**LAFOURCHE PARISH GAME & FISH COMMISSION**

**Minutes:  April 9, 2018**

The regular monthly meeting of the Lafourche Parish Game and Fish Commission was held on Monday, April 9, 2018 at 6:30 p.m., in the meeting room of the Lockport Town Hall.

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Vincent Guillory. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

**Roll Call:** Present – Vincent Guillory, Jeffrey Bacon, Oray Savoie and Brett Bascle. Absent – Dean Savoie.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Brett Bascle and seconded by Jeffrey Bacon to approve the minutes as presented. Voting yes – Jeffrey Bacon, Oray Savoie and Brett Bascle; no - none. Motion approved.

**Adoption of Agenda:**  A motion was made by Brett Bascle and seconded by Oray Savoie to approve the agenda. Voting yes – Jeffrey Bacon, Oray Savoie and Brett Bascle; no - none. Motion approved.

**Secretary Report:**  The following was accomplished: checked mail box, copied and assembled meeting paperwork (agenda, minutes, financial report, etc.), submitted minutes for publication in Daily Comet, sent minutes and agenda to Parish clerk, paid monthly bills, mailed postcards to Commission members, balanced checking account, collected and deposited annual lease payments, published ad for alligator egg bids, contacted Wildlife and Fisheries for additional farmer info, sent out bid letter to alligator farmers, reassigned lease from Jerry Estay to Alex Rodrigue III, and sent out late notice letters to delinquent lease holders.

**Approval of Financial Report:** The March financial report was given. The consensus of the Board was to accept the financial report, but no formal motion was approved.

**Public Input****:** None.

**Designation of Commission As A State Board:** Vice-Chairman Vincent Guillory notified the board that Chairman Dean Savoie had earlier contacted Representative Jerry Gisclair to submit a letter to the Department of Wildlife of Fisheries for a legal opinion on whether the Commission was a state board or the State of Louisiana or a Lafourche Parish board. No response has been received.

**Alligator Tag Bid Notice:** Vice-Chairman Vincent Guillory suggested that the alligator tag bid notice should be based upon the 2017 bid notice. A motion was made by Brett Bascle and seconded by Jeffrey Bacon that the alligator tags bid notice be for one year with separate bids for Lake Long and Lake Fields, and the bid based upon the percentage of gross revenues paid to the Commission; no - none. Motion approved. The board agreed that the ad should be published in May and bids to be opened at the June meeting.

**Camp Lease Site Selection Field Trip/ Camp Lease Moratorium:** A motion was made by Brett Bascle and seconded by Oray Savoie to defer topic of discussion to the end of the agenda.Voting yes - Jeffrey Bacon, Oray Savoie and Brett Bascle; no – none. Motion approved.

**Lake Fields Restoration Program:** Vice-Chairman Vincent Guillory notified the Commission that the latest grant application for funding for a water quality restoration project in Lakes Fields and Long was not funded; no proposals were funded due to transfer of available funds to another state agency. Vice-Chairman recommended that the Commission should proceed soon using available funds to fund a smaller project. Brett Bascle volunteered to contact Onshore Company out of Thibodaux to solicit approximate costs of the smaller project.

**LDWF Activities:** Vice-Chairman Vincent Guillory notified the board that an email was received from Brian Hartman stating that the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries released 1.9 million Florida largemouth bass fry in Lake Fields and Lake Long. The Department has also completed their spring electro-schocking samples in both lakes, and the Department’s Lake Fields and Lake Long Fish Management Plan was being updated.

**Waterfowl Hunting Ordinance:** Vice-Chairman Vincent Guillory notified the board that the waterfowl hunting ordinance was recently approved by the Lafourche Parish Council effective in May. Vice-Chairman Vincent Guillory stressed that the Commission should publicize the ordinance by placing large ordinance signs at strategic entry points into the Lake Fields area, and in August request that Daily Comet publish an article about the waterfowl hunting restrictions ordinance. A motion was made by Brett Bascle and seconded by Oray Savoie obtain estimates of the cost of signage. Voting yes – Jeffery Bacon, Oray Savoie and Brett Bascle; no – none. Motion approved.

**Parish Abandoned Derelict Vessel Program:** Vice-Chairman Vincent Guillory notified the board of funding that was recently approved by the Parish Council to be allocated to the Parish Abandoned Derelict Vessel Program. The Parish will partner with the Bayou Lafourche Freshwater District, who provided additional funds. Additionally, a request was made by Council member Armand Autin for the Commission to submit a list of recommended derelict vessels for removal. The board discussed the large barge located at the southern side of the Company Canal opening into Lake Fields, and concluded that the barge remain as it stabilizes the shoreline and marsh in a critical area.

**Camp Lease Site Selection Field Trip/ Camp Lease Moratorium:** Vice-Chairman Vincent Guillory proposed to the board that the field trip be scheduled soon to inspect potential camp lease sites and any derelict vessels.

**Adjournment:**A motion was made by Brett Bascle and seconded by Jeffery Bacon to adjourn the meeting.  Voting yes – Jeffrey Bacon, Oray Savoie amd Brett Bascle; no – none. Motion approved. The next meeting will be on Monday, May 14, 2018.

Vincent Guillory

Vice Chairman

Shontelle Cockerham

Secretary