John K. Kelly – Grand Bayou Reservoir Commission

Regular Meeting Minutes

April 13, 2023, 4 pm

Grand Bayou Resort

5286 Hwy 784

Coushatta, LA 71019

Commission Chairman Peggy McCoy called the meeting to order. Other Commissioners present were Becky Craig, Anita Hinds, Tom Jones, Faerie Sledge, Antony Thomas, and Richard Worsham, along with resort manager David Pickett.

The minutes of the meeting on March 9, 2023, were reviewed. Commissioner Hinds moved to approve them as written; Commissioner Jones seconded. Motion carried.

Continued business was discussed including routine building and grounds maintenance. Topics included brush cutting, new signs inside the park, light fixture replacement in various places, beach maintenance, the possible need for new AC units in some lodges, replacement of some old wooden fences, and the maintenance of the sewer system. According to Mr. Pickett, the AC unit in lodge #2 will need replacing soon. Thomas made a motion to replace that unit; Jones seconded. Motion carried. Mr. Pickett is considering changing over to having only one person/company take care of the sewer system. At present, the resort is continuing the arrangement that the previous manager was using. Changing over to one local person should be more efficient. New signs for the park have been ordered from a Shreveport company and should be ready soon.

In new business, Mr. Pickett requested approval to buy a rotary tiller to use to work on the beach. Jones moved to approve up to $4000 for purchase of a rotary tiller. Hinds seconded; motion carried unanimously. Mr. Pickett also noted that Cole Long with Cheasapeake Energy spoke with him recently and advised him that the company would like to purchase additional water from the lake for fracking in the coming months. Thomas made a motion to present the Cheasapeake contract to the commission attorneys Bethard and Bethard for review. Sledge seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Pickett also requested approval to lower entry fees for the beach from $5 to $3 per person. He believes the park will benefit in the long run. Based on a short discussion, the board gave Mr. Pickett the authority to decide the price of beach admission within that general framework. There was no formal motion.

Mr. Pickett presented the board with the March bills. Commissioner Jones moved to pay the bills; Commissioner Worsham seconded. Motion carried. There was no more business to come before the board. Commissioner Craig moved to adjourn; Commissioner Thomas seconded. Motion carried; the meeting was adjourned.

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 Faerie Sledge, Secretary