



**Cane River Waterway Commission
Minutes
May 21, 2019**

There was a regular meeting of the Cane River Waterway Commission on May 21, 2019 at 6:00 pm located at 244 Cedar Bend, Natchez, Louisiana.

The meeting was called to order and roll was called, the following members being present: Mr. Rhodes, Mr. Paige, Mr. Wiggins, and Mr. Methvin

Also present was administrator, Betty Fuller and attorney Tommy Murchison.

Present as guests of the Commission were Todd Hampton, Chris Guillet, Jim Bison, and Tom McNeely .

Mr. Mcneely addressed the Commission about erosion issues and public education of various types of alternatives to retaining walls on the lake. After discussion, the Commission tabled until the June 18 meeting. The Commission further authorized Mrs. Fuller to meet with Mr. McNeely and develop a pamphlet and/or web site to share information with the public.

Mr. Hampton addressed the Commission regarding a temporary construction easement that he granted near the pumping station site. After discussion the Commission tabled pending further review. The Commission further authorized Mr. Methvin and Mr. Murchison to meet with Mr. Hampton in order to suggest a solution at the next meeting.

The minutes of the April 16, 2019 meeting of the commission were presented. After discussion, the Chairman opened the floor to public comments, and after discussion the Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mr. Paige, seconded by Mr. Wiggins, and unanimous vote by Mr. Paige, Mr. Wiggins, and Mr. Methvin, and Mr. Rhodes the Commission approved the minutes of the April 16, 2019 meeting, as written.

The Chairman addressed Mrs. Fuller and extended condolences on behalf of the Commission to Mrs. Fuller for the loss of her brother Joe Browning. Further showing appreciation and thanking her for her job dedication and continued hard work during that difficult time.

Mrs. Fuller presented the administrator's report. The current lake level is 98.8 MSL. She issued four building permits, worked seven incidents, closed the lake on May 9 and reopened the lake on May 16, re-closed the closed the lake on May 19; is treating the lake chemically for overgrowth of vegetation and addressing giant salvinia in a canal leading into the North end of the lake, maintained the office/public landings, maintained the state/commission web site, service agreements, and prepared all documentation, reports, and request that are required for the commissions review, authorization and knowledge. One 7'7" alligator was removed from the lake, and there was one reported boat accident with no injuries. Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries submitted no report. Sheriff's Office issued no citations and made no arrests. After discussion, the Chairman opened the floor to public comments, and after discussion the Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mr. Wiggins, seconded by Mr. Paige, and unanimous vote by Mr. Paige, Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Methvin, and Mr. Rhodes, the Commission authorized the administrator monthly report, and the April 15 – May 20, 2019 expenditure report contained therein.

Mrs. Fuller presented Resolution 6 of 2019 Commission's 2019/2020 General Budget. The Chairman opened the floor to public comment, after discussion the Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mr. Wiggins, seconded by Mr. Methvin and unanimous vote by Mr. Rhodes, Mr. Methvin, Mr. Paige, and Mr. Wiggins the commission introduced Resolution 6 of 2019 Commission's 2019/2020 General Budget.

Mrs. Fuller presented Resolution 7 of 2019 Commission's 2019/2020 Capital Budget. The Chairman opened the floor to public comment, after discussion the Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mr. Paige, seconded by Mr. Methvin and unanimous vote by Mr. Rhodes, Mr. Methvin, Mr. Paige, and Mr. Wiggins the Commission introduced Resolution 7 of 2019 Commission's 2018/2019 Capital Budget.

Mrs. Fuller presented Resolution 4 of 2019 Commission's 2018/2019 Amended General Budget. The Chairman opened the floor to public comment, after discussion the Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mr. Paige, seconded by Mr. Methvin and unanimous vote by Mr. Rhodes, Mr. Methvin, Mr. Paige, and Mr. Wiggins the Commission introduced Resolution 4 of 2019 Commission's 2018/2019 Amended General Budget.

