

1 **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE**
2 **SABINE RIVER AUTHORITY**
3 **STATE OF LOUISIANA**
4 **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**
5 **CYPRESS BEND RESORT BALLROOM**
6 **2000 CYPRESS BEND PARKWAY**
7 **MANY, LA 71449**
8 **1:00PM THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2024**
9

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11 **MEMBERS PRESENT:** **Mr. Jeremy Evans, Chairman**
12 **Mr. Kenneth Ebarb, Vice-Chairman**
13 **Mr. Shane Jeane, Secretary**
14 **Mrs. Rhonda Cupit**
15 **Mr. Jimmy Foret, Jr**
16 **Mr. Ned Goodeaux**
17 **Mr. Mike McCormic**
18 **Mr. Kevin Mitchell**
19 **Mr. Therman Nash**
20 **Mrs. Estella Scott**
21 **Mr. Stanley Vidrine**
22

23 **MEMBERS ABSENT:** **Mr. Byron Gibbs**
24 **Mrs. Hannah Savell**
25

26 **OTHERS PRESENT:** **Warren Founds, Executive Director-SRA, Many, LA**
27 **Becky Anderson, Adm Asst 5-SRA, Many, LA**
28 **Kellie Ferguson, Adm Prog Dir 3-SRA, Many, LA**
29 **Alan Fulton, Eng. Tech 2-SRA, Many, LA**
30 **Chad Strother, Land Specialist 3-SRA, Many, LA**
31

32 **There were seven (7) visitors.**
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34

35 Mr. Evans called the meeting to order. Mr. Nash offered the Prayer and Mr.
36 Ebarb led the Pledge. The roll was called and it was noted that Mr. Gibbs and Mrs.
37 Savell were absent; however, a quorum was established. **Motion carried unanimously.**

38 Mr. Evans asked for a motion to adopt the agenda if there were no additions and
39 deletions. Mr. Goodeaux stated that he would like to amend the agenda under New
40 Business, Item #3-Discuss SRA Donations for Fishing Tournaments. **Mr. Goodeaux**
41 **moved, seconded by Mr. McCormic to amend the agenda as stated. Motion carried**
42 **unanimously. Mr. Foret moved, seconded by Mr. Ebarb to adopt the amended**
43 **agenda. Motion carried unanimously.**

44 Mr. Evans stated that the minutes of the December 7, 2023 meeting were in the
45 packet and asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting, if there were no
46 corrections. **Mr. Goodeaux moved, seconded by Mr. Foret to approve the minutes of**
47 **the Board meeting of December 7, 2023 as circulated. Motion carried unanimously.**
48

1 **STAFF REPORTS: Item #1-TBPJO- Power House Operations:** Mr. Fulton
2 stated that year-to-date for 2023 run hours were Unit #1-2,980 hrs. and Unit #2-2,613 hrs.
3 He stated that unit run hours through January 18, 2024 is zero as well as generation thus
4 far. He stated that an update on the Power House Set Up Transformer Replacement
5 Project is waiting for the switch gear to be delivered by February 19th with the outage to
6 complete the installation of the new transformers is attentively scheduled for February
7 12th, 2024 at 00:01 AM until March 12, 2024, 23:59PM. He stated that the station breaker
8 outage was performed on January 2, 2024 as the headgates were lowered on both units.
9 He stated that Unit #1 outage was completed and released for operation on 5:40PM.
10 **Reservoir Levels/Status:** He stated that the average reservoir level for December 2023
11 was 167.71' msl and as of January 17th, 2024 168.07" msl. He stated that today's level was
12 168.06' msl. He stated that attempts will be made to maintain a level of 168.5' msl until
13 February which it will be 169' msl. **FERC/NERC/SERC:** He stated that Certrec
14 Corporation continues to provide support to SRA-TX and SRA-LA for
15 NERC/SERC/FERC compliance issues for Power House.
16 **Item #2-Shoreline: Permitting Activity:** Mr. Strother stated that from
17 November 30th, 2023, thru January 18th, 2024, there were (7) new structure permits, (3)
18 transferred structure permits, (1) new water withdrawal(s), (0) transferred water
19 withdrawals, (1) cancelled water withdrawals, (4) shoreline improvements
20 (dredge/erosion control), (2) approved final inspections and (0) failed final inspection.
21 **NORTH-Converse area:** 0-new structures; 0-transferred structures; 0-transferred water
22 withdrawals and 0-cancelled water withdrawal. **NORTH-Noble area:** 1 new structures;
23 0-transferred structures; 0-new water withdrawal; 0-transferred water withdrawal and 0-
24 cancelled water withdrawal; **NORTH-Zwolle area:** 3-new structures; 1-transferred
25 structure; 0-new water withdrawal; 0-transferred water withdrawal; 1- cancelled water
26 withdrawal. **MID LAKE-Many area:** 3-new structures; 2-transferred structures; 1-new
27 water withdrawal; 0-transferred water withdrawal; 0-cancelled water withdrawals; 0-
28 shoreline improvements. **SOUTH-Florien:** 0-new structures; 0-transferred structures; 0-
29 new water withdrawal; 0-transferred water withdrawal and 0-cancelled water withdrawal.
30 **FLOWAGE EASEMENTS:** He stated that the new Sunset Subdivision (Phase 3) with
31 10 lots on 4.906 acres located on Highway 1215 has been approved.

