

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**  
**OF**  
**WHITE LAKE PROPERTY ADVISORY BOARD**

**Friday, April 28, 2006**

Chairman Steve Linscombe opened the White Lake Property Advisory Board meeting held at the White Lake property in Gueydan, Louisiana, and asked Ms. Lana Guidry to call the roll. The following members, and a quorum, were present:

Steve Linscombe  
Richard Hines  
Sammy Noel  
Don Hale  
Sean Gayle  
Gay Gomez  
Nathan Granger  
Darwin Miller  
Eddie Young

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The following members were absent:

Cindy Brown  
Karl Connor  
Buddy Leach  
Annie Smith  
Beverly Wade

**Approval of Minutes of February 10, 2006 Meeting**

Chairman Linscombe called for a motion for approval of the minutes of the February 10, 2006 meeting. Mr. Nathan Granger moved to delay approval of the minutes until the next regular advisory board meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Don Hale and passed with no opposition.

Mr. Sammy Noel made a motion to rescind action taken at the February 10, 2006 board meeting which restricts board members, and their immediate family members, from participating in any consumptive activities on White Lake, including lottery hunts or fishing, but excluding the private leases. Mr. Noel requested this be taken up at a later date. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hale.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Finance Committee**

Mr. Donald Hale presented the board members with a financial report. Mr. Richard Hines addressed the board members and stated that there is a great need for money before this entity is broke. Mr. Hines asked Mr. Parke Moore if he had an opportunity to look at Clear Lake and Mr. Moore said they recently met with the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources. Mr. Moore stated the department believes it is our resources. Mr. Noel inquired how much revenue would this bring in and Mr. Hines stated it is a bonus of \$150,000 right now and there is a rental coming up this summer which will probably be half of that which would be \$75,000, and there will be royalties. Mr. Hines said it all depends on what is decided. Mr. Noel asked if we would be receiving the rentals and the royalties and Mr. Hines stated that is the attempt. Mr. Hines stated that because of the way the Act was written oil revenues which came off of this piece of property owned by the State would go to the White Lake Conservation Area. He said this is a technicality, but it may be a way to supplement the farm income and other revenue streams.

Chairman Linscombe inquired to Mr. Wayne Sweeney if the prices of alligator collection may be increasing and Mr. Sweeney said they are having a re-bidding conference for alligator eggs. Mr. Sweeney stated the minimum bid for alligator eggs is \$10 per egg and he is expecting to receive anything from \$10 to \$15 per egg.

Mr. Hines stated that over the next six months to year they need to look at other ways to generate revenues. Mr. Hines also stressed the importance of generating the revenues to obtain a parking lot and boat dock to enable the public utilization of the facility.

Mr. Moore reported that they met with five agriculture lessees over the past months and developed an Addendum to Ag Lease. Mr. Moore stated that they were able to forgive the farmers 60% of their payments. In very short terms it allows those farmers to pay their second payment which was due in November 2005 at 40% and also offers them the option for in-kind services in work on their property rather than a cash payment for November 2005. Mr. Moore reported for the year 2006 they will have to pay 40% in two payments; a payment in March and a payment in November. Mr. Moore stated that in September they are going to report to him if they will be continuing agriculture operations on the property.

### **Education and Outreach Committee**

Mr. Gayle reported to the Board that the Education and Outreach Committee are still working with the Vermilion Parish School in developing curriculum. Mr. Gayle said they are awaiting completion of the nature trail, and once that is complete he believes they will be able to get more people out to the property. Mr. Gayle stated they can only do so much until more parking is available for the school buses to park.

Mr. Gayle informed the board members that the kiosk is permanent and encouraged all board members to visit the kiosk and provide him with any comments on how it can be improved. Mr. Gayle stated he has pictures of the kiosk and will email them to the board members who were unable to attend today's meeting.

Mr. Gayle reported that the Vermilion Parish School Board is working on an educational brochure to put in the kiosk. Mr. Gayle stated that once the brochure is complete he will provide Mr. John Sturgis with brochures to send out to the different parishes in Louisiana to make them aware of the property.

Mr. Gayle informed the Board that the Gueydan Museum Board does not have the resources to make the necessary changes for handicap access or for utilities, which would enable them to allow the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to utilize the second floor of the museum for educational purposes. Mr. Gayle stated that they asked the Education and Outreach Committee to address the Board to see if they could obtain a grant from BP to provide that access. Mr. Hines recommended to the Board that if they should request a grant from BP to make sure it is in writing. Dr. Gay Gomez moved to request the Gueydan Museum Board prepare a proposal for costs for constructing handicap access and utilities to be submitted to BP. Mr. Gayle seconded the motion and the motion passed with no opposition.

