

MINUTES
FALSE RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL
May 1, 2019

The False River Watershed Council met in a regular session at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 1, 2019 at the City of New Roads Meeting Room in New Roads, Louisiana.

Mr. Ricky Moses called the meeting to order and directed Ms. Jeanne Hendrix to call the roll:

Present: Major Thibaut, Brad Spicer, Arthur Ewing, Cy D'Aquila, Jerry Hix, Steve Chustz, Mark Ward, Ron Pourciau, Thomas Van Biersel, Ricky Moses, Jimmy Chustz

Absent: Rick Ward, Jacob Haffner, Bijan Sharafkhani, Jeremy LaCombe

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion to approve the agenda by Mr. Ewing and seconded by Mr. Spicer.

Resolved, that the agenda for the meeting of May 1, 2019 be accepted.

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 3, 2018 MINUTES:

Motion to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2018 meeting by Mr. J. Chustz and second by Mr. Pourciau.

Resolved, that the October 3, 2018 minutes are approved.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 20, 2019 MINUTES:

Motion to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2019 meeting by Mr. Ewing and seconded by Mr. Hicks.

Resolved, that the February 20, 2019 are approved.

UPDATE ON FALSE RIVER ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECT – PHASE II:

Mr. Gerald Babin of PEC gave an update on the dredging project. Dredging has started and moving along well. As of the meeting 8 bags were almost filled. There are contractor meetings every other Thursday at Jim's Place in Ventress. The contractor's representative gave a brief overview of the process and timeline for competition. They also indicated they had moved a pump that was the issue of a noise complaint by a resident.

LAKE MANAMGEMENT OVERVIEW PRESENTATION BY BRIAN HEIMAN :

Mr. Brian Heiman gave a slide presentation of the lake management, and update on lake quality. The commercial fishing season has been successful with gill nets helping reduce rough fish populations. There was a brief discussion on Apple Snails. Mr. Thibaut asked about alligators and monitoring of the population on False River.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was a discussion on the new priorities of the False River Watershed Council and future goals of the project. Mr. Thibaut discussed the M1 and M2 bulkheads. Mr. Ewing spoke about public access to the lake. Mr. Moses asked for the members to come up with a priority list for the lake. Mr. Pourciau asked about the next phase of the project including Chenal Bayou. Mr. D'Aquila asked about canals and bank stabilization.

OLD BUSINESS:

Review of the draft channel maintenance manual. Mr. Van Biersel asked everyone to review and add their comments to the plan by the next meeting. Mr. Thibaut spoke about the cost of spraying M1 canal and coming up with a spray schedule.

Motion to allow Parish President Major Thibaut determine the spraying of the M1 by Mr. Ewing and seconded by Mr. Spicer. Resolved, that Major Thibaut will determine the spraying of the M1 canal.

Mr. Van Biersel handed out a gate operation guide and gave a presentation related to storm events and lake levels. He recommended keeping the lake level lower to prevent flooding.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PERSONAL PRIVILEGE:

Jude Glaser spoke about having a playbook for opening and closing the gates/river.
Paul Gosserand congratulated the council on their work with False River.
Skipper Luke spoke about a vegetation program.

Next meeting will be June 26th at 3:00 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn by Mr. Spicer and seconded by Mr. Ewing.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:40 p.m.