

False River Watershed Council
8/1/2012 Meeting
Pointe Coupee Parish Library
5:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the False River Watershed Council was held on August 1, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. at the Pointe Coupee Parish Library. Representative Major Thibaut called the meeting to order.

Roll:

Members Present: Representative Major Thibaut, Senator Rick Ward, Jimmy Chustz, Police Juror Kyle Olinde, Jimmy Lyles, Jimmy Bello, Ronald Pourciau, Carrie Castille, Paul Miller, Jerry Hix, Jake Causey, Stephen Chustz, and Mike Wood. Also present were non-members Jeanne Hendrix, Don Haydel, and Thomas Van Biersel.

Members Absent: Cy D'Aquila and Steve Juge

Representative Thibaut then turned meeting over to Mike Woods. Steve Chustz gave a brief presentation on the history of False River's decline and current action plans, including funding. Steve Chustz will provide a detailed report on actions taken since public meeting in May 2012.

Following Steve Chustz's report and offers from various members to assist in moving restoration efforts forward, Mike Wood asked all agency members to provide what services would be available from their respective departments.

Jimmy Bello offered to meet with DEQ to map out sewer systems around False River.

Jimmy Chustz informed council that he had recently finished a survey at no cost of the flats, and had the information available for any agency.

Discussion was raised by Jimmy Lyles with regard to private donations and management of those donations. J. Lyles suggested that a foundation be established. Rep. Thibaut asked J. Lyles to research foundation for next meeting.

Steve Chustz advised that web-page on DNR web-site would be updated with progress report.

Discussion was had regarding future meeting formats. A motion was presented by J. Bello that Roberts Rules of Order be adopted. Carrie Castille seconded the motion. Motion passed 13-0.

It was concluded that 5:00 p.m. on the 1st Wednesday of every month would be the standing council meeting date/time and unless otherwise noted will be held at the Pointe Coupee Parish Police Jury offices. The next meeting will be September 5th.

Representative Thibaut offered to do the meeting notices and agenda. Members asked to submit agenda items to M. Woods who is chair of council by legislative action.

Short discussion regarding press releases to keep public updated on status.

Representative Thibaut addressed funding process and state bond commission meeting in October, 2012.

Questions were raised about obtaining federal funding and meeting with the Congressional delegation.

There was brief discussion on a draw-down and a time line for a draw-down.

DNR and WLF will assist the police jury with completion of state bond commission documents for October meeting.

The council will recommend the use of \$50,000 to study the M1 canal. Motion made by J. Lyles. Representative Thibaut seconded the motion. Motion passed 13-0.

Ron Pourciau gave information on BASS funding opportunities and will continue to seek funds from BASS.

Motion to adjourn by J. Lyles. Seconded by Representative Thibaut. Motion passed 13-0. Meeting adjourned.