### **Natural Resources Committee**

Mr. Hines reported that the Natural Resources Committee has not met since their last meeting. Mr. Hines stated they are working on several things; one is Clear Lake which was discussed earlier in the meeting.

Mr. Hines stated that they were recently approached informally by a company who wants to drill a well. Mr. Hines said the company is not yet ready to approach the Board, but within the next 60 days he hopes to receive something from them in writing.

### **Agriculture Committee**

Mr. Noel stated the Agriculture Committee has been very busy working with the agriculture lessees. Mr. Noel said he believes what has been proposed to the farmers is an excellent opportunity for them.

### **Youth Wetlands Education Program**

Ms. Carrie Mendoza, LSU Ag Center, introduced herself to the Board and informed them she has been charged with developing a youth wetlands education program for the entire State of Louisiana. Ms. Mendoza gave a PowerPoint presentation to the Board on the youth wetlands education program in Louisiana. Ms. Mendoza stated this is an extremely powerful program in Louisiana, as well as the nation. She said it will be marketed through 4-H but will be accessible to non 4-H members. Ms. Mendoza stated she welcomes any input from the Education and Outreach Committee.

## **Report on Advanced Marsh Maneuvers Held at White Lake**

Mr. Mark Shirley, LSU Ag Center reported to the Board that they held an Advanced Marsh Maneuvers Camp at White Lake on December 9, 2005. Mr. Shirley thanked the Board and the Department for letting them bring their group to White Lake in December and hopes they can return again next year. Mr. Shirley reported there were 18 students who participated in the Advanced Marsh Maneuvers Camp and he presented the Board with pictures from the various activities performed during the camp.

## **Other Business**

Chairman Linscombe asked the Board if they had an action on the minutes. Mr. Noel stated he wanted to clarify the language by using the words to include lottery hunts and lottery fishing to board members only and also include the language that board members are able to participate in all fee based activities or activities made to Louisiana citizens. In other words, he would like to prohibit this Board from lottery hunts and lottery fishing, but any fee based activity whether it be skeet shooting, nature trails, and use of the facility that all Louisiana citizens are entitled to, board members should be entitled to also. Chairman Linscombe asked Mr. Puckett how they accomplish what Mr. Noel has suggested and Mr. Puckett stated the simplest way is to maybe take the language Mr. Noel has made and incorporate that into the minutes and have a corrected version of the minutes for the next regular Advisory Board meeting. Therefore, no action was taken on approving the minutes. Mr. Puckett stated the Act refers to Louisiana citizens as "the general public" and he may want to repeat the system and refer to Louisiana citizens as the general public. Chairman Linscombe asked Mr. Puckett to work with Lana in getting the proper terminology. Mr. Puckett stated the Department is beginning its first cycle of lottery hunts and lottery activities that were previously managed by White Lake Inc. and that we do have some concerns about ethical issues concerning lottery hunts and lottery fishing. Mr. Puckett said if it is in fact a prohibition then that will apply to immediate family and that is per the Ethics Code. Based upon the concerns the Administration had, Mr. Puckett stated he made an informal call to an attorney well versed in Ethics who felt and believed that there may well be a conflict there. Mr. Puckett said the Ethics Board will ultimately govern this; however, it is the Board's prerogative to pass that and impose that on itself. Mr. Puckett said they may be an overlying issue of ethics regarding immediate family members and they can still prohibit that. Chairman Linscombe asked if it would be appropriate to request an Ethics Opinion and Mr. Noel stated he wanted to avoid that approach to avoid the perception that it may create with the media and public. Mr. Hines wanted to include "department sanctioned activities" in the motion but Chairman Linscombe stated that lottery hunts and fishing are department sanctioned activities, but they may want to say "board members are allowed to participate in all department sanctioned activities open to the general public with the exclusion of lottery hunting and fishing, or any other lottery event that may arise in the future". Mr. Puckett stated they could entertain a motion right now to correct the minutes to reflect the language. Chairman Linscombe asked if anyone wished to make the motion and Mr.

Hale moved to accept the language to correct the minutes. Mr. Noel seconded the motion and it passed with no opposition.

Mr. Puckett informed the board that there may indeed be an ethical violation with them attending hunts on the private hunting lessee's lease, which was inquired at the last meeting.

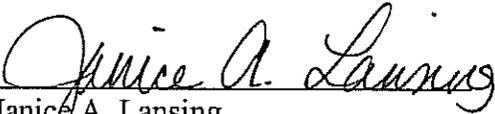
The next regular Advisory Board meeting will be scheduled at a later date and will be held in Baton Rouge at the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, Chairman Linscombe asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Noel moved to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Mr. Granger.

  
Janice A. Lansing  
Acting Secretary

JAL:lg

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