

MINUTES
LAKE PROVIDENCE WATERSHED COUNCIL
August 14, 2019

The Lake Providence Watershed Council met at the East Carroll Parish Sheriff's Office at 11:00 a.m. on August 14, 2019.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Moses.

ROLL CALL

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

A quorum was not met.

Others in Attendance: Ryan Daniel (LDWF), Raynie Harlan (LDWF)

PREVIOUS MINUTES

No vote.

AGENDA

No vote.

OLD BUSINESS

T. Van Biersel announced that SCR 10 (Sen. Thompson) was signed and will extend the sunset date of the Council until Dec. 2020. A report will need to be submitted to the legislature by 5/31/2020. Council members need to provide updates and have the report prepared in early 2020. Flood and damage reports, cover crop updates, stream clearing updates, water quality and fisheries sampling data, etc... should be included in upcoming report.

It was mentioned that the lake has been above pool stage nearly all year due to high MS River levels. The repairs to the Tensas Bayou weir have not been visible due to high water but it appears that water may be flowing around the structure.

It was announced that Lee Denny has left the ECPPJ and that it will be necessary to have a replacement on the Council a.s.a.p. to continue with funding requests through LDOTD and to serve as a local rep. on the LA Watershed Initiative. L. Denny (via text message) stated that funding could be delayed due to recent re-allocation of LDOTD funding.

R. Minsky stated that he has met with COE concerning "clean out" funding but hasn't made any real progress. Kent Parrish (COE) told him that they are currently funding similar projects in LA and MS and that he is supporting work in the L. P. watershed.

It was mentioned that a replacement for Eddie Foster (NRCS) will be needed to provide updates on the MRBI program and local participation. We should contact Max Cox (NRCS, temporary) to discuss at next meeting.

A. Vincent announced that LDEQ has continued water quality monitoring and new data is available.

It was mentioned that the Police Jury has cleaned out approximately 1.5 miles of Tensas Bayou between the lake and the cemetery.

D. Winters mentioned the economic impact to the farmers from flooded croplands, likely due to insufficient and unmaintained drainage in the watershed.

R. Harlan gave an update on the LA Watershed Initiative. Local steering committees are now being created. The local representative should be the Police Jury. Grants are available to help coordinate the formation of the committees.

NEW BUSINESS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

A conference call was scheduled for Sept. 18, 2019 at **10:00** a.m. R. Moses will send out call-in instructions. The next meeting to be held in the Sheriffs office was scheduled for Oct. 30th at **11:00** a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

Ricky Moses, Chairman