

MINUTES
FALSE RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL
January 24, 2018

The False River Watershed Council met in a regular session at 3:00 p.m. on January 24, 2018 at the Courthouse Annex Building in New Roads, Louisiana.

Chairman Ricky Moses called the meeting to order and directed Ms. Jeanne Hendrix to call the roll:

Present: Messrs. Thibaut, Spicer, Ewing, D'Aquila, Hix, S. Chustz, Olinde, Pourciau, M. Ward, Van Biersel, and Chairman Moses.

Absent: Messrs. J. Chustz, R. Ward, Nagel and Sharafkhani

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion to approve the agenda by Mr. Ewing. Second by Mr. Van Biersel
No opposition.

Resolved, That the agenda of the meeting of January 24, 2018 is accepted.

Unanimously carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Mr. Van Biersel to approve and second by Mr. Olinde
No opposition.

Resolved, That the minutes of the November 15, 2017 meeting are accepted for approval.

Unanimously carried.

UPDATE PROPOSED FALSE RIVER ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECT - PHASE II

Mr. Gerald Babin stated he has the property agreement but has held off on getting it signed because of an access issue. Pipes to the river and possible crossings for these pipes would require agreements with a property owner on the river side. He has found 2 locations but has not been able to reach one owner and the other owner has indicated a desire for compensation. Mr. Ewing asked about what type of compensation the landowner was seeking and Mr. Babin stated that they wanted a bulkhead. The pipes would be 2 simple 10 inch pipes. Mr. Pourciau asked if there were any additional options if an agreement could not be reached with either property owner. Mr. Hix asked if funds could even be spent on property improvements. Mr. S. Chustz suggested purchasing a right of way from a property owner. After some research Mr. Hix

indicated that he personally knew one property owner and would speak to them.

Mr. Babin is working on dredging plans now and estimates that 150 acres of lake would be impacted by dredging in comparison to 40 acres for the South Flats project, with 16 acres of that having been the island. It should take about 3-4 months to dredge the North Flats. The goal is to start in Fall 2018. If dredging begins then, they would delay the Fall 2018 drawdown. Mr. Thibaut again reminded Mr. Babin about being shovel ready for future funding to be approved. Mr. Van Biersel spoke about scheduling and the North Flats. Permits are in preliminary stages. Mr. Ewing asked about a schedule subcommittee meeting to keep up progress.

UPDATE FALSE RIVER NITROGEN IMPACT MITIGATION PROJECT:

Mr. Kevin Gravois stated that everything is considered complete. There were questions about maintenance and what intervals do you check on cleaning out these areas. Mr. Van Biersel said the jury would be responsible for that and his department could create a maintenance plan for them. Mr. Olinde stated that as long as the trees were cut down and grass could grow it should do well. Mr. Van Biersel recommended every 1-2 years. Sediment clean out would be along the line of every 2 years. It was mentioned that Mr. J. Chustz should look it and establish a baseline level. Mr. Olinde asked about fixing the flown out weir and its repair.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Daryl Patin and Mr. Kenny St. Romain spoke to the council regarding the no wake zone buoy system. They need to be replaced but they (the Kiwanis Club) do not have time or man power to take on the task any longer. They need to make and set about 50 and place them according to GPS coordinates. Several members stated they would look into helping the club get this done with volunteer workers and donated materials.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Ewing gave a presentation regarding revising the shoreline modification ordinance to make it clearer and more in line with the needs of property owners along False River. It will also create a legacy structure. The revisions will be presented to the jury for amending the ordinance.

Mr. Van Biersel gave an update on the draft report to the legislature. He asked that all revisions by subcommittee be turned in as soon as possible citing a February deadline.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PERSONAL PRIVILEGE:

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

The next meeting was set for February 21, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn by Mr. Spicer and second by Mr. Moses.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.