

7/13/17

MINUTES OF
MISSISSIPPI GULF FISHING BANKS, INC.
BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI

June 8th, 2017

ATTENDANCE:

Ralph Humphrey, President
Alva Bennett
Tim Shivers
Jay Trochesset
Jimmy Sanders
David Andrews
Marty McGrath
Todd Loyd
Marcus McDavid

Darlene West, Secretary
Mark Miller
Glenn Camplejohn
Bob Brown
Emily Satterfield
Tim Knighten
Skip Roberts
Gene Macoy
Robert Fishman

The meeting of June 8th, 2017 was called to order by Ralph Humphrey, President.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Copies of the financial statement were distributed and reviewed by the members. A motion was made to accept the financial statement as is by David Andrews. Motion was seconded and carried upon vote.

MINUTES

Copies of the minutes were distributed and reviewed by the members. A motion was made to accept the minutes as is by David Andrews. Motion was seconded and carried upon vote.

STIMULUS MONEY

Robert Smith was not present for the meeting. Marty McGrath relayed to the group that Mr. Smith has been working on this and he will brief everyone next month.

USM CONTRACT

Three dives were made last month on the USM contract. Due to a clerical mishap, the bill was not sent out. Mark Miller said there were three dives USM should be billed \$1200 per dive. Darlene West said she would send the bill out.

SOUTH OF SQUASH CHANNEL

Kenny Barhanovich had mentioned at a previous meeting that they fish a lot in the spring and that we need to put something south of Squash Channel, like a barge or something around FH14. Ralph Humphrey said we would keep this open.

FUNDRAISING WITH FADS, ETC.

Ralph Humphrey informed the group that he had had a discussion with Jimmy Sanders about 55 gallon drums and the thinness of the metal, et cetera, and that David Andrews had a discussion with Will Ladner about trying to keep the sailboat stabilized when it goes down. Mr. Humphrey asked Mr. Sanders if he had anything he wanted to throw in about the drums, cables, chains, et cetera. Mr. Sanders said he looked at a lot of other states and they wouldn't allow anything that thin so he doesn't think we should use drums. David Andrews said Will Ladner made some suggestions, one was chain or rope the drums and when it's on the bottom, just cut the rope and the drums will pop up or, two, get two tractor inner tubes and put inside the boat and just run a compressor on the way out and when the boat sinks to the bottom just have the diver stab it with a knife and pull it out. Mark Miller suggested using lift bags. Gene McCoy said he can borrow some lift bags from Chris Ward with Sea Tow but if we mess them up we got to replace them. David Andrews said he thinks the disposable inner tubes are the way to go.

Mr. Humphrey asked Jimmy Sanders how the process of rewriting the artificial reef plan was going. Mr. Sanders says he's taking a lot of good stuff from other states and incorporating it into Mississippi's plan and he's in the process of putting it all together.

DMR FREE MATERIAL (LEE STREET)

Ralph Humphrey said there was a deployment on this material and Mark Miller has an activity report on that. Jimmy Sanders said there's a deployment of a thousand tons of culverts tomorrow.

TWO VESSELS TO DONATE

Jimmy Taylor was not present for the meeting. Mr. Humphrey asked David Andrews if he had any information on these vessels. Mr. Andrews said one thing he knows is we need to let some time go by between these two and the sailboat. Mr. Humphrey said that's a good point and also added these comments, "I'll be honest with you. I see half a dozen faces that worked their butts off here in the last couple of weekends, some of them more than others. And every bit of help that we got, I thoroughly appreciate. But it's a lot of frigging nasty, dirty-*ss work. And I'm about up to here with that sh*t. So having a free boat donated is frigging wonderful. Scrounging up enough labor to come out there and get their elbows dirty ain't so easy. So we need to keep that in mind. If we're going to get boats, then we've got to have some people who want to come out there and help us get them ready and sink them. Either that or we're going to have to come up with a way of funding a crew to do it for us. These projects take commitment. And people just have to show up. I have things I'd rather do, too." David Andrews said we should try to do this kind of work in the wintertime, people have more time in the winter and it's not so hot.

