

MINUTES
FALSE RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL
July 18, 2018

The False River Watershed Council met in a regular session at 3:05 p.m. on Wednesday, July 18, 2018 at the Courthouse Annex Building in New Roads, Louisiana.

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

Present: Major Thibaut, Arthur Ewing, Cy D'Aquila, Jerry Hix, Kyle Olinde, Ron Pourciau, Mark Ward, Bijan Sharafkhani, Thomas Van Biersel, Ricky Moses

Absent: Brad Spicer, Jimmy Chustz, Steve Chustz, Rick Ward, Jacob Haffner

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

Resolved, That the agenda of the meeting of July 18, 2018 meeting be accepted.

Unanimously carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Not applicable. No meeting held 6/6/2018

UPDATE PROPOSED FALSE RIVER ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECT - PHASE II

Mr. Babin presented an update on the project including Priority 1 cash funding approved by the State Bond Commission. Working with owners on an access point for dredging project. The projected time line would be advertising the project August 30th with opening of bids September 25th. They will continue forward with Corps permitting process. This would allow awarding of the contract within 45 days of the 9/25 date. This would mean possible dredging by mid-December and finishing in March 2019.

Mr. Babin gave updated construction estimates given the amount of funding available for the project. There may be additional funds available but that will not be approved by the bond commission until September. The only issue is that it cannot be used until January 1, 2019.

Mr. Babin talked about the entrances of the canals that come into False River in the North End. There was discussion as to what options would provide the most relief.

There were questions regarding permits and the status of the permitting process and if there were any delays and how that would affect the permits. August 30th is estimated time to

hear back on Corps permit.

Mr. Van Biersel discussed dredging near piers. Additionally, Mr. Van Biersel expressed need for topping off the island in south end. There was extended discussion regarding wetlands and possible changes to project if there is any wetland determination.

UPDATE FALSE RIVER NITROGEN IMPACT MITIGATION PROJECT:

The project is considered complete. Mr. Van Biersel is working on a plan with maintenance costs. He also stated that repairs had been completed to the bulkhead and weir that was damaged during the October rain event. This will allow a clearer idea of what is left for maintenance. Everything must be finalized by October 2018. So far it appears that there is between \$350,000 to \$360,000 for the parish to use as maintenance.

Mr. Olinde asked about the bulkheads south of Hwy. 413 at the Discharge Canal. Mr. Van Biersel said he would check and see if it would qualify for funding under the plan.

Mr. Thibaut stated that he would like to provide a clear plan/schedule for the parish along with the funds.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Kenny St. Romain stated that the buoy project is going well with 30% of New Roads complete. All of the island side is complete. The numbering system is still in place and the entire project should be done soon.

OLD BUSINESS:

WLF will be adding more shell beds to False River shortly. Mr. Thibaut and Mr. Pourciau offered up a suggestion of a replica program similar to the one done at Toledo Bend. Replicas would cost \$250-\$300.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PERSONAL PRIVILEGE:

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

Next meeting will be August 22nd at 3:00 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn by Mr. Olinde and second by Mr. Ewing.

The meeting adjourned at 4:06 p.m.