

**LOUISIANA STATE OIL & GAS MUSEUM
GOVERNIG BOARD MEETING
January 26, 2017**

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Todd Hopkins. Other board members in attendance were Leon Fitzgerald-Brown, Jane Maddox, Paul Pratt, Judy Sneed and Jack Shuey (6). Absent were Harry King, Dianne, Chance, Chris John, Joe Sepulvado and Andy Shehee (5).

New Business

The discussion of potential shortfalls in the 2016-2017 and the 2017-2018 budget in regards to the Louisiana State Oil & Gas Museum and the possible remedies or changes that could come about due to those shortfalls. The Chairman stated that there could be more cuts in the hours and days of operation for the museum or that the Friends of the Museum might have to help once again with supplementing payroll to keep the current hours of operation. Once again, members do not want to lose any more hours to closure.

Executive Director Waddell provided a handout in his absence detailing the 2016-2017 budget. It appears the LSOGM has been frugal with its money only spending \$27,790 out of the \$76,400 budget for 2016-2017 in the first 6 months. Governor Edwards is poised to call a special session to address \$313 million mid-year cuts beginning around mid-February.

In his hand out, Executive Director Waddell stated that the Governing Board names have been forwarded to the LA Senate for confirmation.

The group decided to wait and see what the Secretary of State's office came up for budget numbers for the museum and then look at a plan of moving forward for 2017 based on possible midyear cuts.

The Chairman discussed the need for electing officers later in the year once all reappointments and Senate confirmations are complete. He did stress that it is sometimes good for new members to take the reins of leadership and bring new views to the table.

The Chairman suggested since there is uncertainty concerning the budget it would not be prudent at this time to move on any upgrades to exhibits or the museum.

The discussion of the Old Depot building for use for local displays was discussed by the group; it was determined that more information would be needed to decide this issue since it would depend on whether items stored and displayed would need to be in a more climate control environment. The group was favorable to the idea but many questions still loomed in trying to bring the depot back to full life.

The Chairman requested that all members give thought to the need for grants and bring forward any names that might be helpful in that process. Jack Shuey did remind members of the Community Foundation monies available but there is an application process and a deadline each year.

There being no more business for the board, meeting was adjourned at 6:42 pm.

Todd Hopkins
Chairman