

7/10/14

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

June 12, 2014

ATTENDANCE:

Ralph Humphrey, President
Secretary
Alva Bennett
Charbonnet
Andrew Hinkebein
Mark Miller
Mark Lyons
Robert Fishman
Jessica Morgan
Tim Knighten
David Andrews

Darlene West,

Derrick

Jay Trochesset

Lee Trahan

J.R. Titmus

Nick Morgan

Gunner Morgan

Josh Kittrell

The meeting of June 12, 2014 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 J.R. Titmus. Motion was seconded and carried upon vote.

MINUTES

Copies of the minutes were distributed and reviewed by the members. A motion was made to dispense with the reading of the minutes by David Andrews. Motion was seconded and carried upon vote.

EVA systems

Derrick Charbonnet was present at the meeting. Mr. Charbonnet said it has been a while since he has had any contact with Penny, that she has not responded to any calls or emails. Mr. Charbonnet said he talked to several people at GCRL and they were all willing to do lab work but that it takes money. Mr. Charbonnet also stated nobody seemed terribly excited about it. Darlene West asked about the still outstanding check

for \$882 that has been outstanding for over a year. Ralph Humphrey asked if we ever got any results back. Mark Miller said we were given results but that we did not get a formal report. Ralph Humphrey asked Mark Miller and Derrick Charbonnet to try to get in contact with Penny and ask about the report, the check and the possibility of concluding this matter.

STIMULUS MONEY

Ralph Humphrey introduced the members to Andrew Hinkebein with the DMR. Mr. Humphrey said we still need somebody to assist MGFB in writing a grant proposal to present to BP so that we could try to get some of the restore money. Mr. Hinkebein told the members we have a better chance of getting restore money if we partner with somebody, the more people you're partnered up with the stronger a proposal comes to be. Mr. Hinkebein said possibly talking to Johnny Marquez might be a good idea. Mr. Humphrey said he liked the idea of partnering with CCA and that we would keep this topic open for further discussion at a later date.

FUNDRAISING ACCOUNT AND CROWD SOURCING

Ralph Humphrey said he is still looking into the information regarding crowd sourcing and fundraising. So this will be tabled until the next meeting.

GULF COUNCIL MEETING

Ralph Humphrey asked Mr. Hinkebein if he had anything to add on this subject. Mr. Hinkebein said he would check on this and try to get more input and let us know. Jay Trochesset said Alabama has a mandatory reporting system. Mr. Hinkebein said as of next year we should have a mandatory system.

REIMBURSEMENT FOR SPOTTER BOATS

Ralph Humphrey told the members after last month's meeting he met with Jimmy and some other people from DMR and they told Mr. Humphrey very adamantly they were not going to reimburse us for our spotter boat activity. Mr. Humphrey said they did send him to Sonya Slater to get information about a tidelands grant application. Mr. Humphrey said he filled out two grant applications which would be for 2016, one for spotter boat activity for \$25,000 and one for dive monitoring for \$60,000. Mr. Humphrey said the money is very project specific and he still had some information to add to the applications and then Ms. Slater was going to

review them and give him some feedback. The applications have to be completed by July 1st.

T-SHIRT SALES

Mr. Humphrey said he looked into getting some long sleeve T-shirts dry fit and cotton. There is a minimum of 25 T-shirts to an order. Mr. Humphrey asked the members if there was an interest in getting long sleeve T-shirts. It was agreed that we would order 50 long sleeve T-shirts in dry fit and cotton, large and extra-large.

NEW BUSINESS

DIVE REPORT

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

MAKING REEFS

Mark Miller said he was thinking about making some cubes out of PVC and filling with foam and figuring out how to anchor them and maybe have one or two that you can suspend and tie off on one of our existing reefs. Mr. Miller said he thought he could build some for about \$2500 deployed. Mr. Humphrey asked Mr. Miller to come up with a formal proposal to present to the members.

SNAPPER SEASON

Jay Trochesset said he heard that we will have September and October nine miles. Mr. Trochesset said if we put anything down we need to put it in that nine miles. Mr. Humphrey said he knew that Jimmy was working on bids to have stuff deployed and said where it gets deployed is entirely up to us because it's our reef sites. Mr. Humphrey said he would get with Jimmy and see where they're at with the bid proposals.

CHARGING FEES FOR DUMPING ON MGFB SITES

Mark Miller said we needed to think about charging a fee to dump on our sites. Mr. Miller said we have expenses and no income and we should come up with a number. Jay Trochesset said if we tried to charge the DMR they could decide to not deploy on our sites. Mr. Humphrey reiterated that the DMR adamantly refused to reimburse us for a spotter boat. Mr. Humphrey said the next step is the tidelands proposal and if that gets shot down in the spring of next year then possibly that's the

time to start taking hardball steps. David Andrews said the DMR has really helped the MGFB and he doesn't think we should alienate them.

Mark Miller made a motion that MGFB writes a letter to the DMR to inform them starting January 1, 2015 MGFB will charge \$5000 per deployment on any of our reef sites. Lee Trahan seconded the motion. Six members were in favor. Three members were opposed. The motion was carried.

JACKSON COUNTY FUNDING

Tim Knighten suggested we should approach Jackson County for funding. Mr. Knighten made a motion for Mr. Humphrey to write a letter to Jackson County and inquire about possible funding. Lee Trahan seconded the motion. The motion was carried upon vote.

68 FOOT STEEL HULL BOAT

Tim Knighten said he got a call from a friend who has a 68 foot steel hull boat that he bought and was going to fix it up. Mr. Knighten said the gentleman asked if the MGFB wanted the boat. Mr. Knighten said the gentleman will take the engines, gears, generator, electronics, etc., and whatever he wants off the boat and we'll get the hull. Ideas for cleanup were discussed. Mark Miller said he thought we should offer \$5000 for the boat.

Mark Miller said he called Brandon Bosarge and if we cleaned the boat Bosarge would charge five or six thousand dollars to sink it. Mr. Miller said he also called Tom Matthews and Matthews wants ten thousand to clean the boat and ten thousand to take it offshore. Mr. Knighten said he thought if we got volunteers that we could clean the boat up ourselves.

Mark Miller made a motion that we authorize up to \$15,000 to make the project happen. Mr. Miller said he and Tim would head it up but that they needed help for cleanup. Motion was seconded and carried upon vote.

LAWSUIT

Tim Knighten talked to the members about MGFB filing a lawsuit and suing the Gulf Council. The group discussed the possibility of filing a lawsuit. Ralph Humphrey suggested having an attorney come in and talk to the members regarding this subject. Jay Trochesset said he would contact Kenny Barhanovich about having someone from Mr. Luckey's office in Ocean Springs coming to the next meeting.

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

President

Secretary