**LAFOURCHE PARISH GAME & FISH COMMISSION**

**Minutes:  June 11, 2018**

The regular monthly meeting of the Lafourche Parish Game and Fish Commission was held on Monday, June 11, 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 Brett Bascle. Absent – Jeffery Bacon. Note - Board member Jeffery Bacon later arrived to the meeting at approximately 6:34pm.

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

**Adoption of Agenda:**  A motion was made by Vincent Guillory and seconded by Brett Bascle to approve the agenda. Voting yes – Jeffrey Bacon, Oray Savoie, Vincent Guillory 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, and priced signage for hunting ordinance signs.

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

**Public Input****:** A lease holder mentioned that there was a high grass violation by a lease holder that needed to be addressed. The Commission agreed and will send out a letter of non-compliance.

**Business**

**Alligator Harvest Tag Bids Selection:** The Commission received three alligator tag bids for the 2018-2019 alligator season. A motion was made by Brett Bascle and seconded by Jeffery Bacon to accept the bid of R.J. Moliniere at one hundred percent allocated to the Commission for both the Lake Long and Lake Fields Preserve. Voting yes – Jeffery Bacon, Oray Savoie, Vincent Guillory and Brett Bascle; no – none. Motion carried.

**Absence of Alligator Egg Collection Bids:** A motion was made by Brett Bascle to extend the accepting of alligator egg bids for another month due to a lack of bids received. Voting yes – Jeffery Bacon, Oray Savoie, Vincent Guillory and Brett Bascle. no – none. Motion carried.

**Termination of Unpaid Camp Lease:** Campsite lease S-1, lots 51-52 was not renewed. This item is tabled until next meeting and the Commission will research the previous motion concerning allowing existing lease holders to expand their current lease and will also visit the lease site during field trip.

**Commercial Businesses Operated from Camps:** Chairman Dean Savoie notified the Commission that a Parish Council member requested that no commercial business be conducted at or from a camp lease holder. A motion was made by Brett Bascle and seconded by Oray Savoie to prohibit any commercial activities conducted at a lease holder camp site. Voting yes – Jeffery Bacon, Oray Savoie, Vincent Guillory and Brett Bascle; no – none. The Commission further agreed that all camp lease holders be advised.

**Public Availability of Camp Lease Holder Information:** Board member Vincent Guillory mentioned that the Commission periodically receives requests for contact information of lease owners and that camp lease holder information is considered public information. The Commission

agreed that camp lease holder information could be released except for phone numbers and such information would be later provided on the Commission web site.

**Commercial Crab Fishing Restrictions:** The Commission discussed the possibility of prohibiting commercial crab traps in Lake Fields and surrounding canals. Vincent Guillory advised the Commission that hunting and fishing regulations can only be implemented by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries or the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, and that such restrictions would require either State legislation or a Wildlife and Fisheries Commission action. This issue will be discussed at future meetings regarding this item on the agenda.

**Costs for Waterfowl Hunting Restriction Signage:** Chairman Dean Savoie notified the Commission of the costs and measurements for the signage to post for hunting restrictions. A motion was made by Brett Bascle to order eight signs and seconded by Vincent Guillory. Voting yes – Jeffery Bacon, Oray Savoie, Vincent Guillory and Brett Bascle; no – none. Motion approved.

**Lake Fields/Lake Long Hydrological Restoration Project Cost Estimates and Permits:** Board member Vincent Guillory notified the Commission that two companies of the six that were previously contacted indicated that they would be interested in supplying the Commission with a preliminary cost estimate for the proposed restoration projects and survey information.A motion was made by Brett Bascle to open these projects to public bids from other contractors also and seconded by Oray Savoie. Voting yes – Jeffery Bacon, Oray Savoie and Brett Bascle; no – Vincent Guillory. Motion approved.

**Commission: State or Parish Board:** Vincent Guillory presented information detailing how the Commission was subjected to both Parish and State mandates, which doubled the Commission work load, and suggested that the Commission should take action to establish the Commission as either a State or Parish and not be subjected to administrative mandates from both. This item was tabled to the next meeting.

**Camp Fees for New Lease Holders:** Vincent Guillory presented information showing the Commission bylaws mandated that camp lease fees be similar to local fees for other camp sites, and suggested that should future lease fees be based upon State Lands lease fees in Lake Bouef, which is $439 per year.A motion was made by Vincent Guillory and seconded by Jeffery Bacon to increase new camp lease fees. Voting yes – Jeffery Bacon and Vincent Guillory; no – Oray Savoie and Brett Bascle. Chairman Dean Savoie voted “yes” to break the tie and the motion was approved.

**Commission Field Trip:** A field trip is scheduled for Friday, June 15th at 6:30am. The Commission will meet at the Lake Fields boat launch. This meeting will be open to the public.

**Other Business:**

**Lake Long Camp Lease:** Board member Vincent Guillory notified the Commission that he responded to several emails from a previous Lake Long lease owner questioning if his lease that he abandoned would still be available. Vincent Guillory explained in an email that the lease was awarded by the Office of State Lands prior to the Commission assuming control of Lake Long and the Commission had earlier adopted a policy that no new camp leases would be awarded in Lake Long. The individual was advised of the Commission policy and the matter was resolved.

**Friends of Bayou Lafourche:** Board member Vincent Guillory notified the Commission that the nonprofit Friends of Bayou Lafourche was preparing a map of that Bayou Lafourche facilities that could help promote tourism. He asked that the Lake Fields/ Lake Long area be listed on the map to recognize the recreational potential of Lake Fields and Lake Long which could be accessed from Bayou Lafourche. His request was recognized by the organization.

**Adjournment:**A motion was made by Brett Bascle and seconded by Oray Savoie to adjourn the meeting.  Voting yes – Jeffrey Bacon, Oray Savoie, Vincent Guillory and Brett Bascle; no –none. Motion approved. The next meeting will be on Monday, July 9th, 2018.

Dean Savoie

Chairman

Shontelle Cockerham

Secretary