ATCHAFALAYA BASIN PROGRAM

TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP

Department of Natural Resources

LaSalle Building, Griffon Room, 1st Floor

BATON ROUGE, LA

June 11, 2013

MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS:

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Bobby Reed

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Glenn Constant

LSU Renewable Natural Resources Bill Kelso

Department of Natural Resources Keith Lovell

Department of Environmental Quality Tom Killeen (absent)

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Brac Salyers

USGS Dan Kroes

Louisiana Department of Ag & Forestry Joey Breaux

ALTERNATES:

LSU Renewable Natural Resources Richard Keim

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service David Walther

Others Present:

Department of Natural Resources Staff Don Haydel

Department of Natural Resources Staff David Fruge

Department of Natural Resources Staff Charles Reulet

Department of Natural Resources Staff Thomas Van Biersel

Department of Natural Resources Staff Dana Naquin

Department of Natural Resources Staff Tori Bachelex

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Brac Salyers

USACE Steve Roberts

Roy O Martin Chris Clayton

Friends of the Atchafalaya Charles Caillouet

Atch. Basinkeeper/Sierra Club Dean Wilson

**1.** **Call to Order, Introductions, Roll Call**

**2**. **Agenda approval** **or amendment to the agenda by 2/3 vote**

Motion by Bill Kelso

Second by Glenn Constant

Agenda approved

**3.** **Approval of minutes from 09/05/12 meeting**

Motion by Bill Kelso

Seconded by Keith Lovell

Minutes Approved

**4. Legislative Update**

Don Haydel presented update: ABP Program reinstated for another year, $200,000 in Priority 2 funding but has to approved by bond commission in December 2013, $4 million in Priority 5 – money as place holder if funds available next year. Even though funds have not been approved ABP has ongoing projects: Lake End Cabins, additional funds have been allocated for construction of more cabins, Cajun Coast Welcome Center structure raise – successful, ABP Annual Plan approved by legislature, Salt Dome bills introduced, Secretary Chustz and Keith Lovell position became permanent and DNR continues to be involved Assumption Parish Bayou Corne. Approved by legislature to shift funds from one project to an approved lower cost project.

**5. Corps of Engineers Update**

Melanie Labiche was absent – Don Haydel presented update:

Buffalo Cove Updates:

In 2012, funds were used to continue the engineering, monitoring and to restore the previously constructed Buffalo Cove elements impacted by the high water of 2011. The following elements were repaired 6, 7, 9-1, 9-2 and elements within Bayou Eugene (E1, E2, E3). The Corps commenced construction on Buffalo Cove repairs in December 2012 and all construction repairs were completed in early February 2013.

The Corps continues efforts to acquire private lands for Right of Entry, Construction and Monitoring Easements necessary for construction of uncompleted elements in the Buffalo Cove WMU. Once the remaining private properties within Buffalo Cove are acquired we will commence construction.

Henderson Water Management Unit (WMU) Status Report:

A Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement had been scheduled for public release in March 2013; however, the release date is now indefinite.

**6.** Review and discussion of Proposed FY2015 Water Management Projects and other Water Management Projects to be Considered by the TAG – Glenn Constant led the discussion

2015-01 St. Mary Parish Flat Lake Ecosystem

2015-02 St. Mary Parish Joe Russo Landing

2015-03 St. Mary Parish Wilson’s Landing

2015-04 St. Mary Parish Canoe & Hiking Trail & Primitive Camping

2015-05 St. Mary Parish Taylor Point Cut North of Charenton

2015-06 St. Mary Parish Interpretive Center

2015-07 Dean Wilson Channelization of Bayou Sorrel

2015-08 Dean Wilson Channelization of Upper Grand River

2015-09 Warren Blanchard Water flow @ South end of Blue Point

2015-10 Warren Blanchard Poor water quality in crawfish pond – American Pass

2015-11 Dan Kroes 21’ Canal at River contributing to excessive sediment

2015-12 Dan Kroes Sediment almost cut off Murphy Lake from access in low water

2015-13 Dan Kroes Orange Barrel Canal is contributing excessive large grained sediment

2015-14 Bernard Labbe Work Canal access

Glenn Constant would like a representative from Sediment Mgmt. Plan to be involved in project evaluation, Don will request. In evaluation process of process suggested that resubmittals already supported or non-support – recommendation will remain the same.

1. **Old Business –**
2. Bayou Fourche – obtaining estimate to hall sediment out of Basin
3. Canal North of Bayou Sorrel – can’t be dredged due to pipeline consolidation
4. Bayou Boutte – oil co. dredged material and off loaded outside Basin
5. Cocodrie Swamp – No landowner agreement
6. Henderson Channels – dredging complete by water too high for mitigation
7. Dog Leg Canal – redredged sediment trap, mitigate 600 trees
8. Beau Bayou – meeting with St. Martin Parish to prioritize project
9. Other Previously Approved Water Projects

EGL, Big & Little Pigeon, Primitive Campsites, Bayou Sorrel, Butte La Rose, Big Alabama

1. **New Business –**

Bill Kelso recommended a committee be formed to evaluate past approved projects that were not completed due to funding and prioritize list. Don will draft list and send out to committee and review once the project evaluation process is over and deadlines have been met for the FY2015 projects. Bill Kelso, Bobby Reed and Glenn Constant will assist in the process. Suggested committee meet for about an hour or so after next TAG meeting.

Dana will email ABP Annual Plan Timeline to members and interested parties,

1. **Presentation by Dean – River of Trees**
2. **Path Forward**

Dana will email ABP Annual Plan Timeline to members and interested parties and Don will work on project list for new evaluation committee being formed.

1. **Public Comment –** No public comments
2. **Adjourn**

Motion by Glenn Constant

Seconded by Keith Lovell

Meeting adjourned

Dana Naquin

Atchafalaya Basin Program