

MINUTES
LAKE PROVIDENCE WATERSHED COUNCIL
March 20, 2019

The Lake Providence Watershed Council met at the office of Andy Brister at 11:00 a.m. on March 20, 2019.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Moses.

*This Council meeting was held at a time when not considered “active” (as per SCR 77 (2016); the L.P. Watershed Council will cease to exist and be relieved of legislative obligations as of Dec. 31, 2018)

ROLL CALL

Council Members Present: Ricky Moses (Chair), T. Van Biersel, Francis Lensing, Jim Lensing, Andy Brister, Reynold Minsky, Donna Winters, Lee Denny

Others in Attendance: Ryan Daniel (LDWF)

PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of the December 12, 2018 council meeting were approved.

AGENDA

The current agenda was approved.

OLD BUSINESS

It was announced that the local NRCS position has not been permanently filled. The interim agent is Mr. Clemitt Ford (?). The Council should invite the current replacement to attend future meetings and request participation with the Council.

Group Discussion: Natural vegetation and lack of tillage in surrounding ag. fields may have actually been beneficial in minimizing sediment runoff during past winter. Numerous fields were never planted accordingly with cover crops due to excessive moisture. Some fields were planted by plane. The lake only recently became turbid but is now beginning to clear. Still at least moderately turbid today. Water levels have been high most of winter. It is believed that some producers may voluntarily plant cover crops in the future, even if there is no monetary incentive program in place.

Sen. Thompson will present a SCR to extend the sunset date of the Council until Dec. 2020 in the upcoming legislative session.

R. Minsky stated that the Tensas Levee Board will be a local sponsor for the LA Watershed Initiative program. He also mentioned that he will be meeting with the COE General next week and will bring up the topic of clearing the section of Tensas that they have authority over.

NEW BUSINESS

Group Discussion concerning proposed location of Columbia Gulf pipeline booster station. The current proposed location is adjacent to an inflow in the north end of the lake. F. Lensing stated that the L.P. port should inquire about relocating to their municipal property.

Donna Winters suggested that it may be a good idea to contact Tammy Arrender with KNOE to publicize the accomplishments of the Council that have been made thus far.

There was a brief discussion about the LA Watershed Initiative Program. R. Moses mentioned that work at Lake Providence was “shovel ready” and is considered a top priority for funding.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

The next council meeting was scheduled for June 19, 2019 at 11:00 a.m., to be held in the Sheriffs office.

Meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

Ricky Moses, Chairman