Mrs. Fuller presented Resolution 5 of 2019 Commission's 2018/2019 Amended Capital Budget. The Chairman opened the floor to public comment, after discussion the Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mr. Paige, seconded by Mr. Methvin and unanimous vote by Mr. Rhodes, Mr. Methvin, Mr. Paige, and Mr. Wiggins the Commission introduced Resolution 5 of 2019 Commission's 2018/2019 Amended Capital Budget.

Mrs. Fuller presented the 2019/2020 Budget Message. The Chairman opened the floor to public comment, after discussion the Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mr. Methvin, seconded by Mr. Paige and unanimous vote by Mr. Rhodes, Mr. Methvin, Mr. Paige, and Mr. Wiggins the commission authorized the 2019/2020 budget message.

Mrs. Fuller presented the 2018/2019 Amendment Budget letter. The Chairman opened the floor to public comment, after discussion the Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mr. Wiggins, seconded by Mr. Paige and unanimous vote by Mr. Rhodes, Mr. Methvin, Mr. Paige, and Mr. Wiggins the commission authorized the 2018/2019 Amendment Budget letter.

Mrs. Fuller provided the treasurer's report for the month of April. She presented invoices from Corkern, Crews, Guillet in the amount of \$160.00, A & G Computers in the amount of \$400.00, Mr. Robertson in the amount of \$188.00. She also presented the budget to actual comparison for April for Commission review. After discussion the Chairman opened the floor to public comments, and after discussion the Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mr. Paige, seconded by Mr. Methvin, and unanimous vote by Mr. Paige, Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Methvin, and Mr. Rhodes, the Commission approved the financial report and payment of bills.

Mrs. Fuller advised the Commission that the Mayor contacted the Commission about financially supporting the Fishing University for the upcoming 2020 year. After discussion the Commission tabled the item pending further review.

Mrs. Fuller presented gas, mileage, and activity logs for the period from April 15 - May 20, 2019 for the review of the Commission. After discussion the Chairman opened the floor to public comments, and after discussion the Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mr. Paige, seconded by Mr. Wiggins and unanimous vote by, Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Methvin, Mr. Paige, and Mr. Rhodes the Commission approved the logs for the period from April 15 – May 20, 2019.

The Chairman advised that the Commission needed to go into executive session for a strategy session regarding pending litigation. The Chairman open the floor to public comments, after discussion the Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mr. Wiggins, seconded by Mr. Paige and unanimous vote by Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Paige, Mr. Methvin, and Mr. Rhodes the Commission went into executive session at 6:52 pm. At 7:17 pm the Commission exited executive session and went back into regular session.

Mr. Guillet provided a recommendation that the Commission officially engage Glen Dobbs as an expert witness in the pending litigation and authorize compensation at the rate of \$200.00 per hour. After discussion the Chairman open the floor to public comments, after discussion the Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mr. Methvin, seconded by Mr. Paige and unanimous vote by Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Paige, Mr. Methvin, and Mr. Rhodes the Commission authorized the engagement of Glen Dobbs as an expert in the pending litigation and further authorized the rate of \$200.00 per hour.

Mr. Murchison provided the Commission with a letter from the Natchitoches Levee and Drainage District regarding holes that are developing in the levee near the area where the commission's pipeline crosses the levee. After discussion the Commission authorized Mrs. Fuller to submit a copy to Engineer Randy Denmon for review; further forwarding all correspondence to the Chairman and Levee Board representative Mr. Methvin.

Chairman Rhodes advised the Commission that he had received a complaint about the gates on Bayou Possiant. After discussion, the Commission authorized Mrs. Fuller to send a letter of request to engineer Denmon for gate design modifications.

There being no further business to come before the Board, upon motion by Mr. Methvin, seconded by Mr. Paige, and unanimous vote by Mr. Paige, and Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Methvin, and Mr. Rhodes the meeting was adjourned.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: Betty Fuller Date Approved: June 18, 2019