**MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 26, 2024 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 Cagle and Steve Adams. Todd DeMoss and Ken Myers were absent. Bill Carter and Neal DeForest were also present.
2. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance – Richard Royal led the invocation and Steve Cagle led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Public Comment Registration – No one signed up for public comment.

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

E. Approval of Minutes – Motion was made by Steve Cagle and seconded by Steve Adams to approve the Minutes of September 2024 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

F. Financial Reports/Budget/Audit:

1. Approve August, September, and October 2024 Bank Account Summary – Motion was made by Richard Royal and seconded by Steve Cagle to approve the August, September, and October 2024 Bank Account Summary. The motion passed unanimously.
2. Approve August, September, and October 2024 Bank Statement Reconciliation - Motion was made by Richard Royal and seconded by Steve Cagle to approve the August, September, and October 2024 Bank Statement Reconciliation. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Approve August, September, and October 2024 Financial Report – Motion was made by Richard Royal and seconded by Steve Cagle to approve the August, September, and October 2024 Financial Report. The motion passed unanimously.
4. Adopt 2025 Budget– Richard Royal presented a draft of the 2025 Budget. Bill Carter noted that a public body’s budget does not have to balance as long as there is a surplus to cover excess expenses. Motion was made by Richard Royal and seconded by Steve Cagle to adopt the 2025 Budget as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

G. Old and New Business:

1. Boat Launch Areas - General Maintenance / Improvements – Steve Adams said that he and Neal DeForest determined that the top 30 to 40 feet of the existing Terral Island Boat Ramp needs to be repaired and 10 feet could be removed. He indicated that he solicited quotes for three contractors for the work and subsequently discovered one was not licensed. Quotes received were from (a) RC Builders, L.L.C. in the amount of $28,750.00 ($3,750.00 for demolition and $25,000 for reconstruction, and (b) Barkley and Sons, L.L.C. in the amount of $30,000.00 ($5,500.00 for demolition and $24,500.00 for reconstruction).

Mr. Adams indicated that the Town of Farmerville has agreed to assist in the demolition of the existing ramp and those portions of each quote can be disregarded.

Neal DeForest said that another need for the ramp, which is not included in the quotes, is to pour concrete at the two driveways. Mr. Adams noted that Neal DeForest discovered the sources of water which is washing out nearby ditches and proposes to cut a new ditch to divert that runoff.

Motion was made by Steve Cagle and seconded by Richard Royal to authorize expenditures of up to $40,000.00 for all necessary repairs to Terral Island Boat Ramp and to enter into contract with the lowest qualified quoter to perform the work upon receipt of new quotes which (i) takes 10 feet off of the length of the ramp, (ii) removes any demolition cost, (iii) includes pouring new concrete at both driveways, and (iv) provides for the cutting of an additional ditch. The motion passed unanimously.

1. Boat Launch Fees - Status - Richard Royal said that to date for 2024, $40,169.24 has been collected in daily launch fees and permit sales.
2. Fish Stocking Program – Richard Royal said the sponsorship awards have been received and are in the process of being distributed.
3. Lake Drawdown – Terry Morris said that the drawdown was extended to December 16, 2024, for continued ramp/dock maintenance. He said that the request was sent to the Secretary of LDWF who approved the request and coordinated with DOTD.
4. Handicap Kayak Launch Ramp Project – Richard Royal said that the project is complete.
5. Select Date, Time and Place of 2025 Regular Meetings – Richard Royal suggested holding the regular meetings in 2025 on the third Tuesday of every other month beginning in January at 6:30 p.m. at the Union Parish Courthouse Annex.

Motion was made by Richard Royal and seconded by Steve Cagle to hold each regular meeting in 2025 on the third Tuesday of every other month beginning in January at 6:30 p.m. at the Union Parish Courthouse Annex. The motion passed unanimously

1. Elect 2025 Officers – Motion was made by Richard Royal and seconded by Steve Adams to postpone the election of 2025 Officers until the January 2025 meeting.
2. 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 – No one signed up for public comment.

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