DERELICT VESSEL PROGRAM VESSEL

Ralph Humphrey thanked everybody that came out to help on the sailboat. Mr. Humphrey asked Jimmy Sanders to come out and look at it when he gets time. Mr. Sanders said to remind him.

Mr. Humphrey gave this update regarding the sailboat: About the only thing left in the boat is the engine and the generator, and they are broke loose and hanging by chains from a mast. We have the use of a cherry picker out there. All we have to do is drive it over and snatch the stuff out and then clean out whatever might be underneath the engine. There's two more tanks in the deck of the boat in the bottom of the hull that we need to open up just to make sure there's no air, make sure there's no oil or whatever. The fuel tank is drained. Literally, the boat is just about ready to go. What's left is to pull the engines out and get whatever stuff is floating in the bottom. And we're probably talking about a couple of hours work. There's no reason why we can't have it in the water by the end of the month.

Mr. Humphrey said he's been talking to Tim about how to patch up the holes that are there and how to create some new holes and cap them off so when we get the boat out we can knock the plugs off and let her sink. Mr. Humphrey said

anybody that can donate their time to get this sailboat finished should get with him after the meeting. David Andrews informed the group that Jimmy Taylor hasn't been able to work on the sailboat because of the billfish tournament but he did donate \$100. Mr. Humphrey said we have to pay to put the sailboat in the water, pay the dumpster fee and pay the shipyard to pick it up. Mr. Andrews said he would like to keep a separate accounting of the money for the sailboat. Discussion was held on the best way to do that. Mr. Humphrey told Ms. West to do what was easiest for her.

Mr. Humphrey also told the group that Gulf South Outdoors has filmed work on the sailboat, interviewed members working on the sailboat and are planning on doing a show about the deployment of the sailboat. Mr. Humphrey said WLOX did interviews for the news and the Sun Herald did an interview and video, which you can see online, so we're getting some publicity.

CHEVRON PIPE

Mark Miller said he still hasn't heard anything on this project. Gene Macoy said he knows somebody out at Chevron and he maybe might help us with this project. Mr. Humphrey said we'll keep this open for another month or so and see what happens.

Background on the project is as follows: Mark Miller got a call from Rob Montgomery at Chevron and he says they've got some material. It's a big piece of pipe, 50 feet in diameter, 20 feet tall, stainless steel with concrete around it, 117,000 pounds. Mr. Miller said we'd probably have to find a contractor and if it's too big it might have to be cut up. Mr. Miller said he told him we were interested and he would keep the Board informed with emails and let us know what's going on with it.

TIDELANDS GRANT 2018

Ralph Humphrey gave the following update on the Tidelands Grant: The paperwork is still being processed. Sonya Slater, the administrator for the program, has pretty much got the finalized forms and documentation. But the documentation has to go by legal and a couple of others for approval. So we're in the final stages of signing the final paperwork. We're getting \$50,000 for 4 years with the option of extending for one more year. Mr. Humphrey told Ms. Slater at the end of four years the DMR is going to be so happy with what we're doing that

they're going to want to give us another year and keep that contract going. We're anticipating \$10,000 a year for five years.

Of the \$50,000, we get to take five percent off the top – that's \$2,500 – for administrative fees. That means the time it's going to take to process paperwork because there's a lot of forms that have to be done monthly and quarterly for the billing and semi-annually for state forms. This is going to be in addition to what we normally do. We don't have to account for that or give her a bill. So we get to absorb five percent off the top for administration. We also get to absorb as much as we need for equipment. And we have to buy the hydrology equipment that's going to be a crucial part of this program. There will be a Board of Directors meeting after our regular meeting to discuss how we're going to spend some of this money and how we're going to employ the divers. So the hydrology equipment, the GoPro Camera, the case, the clamps to hold onto it, the SD cards and all the equipment required to complete this project we're going to be able to take out of that grant money. To meet DMR's needs, we need to do one dive report a month for seven months.

