

**MEETING OF THE NORTHWEST LOUISIANA GAME
AND FISH PRESERVE COMMISSION**

February 7, 2023

I. Call to Order

Present were Chairman Lonadier, Vice Chairman Hubbard, and Commissioners Bedgood, Cooper, Tingle, and Wilson.

II. Reading of Minutes

On motion by Bedgood and seconded by Wilson, the minutes were accepted as written.

III. Introduction of Guests

Chairman Lonadier recognized guests from the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Villis Dowden. Also in attendance: Candace Hubbard, LZ Trichel, Elmo Potts, M Jones, Debbie Jones, Rosie, Danny Morgan, Frankie Davie, Greg Davis, Phil Humphries, Linda Humphries, Bill Buckley.

IV. Old Business

a. Boat Ramps/Fishing Pier

Commissioner Wilson gave a report on the boat ramps. Reports that the areas surrounding ramps appear well maintained at this time, most ramps are under water. He advised that more rock may be needed after recent rains due to possible wash outs. The trash has been picked up around Allen Dam.

b. Lake Management

Villis Dowden gave a report on lake management. Standard sampling was collected and are adding large bass (greater than 18 inches) to a 3 year genetic study. He reports a lot of young recruitment fish along with a lot of 6-8 inch crappie were noted during the sampling.

Dowden also noted that the Florida Bass are not faring well. Plan is currently underway to open Hatchery in Monroe next year and stock with Northern Large Mouth Bass.

Dowden then reported a decreased amount of giant salvinia which is scattered. Dowden states that a water quality study started last month and will continue montly for a full year. Are collecting water samples from 3 separate stations and the water is from the surface to the bottom of the lake. At this time, nothing abnormal is noted.

c. East Boat Ramp

Chairman Lonadier gave a report on the new boat ramp location. At this time, the project is on hold due to the elevated water level. The ramp is under water but the parking lot is not. This project is not finished. Vice Chairman Hubbard requested that we get a copy of the contract between the state and the contractor for review.

d. Facebook Page

Vice Chairman Hubbard reported on the facebook page. He states the page is used to post necessary updates only. No new posts made recently. If any commissioner wants something posted, let him know.

e. Drawdown

Chairman Lonadier voiced concern with continuing to leave gates open for project, all commissioners are in agreeance of closing gates. Dowden suggested they should close when water level reaches 100 feet. A motion made by Vice Chairman Hubbard to close gates when water level reaches 100 feet was made and seconded by Commissioner Bedgood. All commissioners were in favor of motion.

f. Recreation Area Clean-up

Commissioner Wilson reported that 8 large trash bags were dumped near the the recreational area. NPSO was contacted and deputy dispatched. Attempted contacting game warden, no answer. LZ Trichel cleaned area before deputy arrived but a name was recovered in garbage and given to deputy. Will plan to follow-up.

g. CD Baker Ditch

Commissioner Wilson reported that the log is still in the ditch that will eventually need to be removed, but not causing issues at this time.

h. Appointment of Commissioner to fill vacancy.

Chairman Lonadier opened discussion concerning Commissioner vacancy. He reminded the commission of the two candidates names, Corey Cason and Eugene Austin; all questions regarding candidates were addressed. The voting process was initiated for recommendation of Corey Cason as the new Commissioner.

i. Any other old business

No old business discussed.

V. **New Business**

Chairman Lonadier opened discussion for New Business and payment of invoice. Commissioner Bedgood made the motion to pay the amount of \$110 to Kory Wilson for Allen Dam clean up, motion was seconded by Commissioner Cooper.

VI. **Closing comments**

Chairman Lonadier addressed visitors and opened up for comments. A question was made regarding the location of the discussed recreational area. Vice Chairman Hubbard answered with directions to the location. No further questions or comments.

VII. **Call for adjournment**

On motion by Commissioner Hubbard and seconded by Commissioner Bedgood, the meeting was adjourned.