**LAFOURCHE PARISH GAME & FISH COMMISSION**

**Minutes:  September 10, 2018**

The regular monthly meeting of the Lafourche Parish Game and Fish Commission was held on Monday, September 10, 2018 at 6:30 p.m., in the meeting room of the Lockport Town Hall.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dean Savoie. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

**Roll Call:** Present – Oray Savoie, Dean Savoie, Vincent Guillory and Jeffery Bacon. Absent – Brett Bascle. Note - board member Brett Bascle’s absence was due to work.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Oray Savoie and seconded by Vincent Guillory to approve the minutes as presented. A motion was made by Vincent Guillory and seconded by Jeffery Bacon to approve the minutes for the field trip in June. Voting yes – Jeffrey Bacon, Oray Savoie, and Vincent Guillory; no - none. Motion approved.

**Adoption of Agenda:**  A motion was made by Oray Savoie and seconded by Vincent Guillory to approve the agenda. Voting yes – Jeffrey Bacon, Oray Savoie, and Vincent Guillory; 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, and mailed out debris violation letter to two lease holders.

**Approval of Financial Report:** A motion was made by Vincent Guillory and seconded by Oray Savoie to approve the financial report. Voting yes – Jeffrey Bacon, Oray Savoie, and Vincent Guillory; no - none. Motion approved.

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

**Business**

**Allan Land Company Commercial Lease:** Board member Vincent Guillory notified the Commission that Allan Land Company wants to renew a commercial lease on Umbrage Canal that expired in 2009. However, recent state legislation 56:722.B stated that no state dgame and fish commission may regulate the movement, mooring, or position of any commercial industrial vessel on navigable waterways within its jurisdiction. The Commission will request a legal opinion on this legislation as it applies to the Commission.

**Lease Document for New Camp Lease Holders:** The camp lease document has been revised to reflect the new lease fees for new lease holders. Board member Vincent Guillory recommended that several additions be made: the Commission will assign lot(s)/block(s) numbers for new camp lease lots not included in the original lease map; and, firearm use on camp leases are prohibited. A motion was made by Vincent Guillory and seconded by Oray Savoie that the Commission will assign lot(s)/block(s) numbers for new camp lease lots not included in the original lease map and firearm use on camp leases are prohibited. Voting yes - Jeffery Bacon, Oray Savoie, and Vincent Guillory; no – none. Motion approved.

**Removal of Derelict Vessels:** Chairman Dean Savoie notified the Commission that letters were sent out to the two lease holders with derelict vessels. The board was approached by one of the lease holders and was notified that the vessel has been removed. Proper action will be taken to ensure the second boat is removed soon.

**Submerged Lake Fields Debris:** Chairman Dean Savoie notified the board that he spoke with Council member Armand Autin about the submerged debris. He is awaiting more information on this. A member from the public questioned the board about the abandoned wellhead in northwest Lake Fields. Board member Jeffery Bacon notified them that it was handed over to the State Orphan Well program to be removed. The board will follow up on this matter.

**Camp Lease Lottery Lots:** Board members Vincent Guillory and Oray Savoie will go out into the field soon to mark the potential available lots.

**Unauthorized Harvest of Alligator Eggs:** Chairman Dean Savoie notified the board that he spoke with the Department Wildlife and Fisheries concerning the illegal harvest of alligator eggs on state lands, but they have no leads and are still investigating.

**Commercial Crab Fishing Restrictions:** The pros and cons of legislation to prohibit crab traps in Lake Fields/Lake Long Preserve were discussed.A commercial crab fishermen advised the board that there are only four licensed commercial fishermen that fish seasonally in state lands waterways. He further stated that the high numbers of traps in and around the cut from Company Canal into Lake Fields were from recreational fishermen because commercial crab fishermen will not place expensive traps in an area with a high volume of boat traffic. After discussion of options, the Commission agreed to not proceeded with legislation to prohibit crab traps. Chairman Dean Savoie concluded that the traps need to be limited, removed when not in use, and moved out of any main pass.

**Other Business:**

**Adjournment:**A motion was made by Vincent Guillory and seconded by Oray Savoie to adjourn the meeting.  Voting yes – Jeffrey Bacon, Oray Savoie and Vincent Guillory; no - none. Motion approved.

Dean Savoie

Chairman

Shontelle Cockerham

Secretary