FUNDRAISING

Ralph Humphrey asked Mark Miller if there was anything else he wanted to add regarding this fundraising idea. Mr. Miller said Leonard Clark with Deep Water Mafia has access to metal and stuff, like a steel mesh, where he can cut some letters out like eighteen inches to make signs to sell for ads and sponsorship like on the sailboat and even on some existing reefs. Mr. Miller said Mr. Clark can get the signs made and get them to us but we have to find somebody to tack weld them on the boat. Tim Knighten said he can handle that.

Mark Miller said he set up a donation page on the MGFB website and advertised on FaceBook. Mr. Miller said some donations were for the Christ statue and some were for the sailboat and so far we've got \$201.48.

BOB'S LIONFISH REPORT

Bob Brown said they had the big tournament and they cleared out over 4000 Lionfish this year, as compared to 8000 last year. Tim Shivers got the record high for one person, 451. The weekend tournament was won by a four-GIRL team with over nine hundred Lionfish.

CONCRETE JESUS

Bob Brown said Glenn Camplejohn put \$100 down on the concrete Jesus. Mark Miller said they found a shrimp boat with a boom and a wench to get Jesus out in the water and they're looking at fuel costs. Mr. Miller said he's thinking for \$1200 they can make the whole thing happen.

Mr. Miller made the following motion: \$747 for the Jesus statue (\$647 for the remaining balance on the statute; \$100 for the down payment Glenn paid) and \$200 for the shrimp boat, two separate checks for a total of \$947. Anything else, they'll bring back to the next meeting, not to exceed \$1200 total. Gene Macoy seconded the motion. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

NEW BUSINESS

HYDROLOGY EQUIPMENT

Emily Satterfield provided MGFB with two quotes on the hydrology equipment. Ms. Satterfield went through the quotes with the members and the different options available. Ms. Satterfield said she preferred the second quote for \$6272.15 from YSI because it's newer technology, it's more user-friendly, it's easier to calibrate and it has a carrying case. Ms. Satterfield said the one drawback on the YSI machine is the cable for this machine is expensive to replace, it has to be taken care of, wrapped up for storage and not kinked.

The group discussed the quotes. David Andrews made a motion to go with the second quote for the ProDSS from YSI. Tim Knighten seconded the motion. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

DIVE REPORT

Mark Miller presented his dive report to the members. A copy was submitted for the minutes.

LOADING CONCRETE IN THE SAILBOAT

David Andrews told the group that the boatyard had broken concrete all over the place. Mr. Andrews asked what everybody thought about loading the concrete into the sailboat. The original ballast was pulled out because it was saturated in oil and diesel fuel. Mr. Andrews said one day if the boat is gone the concrete will

still be there. Everyone seemed to think it was a good idea. Mr. Andrews said the guy at the boatyard will let us use their lift with forks on it.

MARTY WILSON CROAKER CLASSIC TOURNAMENT

David Andrews reminded the group that Mary Wilson came to the MGFB and asked for \$1500 to donate to his Croaker Classic Tournament. Mr. Andrews had made the motion that we give him the money with the caveat that we are mentioned in everything. Mr. Andrews said the reason we were giving him the money was that he was going to have the Lionfish category and it's to our benefit to get rid of Lionfish on our reefs. Mr. Andrews brought a picture of his advertisement. MGFB is not mentioned anywhere. The Lionfish is not mentioned. Mr. Andrews said this is an awkward situation but he feels that we need more recognition. It was discussed among the members. Bob Brown said he had spoken to Mr. Wilson several times regarding the tournament and he would be glad to talk to Mr. Wilson regarding this situation. Mr. Humphrey told Mr. Brown he would appreciate him handling this for the MGFB.

Motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded and carried upon vote.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

President

Secretary