1 **ENCROACHMENT PROGRAM:** He stated that there were three encroachments
2 approved at the following addresses: 592 Hickory Ridge-Many, 80 Del Largo-Many, and
3 1004 Arnold Lane-Many.

4 **Item #3-Operational: TOLEDO BEND:** Mr. Founds stated that Mr. Remedies
5 had to go to the Diversion Canal Office. **SRD:** No report.

6 **Financial Report:** Mrs. Ferguson stated that the November 2023 financial
7 report was include in the meeting packet. She stated that at the meeting next month, the
8 report would include December and January. She stated that the revenues for Diversion
9 Canal for the month of November were \$565,984.94, expenses were \$286,175.16 leaving
10 a profit of \$279,809.78. She stated that revenues for the Toledo Bend Division were
11 \$829,524.34, expenses were \$482,466.89 leaving a profit of \$347,057.45. She stated
12 that revenues from the Christmas lights visitors was \$23,240 which covered only an 18-
13 day span. She introduced Mrs. Kim Ford who has twenty years' experience in the field
14 of accounting would be joining the accounting department. **Mr. Foret moved,**
15 **seconded by Mr. McCormic to approve staff reports as circulated and presented.**
16 **Motion carried unanimously.**

17 **SPECIAL REPORTS:** Mr. Ted Dove, member of the Toledo Bend Lake
18 Association addressed the Board to discuss his group as the replacement for the now
19 defunct Toledo Bend Citizens Advisory Committee.

20 **PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.**

21 **OLD BUSINESS: None.**

22 **NEW BUSINESS: Item #1- Adopt Resolution for Citizens' Bank:** Mrs.
23 Ferguson stated that this is a request by Citizens' Bank which allows the SRA designees
24 to double check the requested/posted checks to be paid on SRA accounts. She stated this
25 program is called "positive pay" and the designees will be Mr. Founds, Mrs. Ford, and
26 myself. **Mr. McCormic moved, seconded by Mrs. Cupit to approve adopting the**
27 **resolution for the Citizens' Bank Accounts. Motion carried unanimously.**

28 **Item #2-Exeutive Director's Contract:** Mr. Founds stated that his contract was
29 completed on December 31, 2023; however, it was necessary to wait until the new
30 governor was sworn into office before a new contract could be issued. He continued that
31 there were two changes, one was to allow him to use his personal vehicle for travel rather
32 than buying a new vehicle for him to drive and the other item was to delete the Water

1 Resource Committee to state “he is a member of the Water Resource Commission”. **Mr.**
2 **Foret moved, seconded by Mr. Jeane to approve the renewal of the Executive**
3 **Director’s contract for four years with the aforementioned changed items. Motion**
4 **carried unanimously.**

