

MINUTES
FALSE RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL
April 24, 2013

The False River Watershed Council met in regular session at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 24, 2013, at the Courthouse Annex in New Roads, Louisiana.

Chairman Mike Wood called the meeting to order and directed Ms. Dinah Bourgeois to call the roll:

PRESENT: Messrs. Owen Bello, Jimmy Chustz, Stephen Chustz, Jerry Hix, Paul Miller, Ron Pourciau, Jake Causey, Jimmy Lyles, Kyle Olinde and Mike Wood, Chairman.

ABSENT: Messrs. Cy D'Aquila, Major Thibaut, Rick Ward and Dr. Carrie Castille.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The council unanimously approved the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The council unanimously approved the minutes of the March 6, 2013 meeting.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Dr. Thomas Van Biersel reported the legislative report is complete and includes sub-committee reports. It also includes other information and is a living document. He will present it to the Natural Resource Committee. Once it meets approval, the report will be placed on the DNR website. Mr. S. Chustz discussed it being presented to the Legislature. He stated the council will remain active after the report is submitted.

Motion by Mr. Olinde and seconded by Mr. Miller:

RESOLVED, That the final draft of the legislative report in compliance with house resolution 123 be approved.

Unanimously carried.

FUNDING UPDATE

Mr. S. Chustz discussed House Bill 2. He stated the 1 million dollar funding was moved to Priority 1, leaving 1.2 million dollars in Priority 5. This money will have to go through the legislative process in order to be utilized for the project.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Mr. Bello discussed facility planning. He informed the council that Mr. Jim Lee has been assigned as the project manager.

Mr. Wood informed the council Rep. Major Thibaut has arranged a video shooting for public awareness regarding efforts to improve False River.

Mr. Justin Fenstermaker presented charts on data precipitation plots. He discussed storm events, water levels and discharge into the river. He discussed the possibility of setting up weirs throughout the system. He informed the council installation of the weirs upstream would be effective. He also discussed sediment rate calculations. Mr. Wood expressed concerns regarding weirs as being the only recommended option. In response, Mr. Fenstermaker stated there are other alternatives that will be considered. It will be determined which alternative will be most beneficial. Eventually, he will produce a feasibility study and a recommended alternative. He informed the council, in the event of a drought, the weirs can be controlled.

Mr. Fenstermaker informed the council the final draft will be complete within two (2) weeks.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The council decided the next meeting date is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, June 12, 2013.

Motion by Mr. Bello and seconded by Mr. J. Chustz, the meeting adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

MIKE WOOD, CHAIRMAN