MINUTES OF THE MEETING

OF

WHITE LAKE PROPERTY ADVISORY BOARD

Thursday, March 24, 2011

Chairman Armond Schwing opened the White Lake Property Advisory Board meeting held at the White Lake Wetlands Conservation Area in Gueydan, LA and asked Ms. Lana Guidry to call the roll. The following members were present:

Armond Schwing
Brandan Duhon
Sean Gayle
Steve Linscombe
Miriam Davey
R. Martin Guidry
Eddie Lyons
Sara Simmonds

The following members were absent:

Charles Toups
Karl Connor
Larry Thomas
Steven Mansour
Lloyd Suire
Sherman Wilson

Approval of Minutes of October 14, 2010 Meeting

Chairman Schwing called for a motion for approval of the minutes of the October 14, 2010 meeting. Mr. Sean Gayle moved to accept the minutes and Ms. Sara Simmonds seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition.

Department Financial Report

Mr. Wayne Sweeney presented the board members with a financial report as of March 22, 2011. Mr. Sweeney reported that we currently have $3,095,976 in the budget. Mr. Sweeney reported that the expense budget for the current year is $2,184,318; the current year expenses are $910,140; and we have $1,274.178 remaining in the current year balance.

Election of Officers

Chairman Schwing addressed the Board and asked for nominations for Chairman.

Ms. Miriam Davey nominated Mr. Armond Schwing for Chairman and Mr. Schwing was declared Chairman by acclimation.

Chairman Schwing asked the Board for nominations for Vice-Chairman.

Dr. Linscombe nominated Mr. Charles Toups for Vice-Chairman and Mr. Toups was declared Vice-Chairman by acclimation.

Chairman Schwing asked the Board for nominations for Secretary.

Dr. Linscombe nominated Mr. Brandan Duhon for Secretary and Mr. Duhon was declared Secretary by acclimation.

Chairman Schwing asked the Board for nominations for Treasurer.

Dr. Linscombe nominated Mr. Sean Gayle for Treasurer and Mr. Gayle was declared Treasurer by acclimation.

Results of Marsh, Rice Field, and Group Lottery Hunts

Mr. Sweeney addressed the Board and reported that they had a very successful hunting season and there were no injuries. Mr. Sweeney reported that 62 applications were submitted for the Teal Hunt. Mr. Sweeney stated there were nine hunts and that six applicants were selected for each hunt, for a total of 54 applicants selected. Mr. Sweeney reported there was a total of 108 hunters. Mr. Sweeney reported 375 ducks were harvested, which is an average of 3.64 ducks per hunter.

Mr. Sweeney reported that 171 applications were submitted for the Youth Hunt. Mr. Sweeney stated there were two hunts and that eight applicants were selected for each hunt, for a total of 16 applicants selected. Mr. Sweeney reported there was a total of 16 hunters. Mr. Sweeney reported 78 ducks were harvested, which is an average of 4.9 ducks per hunter.

Mr. Sweeney reported that 110 applications were submitted for the Marsh Hunt. Mr. Sweeney stated there were eight hunts and that six applicants were selected for each hunt, for a total of 48 applicants selected. Mr. Sweeney reported there was a total of 96 hunters. Mr. Sweeney reported 497 ducks were harvested, which is an average of 4.6 ducks per hunter. Mr. Sweeney reported 82 geese were harvested, which is an average of .759 geese per hunter.

Mr. Sweeney reported that 114 applications were submitted for the Rice Field Hunt. Mr. Sweeney stated there were 23 hunts and that three applicants were selected for each hunt,

for a total of 69 applicants selected. Mr. Sweeney reported there was a total of 185 hunters. Mr. Sweeney reported 434 ducks were harvested, which is an average of 2.34 ducks per hunter. Mr. Sweeney reported that 42 geese were harvested, which is an average of .227 geese per hunter.

Mr. Sweeney reported that 35 applications were submitted for the Group Hunt. Mr. Sweeney stated that out of the 35 applications, there were actually only 15 separate groups. Mr. Sweeney reported that several people within the same group applied for the hunt which is why the number of applicants was high. Mr. Sweeney stated there were 13 hunts and all 13 hunts were purchased. Mr. Sweeney reported there was a total of 140 hunters. Mr. Sweeney reported 2,099 ducks were harvested, which is an average of 4.1 ducks per hunter. Mr. Sweeney reported that 246 geese were harvested, which is an average of .48 geese per hunter.

Mr. Sweeney reported that the 2011 fishing lotto received 129 applications. Mr. Sweeney stated that 100 permits were issued and that fishing is open for March 15 through August 15.

Update on Birding Trail Project

Mr. Sweeney reported they are still working hard on the birding trail and have a lot accomplished. Mr. Sweeney stated they had to pull the crew to work on another project for two months, but they have started back working on the birding trail. Mr. Sweeney stated there is one levee they must rebuild. Mr. Sweeney reported they have just started construction on the birding tower and they have the pilings driven for the tower. Mr. Sweeney stated that department staff is performing all work on the birding trail. Mr. Sweeney also reported that he is working with the LSU Cooperative Extension Services and they have donated trees; in addition to the donation of the trees, they will be bringing 4-H students to assist in planting these trees. Mr. Sweeney stated the trees being donated are cypress, live oak, and pecan trees.

Update on Agricultural and Hunting Leases

Mr. Buddy Baker addressed the Board and informed them that Senator Nick Gautreaux sponsored and enrolled a bill into this legislative session regarding agricultural and hunting leases on White Lake Wetlands Conservation Area. Mr. Baker reported that Senator Gautreaux has since resigned from his position; however, Senator Moorish has agreed to sponsor the bill. Mr. Baker reported that he does not expect any controversy over this legislation.

Other Business

Mr. Bob Love addressed the Board and informed them they established the approval last year of vehicle legislation for an Endangered Species Vanity License Plate with a picture of a Whooping Crane on it. Mr. Love reported that $3,500 was put up in advance in order to get the Office of Motor Vehicles to produce this plate. Mr. Love stated that once

they sell 100 license plates, they will be reimbursed the $3,500 and the plates will be produced. Mr. Love stated that anyone interested can let us know and we will put their name on the list. Mr. Love reported that the cost should be around $35. Mr. Love stated that it is a nice looking license plate. Mr. Love said this is not a big fundraiser and is not going to make any significant amount of money for Endangered Species or the Whooping Crane Project, but it is more for promotion.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Schwing asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Gayle moved to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Mr. Guidry.

Armond K. Schwing

AKS:lg

(The preceding constitute minutes of the Advisory Board Meeting and are not a verbatim transcript of the proceedings.)