5 **Item #3- Discuss SRA Donations for Fishing Tournaments:** Mr. Goodeaux
6 stated that he was concerned about the two upcoming major events that are being held at
7 Cypress Bend Park. He stated that SRA donates cabins, security, ice, etc. besides
8 allowing visitors free entrance to the park during the actual days the tournament(s) is
9 taking place. He stated that he was approached by a gentleman that has a food truck that
10 wanted to participate at the major events and was told by the Sabine Parish Tourist
11 Commission that the fee was \$125 per day to set up and provide their services. He stated
12 that he felt this was not fair because SRA does not charge the Tourist Commission for
13 any rental of the park facilities during these major tournament fishing events and what
14 would this fee be used toward. After some discussion, it was decided to ask the Parks
15 Committee to have a meeting, invite the director of the Tourist Commission to come and
16 provide the information of the impact of the tournaments to the parish. Mr. Founds stated
17 that staff would make that request once the two pro events have been held and the Tourist
18 Commission has had time to prepare a report as well as SRA staff to prepare some type
19 of guidelines for fishing tournaments.

20 **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

21 **1) Diversion Canal:** Mr. Evans called the Committee to order. The roll was
22 called and a quorum established. **Mr. Vidrine nominated Mr. Gibbs, seconded**
23 **by Mr. Ebarb for Chairman and nominations cease. Mr. Gibbs was elected**
24 **by acclamation. Committee adjourned.**

25 **2) Toledo Bend Division:** Mr. Evans call the Committee to order. The roll was
26 call and a quorum established. **Mr. Goodeaux nominated Mr. Vidrine,**
27 **seconded by Mr. Mitchell for Chairman and nominations cease. Mr. Vidrine**
28 **was elected by acclamation. Committee adjourned.**

29 **3) Parks:** Mr. Evans called the Committee to order. The roll was call and a
30 quorum established. **Mrs. Cupit nominated Mr. Jeane, seconded by Mr.**

1 **McCormic for Chairman and nominations cease. Mr. Jeane was elected by**
2 **acclamation. Committee adjourned.**

3 **4) Finance:** Mr. Evans called the Committee to order. The roll was called and a
4 quorum established. **Mr. Vidrine nominated Mr. Goodeaux, seconded by Mr.**
5 **Mitchell for Chairman and nominations cease. Mr. Goodeaux was elected by**
6 **acclamation. Committee adjourned.**

7 **5) Cypress Bend Golf Resort: No meeting.**

8 **6) Toledo Bend Project Operations: No meeting.**

9 **LEGAL REPORT:** Mr. Founds stated that Deloutre issue could be resolved by
10 our next meeting.

11 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:** Mr. Founds stated that his report was
12 included in the meeting packet. He stated that the Powerhouse Outage Mr. Fulton
13 discussed. He stated that two transfers of property for new developments have completed
14 and two transfers for qualifying properties with encroachments are near completion,
15 pending final appraisal information were allowable by FERC Orders relative to boundary
16 adjustment. He stated that the Nantucket Subdivision final survey should be received by
17 the end of the month. He stated this is the property at the Intersection of Hwy 191 & 482
18 west of Zwolle and the owner Mr. Jack Singleton has been addressing the areas of
19 erosion in compliance with our Administrative Order on Consent with EPA to help
20 resolve this issue. He stated that once the survey is received and in accordance with the
21 original agreement, SRA will sell those acres qualifying as “fee property” and will
22 receive those acres qualifying as leaseback. He stated that he wanted to inform the Board
23 that there is an ongoing issue with the plumbing in the Conference Center and some
24 preliminary video camera work is showing some critical problems with our sewer drains.
25 He stated that investigations will continue to help prepare a plan of action to address the
26 problem. He stated that Sterling Golf has been working with the hotel for booking dates
27 for golf tournaments.

28 Mr. Evans stated that the next meeting would be Thursday, February 22, 2024 at
29 1PM at Cypress Bend Resort Ballroom.

1 With no further business to discuss, Mr. Evans asked for a motion to adjourn.

2 **Mrs. Cupit moved, seconded by Mr. Ebarb to adjourn. Motion carried**

3 **unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 2:21p.m.**

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JEREMY EVANS, CHAIRMAN

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KENNETH EBARB, VICE-CHAIRMAN

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13 **ATTEST:** _____

14 **SHANE JEANE, SECRETARY**