

MINUTES
FALSE RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL
July 22, 2020

The False River Watershed Council met in a regular session at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 22, 2020 via conference call due to COVID 19 restrictions.

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

Present: Major Thibaut, Arthur Ewing, Cy Daquila, Mark Ward, Bijan Sharafkhani, Thomas Van Biersel, Ricky Moses, Jerry Hix

Absent: Rick Ward, Brad Spicer, Jacob Haffner, Jeremy LaCombe, Jimmy Chustz, Ron Pourciau

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion to approve the agenda by Mr. A. Ewing and seconded by Mr. Van Biersel

Resolved, that the agenda for the meeting of July 22, 2020 be accepted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2019 meeting by Mr. A. Ewing and second by Mr. M. Thibaut

Resolved, that the December 11, 2019 minutes are approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. M. Thibaut spoke extensively about the bulkhead project and the \$1.3 million capital outlay funds. In next 1-2 weeks requests for bids will begin. Soil analysis is being conducted. Construction will fall during the drawdown and this project needs water to be mobilized. Discussion was had about calling off the drawdown.

Gerald Babin with PEC stated mid-August would determine if drawdown needed to be called off. It is a 4-month project.

Mr. J. Hix expressed his support of a specific timeline. Mr. M. Thibaut said businesses have requested a delay in draw down due to COVID impact.

Mr. Van Biersel spoke regarding the Mississippi River levels and it may not even be effective to conduct the drawdown.

Mr. R. Moses indicated WLF would work on a plan/proposal.

Mr. A. Ewing spoke about giving notice to hold off drawdown for 1 year due to construction.

Mr. A. Ewing offered a motion seconded by Mr. M. Thibaut that if determined the drawdown would fall during the construction period, that the drawdown would be postponed 1 year and then resume the regular schedule of 2023 and 2026.

Motion passes.

OLD BUSINESS:

NONE

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PERSONAL PRIVILEGE:

Council needs to set priorities for the future including False Bayou, Chenal, North Flats.
Mr. Hix discussed the buoy program. Mr. A. Ewing mentioned the need for public use space and the repair of public launches.

Motion to Adjourn by Mr. A. Ewing and seconded by Mr. M. Thibaut

Meeting Adjourned at 4:00 p.m.