

8/10/17

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

July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017

ATTENDANCE:

Ralph Humphrey, President

Alva Bennett

Lee Trahan

M. Cospelich

Jimmy Sanders

David Andrews

Jason Jones

Todd Loyd

Jay Trochesset

Craig Gusa

Darlene West, Secretary

Mark Miller

Kenny Barhanovich

Bob Brown

Emily Satterfield

Tim Knighten

Skip Roberts

Todd Cospelich

Robert Fishman

Brian Bounds

The meeting of July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017 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 Lee Trahan. 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

Robert Smith and Marty McGrath were not present for the meeting. Ralph Humphrey said we'll carry this over till next month.

## USM CONTRACT

Ralph Humphrey informed the group that Mark Miller made a few different dives on the USM contract that will be discussed in the dive report.

## 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.

## DMR FREE MATERIAL (LEE STREET)

Jimmy Sanders said the last deployment was on Monday and 6,000 tons of material was deployed to 11 sites. Mr. Sanders also said there's new material coming in.

## TWO VESSELS TO DONATE

Jimmy Taylor said it would be at least the end of August before the guy settles with BP and then the guy has to clean the boats, which he will do for us for free. Both boats are towable.

Mr. Taylor said he's also working on another boat, a 35 foot aluminum boat. Mr. Taylor said he's hoping this boat would come to fruition very shortly and it's a towable boat also. Mr. Humphrey asked Todd Loyd if he and Gene Macoy could be available at the end of the summer to tow these three boats. Mr. Loyd said they could, no problem.

## DERELICT VESESEL PROGRAM (SAILBOAT)

Ralph Humphrey thanked Deep Water Mafia for all their help with the Sailboat. Mr. Humphrey said that the Sailboat is done and ready for deployment but that the boat is a sieve. Jimmy Sanders and Will Ladnier went out to look at the Sailboat. Will Ladiner pointed out all the holes and bad spots on the boat. Mr. Humphrey said the bottom line is that boat is a disaster waiting to happen and a serious liability if it sinks before we can get it where it needs to be.

With that in mind, Mr. Humphrey had a discussion with Will Ladiner while he was out there, and Mr. Ladiner made us a proposal in which GulfStream would offer the services of carrying the Sailboat on the deck of their barge to the designated

reef location and then lift and deploy the Sailboat on FH2. GulfStream would usually charge \$10,000 for this service but is willing to charge the MGFB \$5,000 to FH2 and if deployed to FH13 will add an additional expense of \$800. Jay Trochesset asked about deploying the Sailboat to FH1. Mr. Humphrey said let's first decide on whether or not to accept Mr. Ladnier's proposal and then we'll circle back to where to deploy.

After discussion, Robert Fisherman made a motion to accept Mr. Ladnier's proposal for deploying the Sailboat. Mark Miller added that he would put in a stipulation of 45 days to do the deployment. Bob Brown seconded the motion. Upon vote, the motion was unanimously carried.

A discussion was held on where to deploy the Sailboat, FH1, FH2 and FH13. Tim Knighten made a motion to deploy to FH2. Bob Brown seconded the motion. Upon vote the motion was unanimously carried.

#### CHEVRON PIPE

Mark Miller said he still hasn't heard anything on this project. Gene Macoy had previously said he knows somebody out at Chevron and he maybe might help us with this project. Mr. Humphrey said we'll keep this open for another month or so and see what happens.

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.

#### TIDELANDS GRANT

Ralph Humphrey gave the following update on the Tidelands Grant: Everything is signed and done on the Grant. We've ordered the ProDSS hydrology equipment and sendt a check. This equipment has to be manufactured. When they send the equipment, we will schedule a date with our divers and a couple of other people who want to attend and have an instruction session on how to use the equipment, how to calibrate it, et cetera.

At the end of the last meeting, a Board of Directors meeting was held. The BOD's decided on a format for paying the divers and what's expected of them for that payment. The BOD's also increased Darlene West's salary from \$200 a month to \$300 a month. Ms. West will be responsible not just for keeping minutes and writing the checkbook but also for making sure that we stay on track with the Grant. There are quarterly reports and forms to be filled out and the saving of receipts, files, et cetera. Bob Brown told Mr. Humphrey it would probably be better if they were breathing nitrox which is like \$17 a tank versus \$4 a tank and wanted to know if there was an allowance for that on the dive. Mr. Humphrey said, yes, and to give MGF B a bill.

#### FUNDRAISING

Ralph Humphrey asked Mark Miller if there was anything else he wanted to add regarding the latest fundraising idea. Mr. Miller said Leonard Clark was making some letters but he hasn't heard from him lately. Mr. Miller will check on this.

#### Background on the project:

Mr. Miller said Leonard Clark with Deep Water Mafia has access to metal and stuff, like a steel mesh, where he can cut some letters out like eighteen inches to make signs to sell for ads and sponsorship like on the sailboat and even on some existing reefs. Mr. Miller said Mr. Clark can get the signs made and get them to us but we have to find somebody to tack weld them on the boat. Tim Knighten said he can handle that. Mr. Miller said he set up a donation page on the MGF B website and advertised on FaceBook.

#### BOB'S LIONFISH REPORT

Ralph Humphrey said last weekend was the Croaker Classic and we had agreed to sponsor the Lionfish portion, which we've already reimbursed Marty Wilson for. Bob Brown said he's talked to other clubs and they were just blown away by the generosity of the MGF B. Mr. Brown said it definitely put Deep Water Mafia on the map and everybody is going to want to attend next year's tournament from Louisiana to Florida. It was also mentioned that Lionfish would be served that weekend at Mattina's Bar.

Bob Brown told the group that MGF B was generous to donate \$1,500 @ \$5 a fish but we don't have Lionfish in those kind of numbers in our waters. Mr. Brown

said he would like to use the \$1,500 for a separate one-time tournament this fall leaving out of Mississippi and perhaps even getting it televised. Mr. Brown also said he was just on TV with the D'Iberville dive shop doing a thirty-minute special on Gulf South Outdoors. You can see it at on You Tube.

#### CONCRETE JESUS

Bob Brown said they were close and almost deployed it Sunday but the shrimp boat wasn't ready. Mr. Miller said they're still figuring out the base and, hopefully, they will get it out in two weeks.

#### LOADING CONCRETE IN THE SAILBOAT

Background on previous discussion: David Andrews had previously told the group that the boatyard had broken concrete all over the place. Mr. Andrews asked what everybody thought about loading the concrete into the sailboat. The original ballast was pulled out because it was saturated in oil and diesel fuel. Mr. Andrews said one day if the boat is gone the concrete will still be there. Everyone seemed to think it was a good idea. Mr. Andrews said the guy at the boatyard will let us use their lift with forks on it.

A discussion was held. Mr. Humphrey said they would look at it again when they went out there.

#### NEW BUSINESS

#### DIVE REPORT

Mark Miller presented the dive reports to the members. Copies were submitted for the minutes.

Mark Miller told the group we need to come up with a name for the concrete Jesus. Mr. Miller said he just calls it Christ of Mississippi. Different ideas were thrown around for names. Ralph Humphrey asked if we needed a motion on the name. Lee Trahan said we should have a little contest for a name till the next meeting. Mr. Humphrey said think about it and we'll name it at the next meeting.

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