cary Brown nominated Trotter Hunt. Cary Brown made a motion and Steve Cagle seconded the motion that Trotter Hunt serve for another term. No other nominations were made, so Steve Cagle made a motion that nominations cease. David Hopkins seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. All members voted in favor of Trotter Hunt for Vice President.

Mr. Carter opened the floor for nomination for Secretary-Treasurer. Steve Cagle nominated David Hopkins and Terri Towns seconded the motion that David Hopkins continue to serve another term. There were no other nominations, and Cary Brown made a motion and Trotter Hunt seconded the motion to close the nominations. The motion passed unanimously. All members voted in favor of David Hopkins for Secretary-Treasurer.

7. Dates, Time and Places for 2017 Meetings – Mr. Hampton asked if anyone wanted to make any changes to the times and location of future meetings. David Hopkins made a motion to continue the meetings on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Courthouse Annex Police Jury meeting room, and Terri Towns seconded the motion, excluding the December meeting, which would not be scheduled. The motion passed unanimously.

H. Public Comment – None

I. Adjourn – A motion to adjourn was made by Trotter Hunt and seconded by Steve Cagle. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned.