

3/09/17

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

February 9th, 2017

ATTENDANCE:

Tim Knighten, Vice President
Darlene West, Secretary
Carly Somerset
Tom Becker
Robert Fishman
Mark Miller
Thomas Holloway
Patric Harper
Emily Saterfield

Alva Bennett, Treasurer
David Andrews
Alan McMillon, Sr.
F.J. Eicke
Jay Trochesset
Bob Brown
Gene Macoy
Marty McGrath

The meeting of February 9th, 2017 was called to order by Alva Bennett, Treasurer.

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 Mark Miller. 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

Ralph Humphrey was not present for the meeting. Discussion on this top will be reserved until the March meeting.

FUNDRAISING ACCOUNT AND CROWD SOURCING

The GoFundMe account is still at \$830.

CHANGING BYLAWS

Darlene West informed the members that she took the new, revised bylaws to Ralph Humphrey so he could sign them and then Ms. West notarized them. Ms. West asked David Andrews if he knew anything about filing the new bylaws with the Secretary of State. Mr. Andrews said he asked that question at one of the previous meetings and he thought everybody said that they did have to be filed with the SOS office. Ms. West said she would wait until she gets our new charity registration certificate and then will call the SOS office to get the information.

USM CONTRACT

Mark Miller said as of now the USM contract is done and we are waiting on the last payment. Ms. West said she will email Scott Milroy to check on the payment. Ms. West stated she had sent an email previously to inquire about the payment and to also invite Dr. Milroy to come to a meeting and discuss any finding he has with the group and has not heard back from him yet.

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 had said previously we would keep this open.

FUNDRAISING WITH FADS, ETC.

Ralph Humphrey – who was not present for the meeting -- had said during the January meeting that he hadn't actually heard from or called Allison Monroe, our permits expire shortly and he will call the Corps and follow up on this. Also in the January meeting, Ralph Humphrey asked Jimmy Sanders what he thought about privatization. Mr. Sanders – who was not present for the meeting – had said during the January meeting that he would have to talk to legal but that he doesn't see anything wrong with that as long as it follows the guidelines of the artificial reef program with the clean material and the permits and that he could follow up on this topic for us.

DMR FREE MATERIAL

Jimmy Sanders was not present for the meeting. Emily Saterfield informed the group that Mr. Sanders wanted her to tell us that everything was pretty much

status quo and just continuing on as it was last time he spoke with us, just slowly making progress.

TWO VESSELS TO DONATE

Ralph Humphrey and Jimmy Taylor were not present for the meeting. David Andrews said he believes the group talked about not sinking one of the aluminum ones and maybe getting a scrap value and earmarking that especially for reefs. Mr. Andrews wasn't sure they would do that or not but said it seems a waste to put a big aluminum boat down there.

SNAPPER REPORT

Carly Somerset informed the group she was just looking online at the Gulf Council meeting in New Orleans and mostly what they talked about was for the charters, mandatory reporting for vessels with federal permits. Ms. Somerset said she thinks most of the snapper decisions will be made at the next meeting in Birmingham in early April.

Jay Trochesset said one of his sons went to Washington D.C. with the Gulf Charter Boat Association and met with Senator Cochran and Senator Wicker and all the representatives and had a pretty good meeting. Mr. Trochesset said before Dr. Lucas left the DMR and went to USM getting fin fish nine miles was discussed. Mr. Trochesset said Louisiana doesn't want it, Florida and Texas has it and we want it. Mr. Trochesset stated the senators were receptive to it and knew about it and said they would try and get it on another bill but it's a long shot.

Ms. Somerset stated the Gulf Council had an advisory committee and panels and Andy Strelcheck gave a presentation. Ms. Somerset explained the surveys go in waves and wave two is not there and they haven't completed wave six yet so the numbers they gave aren't complete. Ms. Somerset said the next meeting would be a good one to listen to and anybody can sign up for a free webinar. Jay Trochesset said the gist of the meeting in New Orleans for us is that we're going to have about the same season this year because the powers that be said there was a lot of snapper caught with the states being open all that time and so next year is going to be a short season for everybody.

NEW ORLEANS BARGE TO DONATE

Jimmy Sanders wasn't present for the meeting. Emily Saterfield said Jimmy didn't tell her anything about this barge. Mr. Bennett said we'll carry this over till next month.

ROBERTS MATERIAL

Mark Miller said this is still in the works. Emily Saterfield informed the group that this guy hasn't reached out to Jimmy Sanders yet. Mr. Bennett said we'll carry this over till next month.

CHEVRON PIPE

Mark Miller said he hasn't heard anything on this project yet, it's in the works. 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.

NEW BUSINESS

CCA CAT ISLAND REEF

F.J. Eicke told the group that CCA partially funded the deployment of culverts out on the Cat Island Reef, the site southeast of Cat Island. Emily Saterfield said it will be in one zone but three different piles. Mr. Eicke said they're supposed to load the barge probably tomorrow and deploy hopefully sometimes next week, weather permitting. Mr. Eicke said CCA has a program called Building Conservation Trust that's been involved with various habitat projects, everything from oysters in Hudson Bay to stuff out in California, Oregon, Louisiana and what have you.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

After this meeting is adjourned, we will reopen the meeting for the election of officers and Board of Directors.

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

President

Secretary

2/9/17

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2017

The meeting of 2/9/17 was reopened for the election of officers. Motion was made to retain the current officers by acclamation. Motion was seconded and carried upon vote.

The current 2017 Officers are as follows:

Ralph Humphrey – President
Alva Bennett – Treasurer

Tim Knighten – Vice President
Darlene West - Secretary

ELECTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2017

Motion was made to retain the current Board of Directors. Motion was seconded and carried upon vote.

The 2017 Board of Directors is as follows:

Tom Becker – Harrison County
Tim Knighten – Jackson County
Ralph Humphrey – Private Boat
Kenny Barhanovich – Charter Boat
Jay Trochesset – Commercial

David Andrews – Tourism
At Large – Alva Bennett,
Robert Fishman,
Darlene West

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.