

2/12/15

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

January 8th, 2015

ATTENDANCE:

Ralph Humphrey, President

Tim Knighten

Tom Becker

J.R. Titmus

Carley Somerset

Mark Miller

Jimmy Sanders

Darlene West, Secretary

Alva Bennett

Robert Fishman

Bob Krista

Matt Hill

Jay Trochesset

Jay Mystery Guy

The meeting of January 8th, 2015 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 by Jay Trochesset. 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 Tom Becker. Motion was seconded and carried upon vote.

EVA systems

Derrick Charbonnet was not present at the meeting. Mark Miller said there was really nothing new to present at this time.

STIMULUS MONEY

Jay Trochesset said there was nothing new to present at this time.

## FUNDRAISING ACCOUNT AND CROWD SOURCING

Ralph Humphrey told the group he was still working on the Rockethub account.

## CHARGING FEES FOR DUMPING ON MGFB SITES

Ralph Humphrey reminded the members this subject had been tabled for the time being and we were waiting on the results of the Tidelands Grant.

## JACKSON COUNTY FUNDING

Ralph Humphrey said the Jackson County funding has been tabled for now.

## LAWSUIT

Kenny Barhanovich was not present at the meeting. No new information was presented. Ralph Humphrey requested that the secretary, Ms. West, send an email to Mr. Mullins and ask for an update on the lawsuit.

## GCRL MEETING

Ralph Humphrey said he hasn't heard any more from Reed Hendon about the deployment of the monitors. Nothing new was presented

## OMEGA PROTEIN

Ralph Humphrey stated that he did have some questions for Will Ladnier regarding the Omega Protein boat but that Mr. Ladnier is not present at the meeting. Mr. Humphrey said that Mr. Ladnier mentioned in January that the DMR might have some involvement with the Omega Protein boat. Jimmy Sanders told the members that the boat has already been prepped, cleaned and had the final inspection and the DMR was waiting to sign a contract on deployment. Mr. Sanders said he is hoping by the end of January or the beginning of February they'll be ready to deploy it.

## FUNDING WITH STEEL

Ralph Humphrey said he did include Will Ladnier on an email he sent to the Coast Guard but that he hasn't heard back yet. Mr. Humphrey stated he proposed if the Coast Guard has derelict vessels that they're looking to get rid of that MGFB takes possession of them and then we use someone like Will Ladnier who has facilities over in Alabama to take those steel hulls on the yard, clean them, get them ready, salvage some steel and either we can sell the steel and put the money in our account or we can put that towards getting it deployed and Mr. Ladnier makes

money off of whatever they can salvage to offset the cost. Mr. Humphrey said it's a win/win situation for us, that we're either going to get a deployment out of it or we're going to sell the steel and put the money in the account for future deployments. Mr. Humphrey said he's just waiting for the Coast Guard to come back and say, yeah, we've got something.

## DUES

Ralph Humphrey reminded everyone that dues were due.

## BOAT SHOW

J.R. Titmus said the dates for the boat show were February 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Humphrey encouraged everyone to get with Mr. Titmus and volunteer to help with the booth.

## NEW BUSINESS

### CONCRETE CULVERT DEPLOYMENT

Jimmy Sanders informed the group the DMR went out on public bid for concrete culvert deployment. Mr. Sanders said the contract has not been awarded as of yet but that he thinks that will probably start in early March. Mr. Sanders said they have three months to complete it and it's \$200 thousand dollars.

In regards to Omega, Mr. Sanders said that since it's the same footprint as the Wicomico they were going to put it in the same area. Tim Knighton said he thinks we need to be looking at putting this stuff inside state waters. Mr. Humphrey said he agreed it needed to be within the 9 miles. Mr. Sanders said maybe next meeting he can get a map together and sit down with Mark Miller and come up with a couple of alternate sites.

Tim Knighton said we should look into permits closer. Jay Trochesset suggested putting something outside of Petite Bois. Jimmy Sanders said outside of Petite Bois you've got about a mile to work with because you've got to stay outside of the Gulf Islands National Seashore and it's just a little fairway to work with. Mr. Humphrey said there is nothing to prevent us from starting the paperwork and trying to chart that out. Jay Trochesset made a motion that we start charting the area at least a mile past the island and a mile away from the fairway. Mr.

Humphrey said instead of a motion that he will get with the Corps and see what we've got to do as an organization to permit a new site.

#### MANDATORY REPORTING ON SNAPPER

Jay Trochesset suggested Matt Hill give the members a report on snapper season. Mr. Hill told the group the commission did pass mandatory reporting for the 2015 season. Mr. Hill said Ms. Carley Somerset could tell us more about the app and things that DMR is developing. Mr. Hill said they were going to have a meeting to try to get everyone familiar with the process and get feedback. Mr. Hill stated they hired someone out of Fort Worth, Texas who did the iSnapper program.

Mr. Hill said they were extremely pleased with this past year's process and they had excellent participation. Mr. Hill stated they have released their numbers to NOAA and that once they showed how they validated their numbers NOAA was very confident in the numbers. Mr. Humphrey asked Mr. Hill how much did the numbers differ. Mr. Hill said DMR numbers were significantly higher. Mr. Hill said previously Mississippi's numbers were underestimated and Alabama's numbers were grossly overestimated and that that's why negotiations have failed before because they felt that Alabama and Florida's catch was grossly overestimated and Mississippi's catch was grossly underestimated. Mr. Hill said their data helped to show that. Mr. Hill also stated DMR was confident enough in their data last year for him to go and stand before the Gulf Council and say that our data is better than yours.

Carly Somerset said they are going to have a mobile application for the phone, a web portal and also a call-in service. Ms. Somerset said they are contracting with the IT specialist in Texas. Mr. Hill stated that the reporting was going to be very simple in the beginning with only six questions but that they had room to expand it. Mr. Hill said the difference in this year and last year's reporting is that you're going to have to pre-declare to DMR that you are going snapper fishing that day. Mr. Hill stated each boat will have a unique number for that day, for that period of time, and that period of time will run out after 24 hours. Mr. Hill said if you want to go again you will clear your previous number out and get another number. Mr. Hill said if you're out fishing without a number you will be given a citation.

Jay Trochesset asked about the possibility of a federal season. Mr. Hill said there is a possibility and that they're going to talk about the allocation at the next Gulf Council meeting in Alabama on January 26<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Trochesset asked about when the state might open up state waters. Mr. Hill said it would be after they announced the federal season.

#### DIVE REPORT

Mark Miller said he did make a trip in November to try to fix a FAD but the conditions were really bad and he wasn't able to complete the trip. Mr. Miller said he would put the details on the next report.

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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President

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Secretary