**MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2020 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 – Jake Halley called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Commission members present were Jake Halley, Terry Morris, Steve Cagle, Todd DeMoss, Clint Graham, Richard Royal and Ken Myers. Jake Halley recognized and welcomed new member Ken Myers to the Board. Also present were Bill Carter, Neal DeForest Byron Avery, and Danielle Harkins.
2. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance – Terry Morris led the invocation and Richard Royal led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Public Comment Registration – Two people signed up for public comment.

D. Agenda Approval – Motion was made by Richard Royal and seconded by Clint Graham to approve the September 2020 Agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Approval of Minutes – Motion was made by Clint Graham and seconded by Todd DeMoss to approve the minutes of the August 2020 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

F. Financial Reports/Budget/Audit:

1. Approve August 2020 Bank Account Summary – Motion was made by Todd DeMoss and seconded by Clint Graham to approve the August 2020 Bank Account Summary. The motion passed unanimously.
2. Approve August 2020 Bank Statement Reconciliation - Motion was made by Richard Royal and seconded by Terry Morris to approve the August 2020 Bank Statement Reconciliation. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Approve August 2020 Financial Report – Motion was made by Clint Graham and seconded by Steve Cagle to approve the August 2020 Financial Report. The motion passed unanimously.
4. Financial Compilation / Annual Financial Report – Bill Carter passed out the 2019 Financial Compilation of the Watershed District to the Board and said that Financial Compilation is an annual requirement for all public bodies and was prepared by Mike Caparotta of Hienz and Macaluso. He said that there were no findings in the Financial Compilation. He stated that Jessica Hollingsworth has submitted the required Annual Financial Report of the Watershed District to the Division of Administration, Office of Statewide Reporting & Accounting Policy (OSRAP) based on the information in the Financial Compilation. Motion was made by Steve Cagle and seconded by Clint Graham to approve and accept the Financial Compilation. The motion passed unanimously.

G. Old and New Business:

* + 1. Channel Markers Project - Reimbursement – Neal DeForest said that no progress with reimbursement has been made and there is nothing to report. He also added that due to the recent weather events, the reimbursement could take longer to complete. Mr. DeForest gave Ken Myers an overview of the project and reimbursements due. Richard Royal said that if the reimbursement has not been received by the end of the year the budget will have to be revised.
    2. Spillway Beach Area Improvements/Spillway Bayou Access Road Improvements – Neal DeForest said that a contract has been entered into with Skylnek Contractor, L.L.C. for the next phase of work, but the lake must be low enough before that work can begin.
    3. Lake Level Gauges – Neal DeForest said that the right of way is in the process of being acquired. He said once that is complete and the right of way is cleared, Claiborne Electric can put its service line in, and the gauge can be installed. Bill Carter said that Larry Kenly can probably take care of clearing the right of way. Neal DeForest said that he could meet Mr. Kenly to look at the area and see if he can do it.

1. Lighting at Boat Launches – No action taken.
2. Boat Launch / Ramp / Sign Maintenance – Steve Cagle said that all current repair work is complete, but no swimming signs need to be installed at the ramps as previously discussed. Mr. Cagle said that he would contact Rapid Signs to make the new signs. Jake Halley told all the members to keep an eye on the ramps during the drawdown and let him know of any that needed repair or maintenance.
3. Conveyance of Ramps and Roads by DOTD to Commission – Jake Halley said that a meeting will be set up with Marshall Hill of the DOTD to discuss the details of the potential transfer.
4. Lake Closure / No Wake Policy – Union Parish Police Jury Ordinance – No action taken.
5. Lake Drawdown – Jake Halley said that this drawdown has begun and per Jeff Shapiro, the lake is falling slowly. Mr. Shapiro reported that one gate is currently open at two feet due to the downstream level being at 58 feet. Mr. Shapiro said that until downstream reaches 60 or 61 feet, the flow capacity cannot be increased. Mr. Halley said that if the lake cannot be lowered in a timely manner, a request for an extension of the drawdown may have been made.
6. FEMA Hurricane Claims – Jake Halley said that there may be FEMA funds available for any damaged channel markers or docks caused by Hurricane Laura. He said that FEMA is having applicant briefings and requested Neal DeForest check and verify all damage to commission property and attend the briefing with him.
7. Annual Financial Disclosure (Due May 15) – No action taken.

H. Public Comment –

Amanda Bonner said that she lives on Green Bay Road and that the bridge on Scott’s Hideaway Road washed out in March and had to be repaired by the Police Jury. She said that much of the dirt from the road has accumulated in the lake in front of her home. She asked the Commission if they knew if the bridge was going to be repaired again. Bill Carter asked Ms. Bonner if she had spoken with the Police Jury and she said no. Ms. Bonner said that she is concerned that after the bridge and road are repaired, they will wash out again. Richard Royal told Ms. Bonner to contact the Police Jury to obtain information about the plans for repair of the road and bridge.

Jon McKinnie said that the Chamber has created two videos, one from the fireworks display and one containing footage from downtown and the lake.

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