



Claiborne Parish Watershed District
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March 25, 2025
Minutes

A Regular Session Meeting was held on March 25, 2025, at 5:30 p.m., at the office of the Claiborne Parish Watershed District, located at 507 West Main Street, Homer, Louisiana. At this time, the watershed entered into their quarterly meeting.

All members were present.

Jay Blanchard opened the meeting in prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by David Nokes.

Upon a motion by Jay Blanchard, duly seconded by Graham Cowie, the agenda was approved as presented.

Upon a motion by Dottie Palmer, duly seconded by Wesley Emerson, the minutes for the January 14, 2025, Special Called Meeting were approved.

The financial report was presented by David Nokes. Upon a motion by Graham Cowie, duly seconded by Chad Reeder, the financial report was approved as presented.

Upon a motion by Graham Cowie, duly seconded by Dottie Palmer, the February 2025 Engagement Letter from CPA's, Bosch & Statham, to do the annual audit, and the Louisiana Attestation Questionnaire were approved.

Upon a motion by Marcus McClung, duly seconded by Graham Cowie, the Resolution 2025-01 FY 2024 allowing the President, Treasurer, and Secretary to sign documents regarding the 2024 Legislative Auditor Attestation Questionnaire and any other documents required to complete the submission of the review was approved.

Upon a motion by Jay Blanchard, duly seconded by Marcus McClung, the Resolution 2025-02 FY 2024 allowing the President to sign documents regarding the 2024 Annual Audit Review was approved.

All members were reminded to turn in their Annual Personal Financial Disclosure Statements and the Legislative Auditor's Required Family Interest Forms by May 15, 2025.

Upon a motion by Marcus McClung, duly seconded by Jay Blanchard, the approval of the Public Notice and Ordinance No. 202501, to be published in the paper informing the public of the new lighting regulations was approved. The Public Meeting will be held on June 26, 2025, at 5:20 p.m., prior to the quarterly meeting and the ordinance will go into effect July 1, 2025.

All board members were reminded of the required Sexual Harassment Training to be completed by December 31, 2025.

All board members were reminded of the required Ethics Training to be completed by December 31, 2025.

Upon a motion by Jay Blanchard, duly seconded by Chad Reeder, the request from Fireworks of Lake Claiborne, for a monetary donation for the 2025 annual fireworks show was approved in the amount of \$5,000.

Upon a motion by Marcus McClung, duly seconded by Graham Cowie, the request from the LSU AgCenter for a donation to the annual Claiborne Parish Water Festival to be held May 7th – 9th 2025, was approved in the amount of \$500.

There was no one present from the Louisiana Legends Festival to give an update on the upcoming Louisiana Legends Festival Bass Tournament.

Chad Reeder gave an update on the High School Bass Tournament. The championship round will be held on Lake Claiborne, in June (date to be determined), and it will be a two-day event. They are expecting approximately 75 boats with 2 people per boat. The CPWD will donate money to award 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes. More information about the tournament can be found on their website at highschoolbasstrail.com.

There was no update on the lake level or repairs since the 2024 drawdown.

Chad Reeder gave an update on the Tiger Bass fingerling release. The release will be held in June, date to be determined, due to the High School Bass Tournament. It will be held during the week this year so it will not conflict with the tournament. Eighty thousand Tiger Bass fingerlings and twenty-five thousand Coppernose Bluegill have been reserved as in year's past.

There was no one present to give an update on the genetic study, but Marcus McClung saw them on the lake doing the study and spoke to them. They stated the lake is in really good shape and everything is spawning.

There was no one present from the Louisiana Department Wildlife and Fisheries, so no discussion was presented.

There was no one present from the DOTD, so no discussion was presented.

The floor was opened to the public for commenting.

The members and the public were reminded of the next scheduled meeting to be held on June 26, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.

Upon a motion by Marcus McClung, duly seconded by Jay Blanchard, the meeting was adjourned.

David Nokes, President

Dottie Palmer, Secretary