

MINUTES
LAKE PROVIDENCE WATERSHED COUNCIL
January 18, 2023

The Lake Providence Watershed Council met at the Sheriff's Annex on January 18, 2023.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Butler.

ROLL CALL

Council Members Present (9): Kristi Butler (Chairman), Thomas Van Biersel (Vice Chairman), Francis Lensing, Jim Lensing, Andy Brister, Roger Clement, Mark Brown, , Aimee Preau, Brian Howard

A quorum was met.

Others in Attendance: R. Daniel (LDWF), R. Walters (ECPPI), Anthony Bridgewater (NRCS), Bill Lensing

PREVIOUS MINUTES AND CURRENT AGENDA

The minutes of the October 19, 2022 meeting were approved. (T. Van Biersel motion, F. Lensing second)

The agenda of this meeting was approved. (M. Brown motion, F. Lensing second)

NEW BUSINESS

Aimee Preau (LDEQ) introduction. Reported that TDS levels from recent samples were high and that LP may again be listed as impaired (for TDS) in 2024. DEQ may have funding to re-seed bare soil areas that have been created following recent and future stream clearing projects.

OLD BUSINESS

Fifth Levee Board: A. Brister mentioned that R. Minsky had heard from the COE Col. That \$4 mil. has been allocated, \$1 mil. of which will be used for a watershed study that will include LP.
Watershed Report: T. Van Biersel reminded members to keep taking photos and sending evidence of flood damage for the 2023 Interim Report. R. Clement will provide photos of the Tensas weir during low water.

Police Jury Update: R. Walters stated that the Police Jury has gotten approval to spend Covid Relief funding on the Tensas Weir replacement. R. Clement reported that the lake is draining much quicker now following rainfall since the areas immediately downstream have been cleared. Volkert (Denmon) has received a grant to survey the Tensas. Capital Outlay funds will be sought for clearing more of the downstream areas on the Tensas. T. Van Biersel asked if the location of the weir on private property will be an issue - the Police Jury does not believe it will be.

LWI Update: A. Brister stated that the LP area will be a priority for the next round of LWI projects. It was agreed to meet with Karen Cupit (LWI Region 3) or invite her to next Council meeting to

discuss the upcoming projects and funding criteria. The ECPPJ needs to identify a representative to handle LWI duties.

Capital Outlay: none

Other:

J. Lensing mentioned that he and others would assist with the collection of Christmas tree to deploy into the lake as fisheries habitat. LDWF will assist with deployment. ECCPJ may be able to provide sand for sandbags. Should take place within next 2 weeks.

A. Brister asked about sediment traps on the north end and who could perform this. A. Bridgewater stated that NRCS could assist.

K. Butler recommended a Zoom meeting prior to the next in-person meeting and that K. Cupit (LWI) should be invited.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENTS

OTHER – Next Meeting Date

- The next meeting date was scheduled for 11:00 a.m. April 12, 2023 in Lake Providence.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m. Jim Lensing motion, F. Lensing second

Kristi Butler, Chairman