**MINUTES OF MARCH 18, 2025 REGULAR MEETING**

**Board of Commissioners of**

**Bayou D’Arbonne Lake Watershed District**

Union Parish Courthouse Annex

303 East Water Street

Farmerville, LA 71241

6:30 p.m.

1. Roll Call – Terry Morris called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Commission members present were Terry Morris, Richard Royal, Steve Adams and Chris Holtzclaw. Todd DeMoss, Steve Cagle, and Ken Myers were absent. Bill Carter was also present.
2. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance – Richard Royal led the invocation, and Chris Holtzclaw led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Public Comment Registration – Two people signed up for public comment.

D. Agenda Approval – Motion was made by Richard Royal and seconded by Steve Adams to approve the Agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Approval of Minutes – Motion was made by Chris Holtzclaw and seconded by Richard Royal to approve the Minutes of January 2025 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

F. Financial Reports/Budget/Audit:

1. Approve January and February 2025 Bank Account Summary – Motion was made by Richard Royal and seconded by Steve Adams to approve the January and February 2025 Bank Account Summary. The motion passed unanimously.
2. Approve January and February 2025 Bank Statement Reconciliation - Motion was made by Richard Royal and seconded by Steve Adams to approve the January and February 2025 Bank Statement Reconciliation. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Approve January and February 2025 Financial Report – Motion was made by Richard Royal and seconded by Steve Adams to approve the January and February 2025 Financial Report. The motion passed unanimously.

G. Old and New Business:

1. Boat Launch Areas - General Maintenance / Improvements – Terry Morris said that he received a quote of $1,197.00 from Glen Hutto of the Police Jury to install a pole and light at Hog Pen Landing.

Motion was made by Richard Royal and seconded by Steve Adams to authorize the expenditure of up to $1,500 for installation of the light at Hog Pen Landing. The motion passed unanimously.

Richard Royal said that additional gravel had been placed at Jake’s, Terral Island, and Hog Pen Landings and the sign at Jake’s has been repaired.

Steve Adams suggested building a fish cleaning station at the Terral Island Landing. Richard Royal said that was a great idea and very similar to what was done for the picnic tables and trash cans. The details of potential materials and design were discussed.

Terry Morris informed the commission members that the Town of Farmerville would be applying for a grant, with an applicant possibly being the commission, for a handicapped fishing pier on Ramp Road.

Motion was made by Richard Royal and seconded by Chris Holtzclaw to authorize the submission of a grant application for a handicapped fishing pier in connection with the Town of Farmerville and authorize the President to sign an application and any related documents after legal review. The motion passed unanimously.

1. Boat Launch Fees - Status - Richard Royal said that for 2025, $5,229.31 was collected in daily launch fees and permit sales.
2. Fish Stocking Program – Terry Morris said that he has been in contact with American Sport Fish and that the stocking for 2025 is scheduled for June and the cost is the same – 2-inch fingerlings for 50 cents each. The order will be for 40,000 fish and the total cost is $20,000.

Richard Royal said he would be reaching out to all of the fish stocking donors from last year and will seek additional donors as well.

Mr. Morris indicated that Ryan Daniel with the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries would be at the May meeting to provide the spring lake report and a creel survey from the drawdown.

1. Ramp Mowing Contract – Terry Morris said that Felix Castro, who has been mowing the ramps since 2022, would like to continue with the contract for 2025 at the same cost.

Motion was made by Richard Royal and seconded by Chris Holtzclaw to award the mowing contract to Felix Castro at the same cost as the 2024 mowing contract. The motion passed unanimously.

1. Road and Ramp Use Agreement – Boat Races – Several commission members discussed the details of the boat races and decided that once the details were known, an agreement could be approved at the next meeting.
2. Road and Ramp Use Agreement – Shriner’s Tournament – Terry Morris said that on May 3, 2025, the Barak Shriner’s Fishing Tournament will be taking place, and they have requested closure of Highway 33 Ramp Road for the tournament.

Motion was made by Richard Royal and seconded by Chris Holtzclaw to close Highway 33 Ramp Road on May 3, 2025, for the Barak Shriner’s Tournament and authorize the President to execute an Agreement with the Barak Shriners. The motion passed unanimously.

1. Reminders: (a) Louisiana Annual Ethics Training (Due December 31), and (b) Annual Financial Disclosure (Due May 15) – Richard Royal reminded everyone about the Ethics training and Financial Disclosure filing.

H. Public Comment – Greg Medlin signed up for public comment. He wanted to know if Lost Lake is a part of the lake. Bill Carter said that more information would be needed to respond to that request.

Larry Reeves thanked the commission members for all the work done at Hog Pen Landing. He also asked what the size of the bass that were stocked last year would be right now. Terry Morris said that he was told by the hatchery that by the fall of this year, the fish would be 7 to 8 inches long.

1. Adjourn – A motion to adjourn was made by Richard Royal and seconded by Todd DeMoss. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned.