

MINUTES
LAKE PROVIDENCE WATERSHED COUNCIL
March 6, 2018

The Lake Providence Watershed Council met at the East Carroll Parish Sheriff's office at 11:00 a.m. on March 6, 2018.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Moses.

ROLL CALL

Council Members Present: Thomas Van Biersel, Amanda Vincent, Francis Lensing, Andy Brister, Teddy Schneider, Mark Brown, Reynold Minsky, Ricky Moses (Chairman)

Others in Attendance: Ryan Daniel (LDWF), Eddie Foster (NRCS)

PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of the October 18, 2017 council meeting were approved. *A quorum was not met for the meeting via conference call on Dec. 5, 2017.*

CURRENT AGENDA

A. Brister motioned to add item to current agenda. Motion approved.

Agenda amended to include conference call and discussion with LA Tech professors in regard to assistance with restoration projects.

COMMENTS and DISCUSSION (Old Business)

A. Vincent provided results of LDEQ water quality sampling conducted May – Oct. 2017. These stations have been sampled bi-weekly since May. Values of all parameters sampled have been mostly considered to be “acceptable” with only a few individual samples exceeding maximum thresholds, though they were related to significant storm events.

T. Van Biersel stated that he has not seen any bills prepared for upcoming legislation that may include funding for LP projects.

A. Brister commented that L. Denny (ECPPJ) is currently identifying stretches of Parish roads that may be sold to LDOTD to provide for the local matching funds for LDOTD flood control project (improvements to water control structures).

Consensus that the lake has cleared quicker following rainfall than in past. May be attributed to cover crops on surrounding fields.

CONFERENCE CALL – LA TECH

-Spoke with Dr. Terri Maness, Env. Science Program Coordinator. She mentioned that internships are required for undergrad students and may be available to assist with certain projects. Students would also benefit from gaining knowledge about restoration efforts on LP.

-Spoke with Dr. Shawn Sun, Civil Engineering Dept. A meeting with Sec. Wilson of LDOTD was discussed. Tech engineering students may be able to provide a preliminary design of new water control structures.

COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION (New Business)

E. Foster (NRCS) provided update on MRBI program. He mentioned that all of the producers around the lake are signed up and nearly all fields have been planted in cover crops. This program will only last one more year. He also mentioned that AgSolvers/EFC Systems (private) is currently seeking enhancement projects in this area, particularly ones that would expand on current NRCS projects. A potential project would be for improvements to a drainage ditch in the NW corner of the lake, which would include deepening and widening, and installation of sediment traps.

The next council meeting was scheduled for June 4th at 11:00 a.m., to be held in the Sheriffs office.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Ricky Moses, Chairman