

7/14/16

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

June 9th, 2016

ATTENDANCE:

Ralph Humphrey, President
David Andrews
Mark Miller
Tim Knighten
Tom Becker
Doug Galloway
Kendall Terrell

Darlene West, Secretary
Alva Bennett
Greg Byrd
Jay Trochesset
Kenny Barhanovich
Carly Somerset
Robert Fishman

The meeting of June 9th, 2016 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 Tom Becker. 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 Alva Bennett. Motion was seconded and carried upon vote.

STIMULUS MONEY

Ralph Humphrey informed everyone that he just received a memo addressed to him and MGFB from Sonya Slater, who is the Tidelands coordinator, asking him to submit any outstanding invoices for the physical year 2015 or 2016 but we didn't get a grant for 2015 or 2016. Mr. Humphrey said he's not sure what it's about but he will be calling her in the next day or two to find out what's going on.

Mr. Humphrey said he's trying to get a feel for what we need to do to further our cause with the grant but he doesn't have a good feel for it. Mr. Humphrey stated the problem we have is we're duplicating work that the DMR is already doing. Mr. Humphrey said it was recommended he reach out to Joe Jewel and Jimmy Sanders, which he has, but Joe hasn't responded to him as of yet. Mr. Humphrey said he's still going to submit the grant application at the end of the month for 2017 but unless we can find a unique way to word it to our benefit he doesn't have a good feeling about it.

Mr. Humphrey said he has not heard anything about the Restore Act money.

JACKSON COUNTY FUNDING

Mark Miller said he has heard no news on the JC Funding.

FUNDRAISING ACCOUNT AND CROWN SOURCING

Ralph Humphrey said the GoFundMe account is still at \$830.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Tim Knighten has not had time to work on this issue. Mr. Humphrey said we will carry this over.

CULVERTS SOMEBODY WANTS TO GET RID OF

Tim Knighten said he thinks the guy donated them but he will check and get back with us.

CHANGING BYLAWS

Ralph Humphrey brought a set of revised bylaws to the meeting for the members to peruse. A few suggestions were made on rewording of the Constitution. Darlene West said she would make the corrections and email the final product to the members.

FUNDING IDEAS

Mr. Humphrey informed the group that he and Mark Miller have had a couple of meetings with Scott Milroy. Mr. Humphrey stated that at lunch last week Scott provided Mark with 12 data collection instruments which will be left out for five or six months and then collected. Mr. Humphrey said a Board of Directors meeting will be held after the FB meeting to discuss the details of the contract.

Mr. Humphrey said we needed to discuss how these trips will be billed. Mark Miller said his intention was to bill the FB the same way he's been doing with his other dive trips.

DMR MAPPING

Jimmy Sanders was not present for the meeting. Ralph Humphrey said he would assume everything is still status quo.

ACADEMY SEMINARS

Robert Fishman said he talked to Matt and they had the Boater Safety Seminar a few weeks ago. Mr. Fishman said Matt suggested that while we're still in snapper season that we try to get a table at the MS Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo and also suggested some kind of laminated charts or stickers to try to drive up membership. Kenny Barhanovich said that's a tough time to get somebody to man a booth. David Andrews said it's hot and the 4th of July weekend when most people have plans. There were no volunteers.

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. Mark Miller said they just put 72 juvenile reef habitats out there that he will address in his dive report.

UPDATES ON SNAPPER APP

Carly Somerset asked the group if anyone had had a chance to use the snapper app. Ralph Humphrey said he used it and it worked like a charm. Ms. Somerset said they have made some upgrades and if anyone has any problems to call her. Tim Knighten said he had a couple problems. Ms. Somerset said she would look at it with him to figure out the problem.

ICAST 2016

Robert Fishman said he is going to ICAST in Orlando in July. Darlene West brought some MGF B Drawdown pamphlets for him to bring to ICAST. Mr. Fishman said he will give us an update at the August meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

FLORIDA'S RESOLUTION

F.J. Eicke, who was not present for the meeting, asked Ralph Humphrey to bring to the attention of the group a resolution by the Florida Fresh Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission that has to do with the seining of the forage fish species. Mr. Humphrey said in a nutshell what it says is that they want to make sure they keep a close eye on the forage fish and make sure that the stocks don't get depleted and that they take quick action before anything critical occurs. A copy of the resolution will be submitted in the minutes.

DIVE REPORT

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

FUNDRAISING

Different ideas were discussed for fundraising possibilities. Mark Miller presented an idea of making a FAD in the replica of a casino chip. Mr. Miller said you could build one for \$20 to \$50 depending on how fancy you wanted to make it. Mr. Miller said the trick would be to get the media exposure when we put them out and bring attention to our sponsors. Tim Knighten suggested we consider selling private spots, small FADs with concrete blocks. Mark Miller also suggested with the GoFundMe account we needed to be focused on a specific project or goal. Mr. Miller said he looked into prices, a 15 feet tall pyramid for \$14,000, including delivery, and said that would be a good GoFundMe project to concentrate on.

A GROUP OF PEOPLE IN TEXAS THAT BUILD REEFS

David Andrews said somebody mailed him information on a group of people in Texas that build reefs. Most of them are government. Mr. Andrews said since June they put down two 400 foot vessels and spent a million dollars and they're tapping off of a billion dollars of Restore Act money. Mr. Humphrey said he would look at the information after the meeting.

Motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded and carried upon vote. Mr. Humphrey reminded the Board of Directors to remain for their scheduled meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

President

Secretary