MINUTES OF THE MEETING

OF

WHITE LAKE PROPERTY ADVISORY BOARD

Thursday, September 14, 2006

Chairman Steve Linscombe opened the White Lake Property Advisory Board meeting held at the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA 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
Cindy Brown
Karl Connor
Gay Gomez (arrived at 10:15)
Darwin Miller
Dr. Beverly Wade

The following members were absent:

Sean Gayle
Nathan Granger
Buddy Leach
Annie Smith
Eddie Young

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. A motion for approval was made by Mr. Sammy Noel and seconded by Mr. Darwin Miller. The motion passed with no opposition.

Approval of Minutes of April 28, 2006 Meeting

Chairman Linscombe called for a motion for approval of the minutes of the April 28, 2006 meeting. A motion for approval was made by Mr. Donald Hale and seconded by Mr. Noel. The motion passed with no opposition.

Mr. Miller moved to overturn the action adopted at the end of the April meeting and rescind the motion to correct the February minutes. Dr. Beverly Wade seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Budget Report

Ms. Wynnette Kees presented the board members with a budget report. She also provided the 2006-2007 approved budget report. Ms. Kees reported that Mr. John Campbell will be sending the Department $112,000 for the White Lake Fund from a White Lake Preservation, Inc. account. Ms. Kees said Mr. Campbell stated that White Lake Preservation, Inc. account will retain $25,000 for one year to cover any unforeseen expenses they may have.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee

Mr. Hale reported that the Finance Committee had not met and the finances were reported by Ms. Kees and had no further comments.

Education and Outreach Committee

Dr. Wade reported to the Board that she has a copy of the proposed activities that the Education and Outreach Committee has broken down into short term and long term projects. She provided photos of the kiosk that was placed on the property and she stated that the kiosk had been vandalized. Mr. Sweeney reported that approximately a month ago, some kids came out one night and tore off part of the kiosk. Mr. Sweeney stated that they are going to put up a security light which will hopefully prevent damage/vandalism in the future. Dr. Wade stated other short term projects include a birding trail and canoeing. Dr. Wade stated funds are needed to provide these services and would like some guidance for resources.

Dr. Wade asked Mr. Sweeney to provide her with a report of all educational activities that have taken place at White Lake. She stated she would also like this information placed on the website. Dr. Wade stated she is having problems trying to get to the White Lake section on the website and requested that the Department make it more easily accessible.

Dr. Wade reported that the project with the Vermilion Parish curriculum development is still in the works, as well as the Vermilion museum project.

Natural Resources Committee

Mr. Hines reported that the Natural Resources Committee met on August 21, 2006 in Baton Rouge. Mr. Hines provided a report from that meeting which is being made part of the record, attached to the minutes.

Agriculture Committee

Mr. Noel stated the Agriculture Committee has been very busy working with the agriculture lessees. Mr. Noel said he believes Mr. Sweeney and the Department helped the farmers financially with an Addendum to their lease and he thanked them. Mr. Sweeney reported that they were successful getting all the farmers a signed Addendum which reduced their rental for the November 2005 and the 2006 calendar year. Mr. Sweeney reported that the farmers would like to stay but are still not sure if they will be able to plant next year due to the saltwater intrusion. Mr. Sweeney provided a report to the Board on the payments and in-kind service work performed on the agriculture leases. A copy of this report is being made part of the record, attached to the minutes. Mr. Noel reported the saltwater intrusion has slightly declined, but there has not been enough rain to completely clean everything out.

Introduction of Kell McInnis, Executive Director of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Foundation

Mr. Don Puckett, LDWF General Counsel reported to the Board that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Foundation was founded in 1995. He stated this is a private non-profit charitable corporation qualifying as a 501(c)(3) under the Internal Revenue Code, which means any donations made to the Foundation are tax deductible. Mr. Puckett said its sole mission is to support programs and initiatives of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission and the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. Mr. Puckett introduced Mr. Kell McInnis who is the new Executive Director of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Foundation.

