

BISTINEAU TASK FORCE
January 16, 2014 – 10:15 A.M.
Webster Parish Courthouse, Minden, Louisiana

MEMBERS PRESENT: Billy Montgomery, Bossier PJ, Chairman; Elmore Morris, Bodcau SWCD; Shannon Mendenhall, Bodcau SWCD; Glenn Benton, Bossier PJ; Bob Brotherton, Bossier PJ; David Lowe, Dorcheat SWCD; Steve Ramsey, Webster PJ; Charles Walker, Webster PJ; Jim Bonsall, Webster PJ; and Pete Camp, At large.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Greg Wilson, Bienville PJ; Tony Lawson, Bienville PJ; Don Moore, Bienville PJ; Rick Yager, Dorcheat SWCD; and Bill Conley, Saline SWCD;

SPECIAL ASSISTANTS: Ronda Carnahan, Webster PJ; Jeff Sibley, LDWF; and Ellzey Simmons, Trailblazer.

Chairman, Billy Montgomery called the meeting to order and asked Elmore Morris to open with prayer and Bob Brotherton to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Billy Montgomery asked Mr. Pete Camp to update the Task Force on the DEQ Water Quality report on Lake Bistineau. Mr. Camp has been assured that he will receive a full report from DEQ. All of the organized sewer systems must complete water quality report to DEQ that deposit into the water stream, but it is difficult to obtain reports regarding individual systems, they are regulated by the Parishes- DHH.

The next item on the agenda is approval of agenda as presented. Mr. Jim Bonsall moved, seconded by Mr. Charles Walker to approve the printed agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

The minutes of the September 19, 2013 Bistineau Task Force Meeting were presented for approval. Mr. Charles Walker moved, seconded by Mr. Elmore Morris to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

David Jones with the Red River Waterway Commission spoke to the Task Force. Mr. Jones spoke concerning the Red River Waterway Commissions active research facility that has been taken over by the commission from the state higher education system. They are currently working on a cooperative Endeavor with the Stephen F. Austin. Mr. Jones spoke about the weevil project that they currently have and the possibility of relocating the project closer to Natchitoches and also exploring more options for control of Giant Salvenia and using a regional approach for this research.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

No action was taken on member appointments.

Proposed Projects:

Mr. Ellzey Simmons discussed the application for the National Wildlife Grant that was for \$100,000.00. The grant was approved for \$35,000.00.

Mr. Simmons then discussed the Trailblazer Weevil Production Committee that has been formed to pursue the idea of weevil production on the lake.

Committee Members voiced their opinion on the Weevil Production and the need to raise funding for this project as well as reaching out to the public to educate and inform on this biological method of control. Mr. Pete Camp stated that he is not in support of a regional weevil project, but each lake adapts the weevils to their particular environment. Mr. Montgomery stressed the need to push for legislation in the Senate. The object is to have the lake for use year round.

Jeff Sibley, LA Wildlife and Fisheries spoke to the Task Force. Mr. Sibley stated that the gates closed on December 2, 2013, and returned to pool shortly after. Positives in the Salvenia fight have been the freeze, but the final results are yet to be determined. There followed a question and answer session.

Audience comments then followed. Mr. Bill Altimus and Mr. Richey Jackson were recognized.

There being no further business to bring before the Task Force, Mr. Bob Brotherton moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Steve Ramsey. The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronda C. Carnahan
Secretary, BTF