Mr. McInnis spoke to the Board and provided them with a Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Foundation brochure. Mr. McInnis informed the Board that donations made to the Foundation may be earmarked for certain projects, such as the White Lake Fund, and that he looked forward to working with them on future projects.

Update on Alligator Egg Collection and Wild Harvest

Mr. Sweeney reported that this year we entered into a new agreement with alligator egg collection. He stated that we collected approximately 7,447 eggs at $20.10 per egg. He reported the total revenue from the egg collection was $149,684.70.

Mr. Sweeney reported that 383 alligator tags were issued for the Wild Alligator Harvest compared to 521 alligator tags issued last year. He stated the season dates for the Wild Alligator Harvest are September 6 – October 5, 2006.

Consideration of Consumptive Component WLWCA Management Plan

Mr. Parke Moore addressed the Board and presented to them for their acceptance the WLWCA Management Plan for Public Use of Consumptive Resources which is being

made part of the record and attached to the minutes. Mr. Noel moved to accept the Department's Consumptive Management Plan and it was seconded by Mr. Hines. The motion passed with no opposition.

Other Business

Chairman Linscombe reported to the Board that Mr. Mark Shirley who coordinates the LSU Ag Center Marsh Maneuvers program would like to return this year to White Lake if the Board and Department would approve. Mr. Moore stated that he is very supportive of the Marsh Maneuvers program and approves activities to continue at White Lake.

Chairman Linscombe inquired of the tenure of officers on the Board. He stated he would like to elect officers on a bi-annual basis. Mr. Puckett stated that this could be addressed by rules and bylaws and he will have something to present to the Board at the next meeting. Based upon the board members being appointed by the Governor, it was suggested that the election of officers coincide with the election of the Governor.

The next regular Advisory Board meeting will be held at the LSU Ag Center Rice Research Station in Crowley and will be scheduled at a later date.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

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

Janice A. Lansing
Undersecretary

JAL:lg

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

Natural Resources Committee met on August 21, 2006 here in Baton Rouge.

Discussions included:

Alligator egg harvest – 7447 eggs collected for $149,684.70, we receive $20.10 per egg.

Alligator Harvest – 350 tags this year down from 520. We have 5 trappers with contacts with White Lake Conservation Area.

Responsibilities of operators within the Conservation Area, current discussions are occurring between Legal and the operators as to repairs to levees, etc. Don Puckett can bring us up to speed if you have questions.

Mineral Right issue regarding leases over the southern portion of the Conservation Area. I spoke with DNR Secretary Wednesday, he said the AG was brought in to deal with a complexity and we should be hearing something in the very near future.

Hunting Activities – Teal & Big Duck seasons, over 200 applicants have applied for Hunting Lotto drawing. 10 Large Hunts have been sold at this time.

Fishing Activities – New Survey, adequate permits, working on parking and boat dock.

Future revenue sources, Consumptive Resources- Birding, Canoeing, Skeet Shoots, Facility Rental for retreats, etc.

White Lake Wetlands Conservation Area Management Plan
General Framework
for
Public Use of **Consumptive Resources**

Specific Activities	2006 Season	2006 Number/Quantity	2006 Cost ($), each
1. Alligators			
a. Wild Alligator Harvest	Sept. 6 - Oct. 5	383 alligators	40% of sale price
b. Alligator Egg Collection	June 15 - July 15	10,000 eggs	Bid, $20.10
2. Waterfowl			
a. Teal Lottery Hunts	LDWF Season	108 hunters	$100 per gun
b. Youth/Phys. Challenged Hunts	First Weekend	14 hunters	no cost
c. Marsh Lottery Hunts	LDWF Season	120 hunters	$150 per gun
d. Rice Lottery Hunts	LDWF Season	207 hunters	$150 per hunt (up to 3 per hunted area)
e. Group Hunts	LDWF Season	12 groups	$25, 000 per group
3. Fishing	Mar. 15 - Aug. 1	75 permits	$30 per group
4. Negotiated - Natural or Facilities (ie services involving personnel,equipment, &/or structures)			

Sept. 14, 2006