

1/11/18

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

October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017

ATTENDANCE:

Ralph Humphrey, President  
Alva Bennett  
Skip Roberts  
Tom Becker  
Charles McMillon  
Glenn Camplejohn  
Craig Gusa  
Lee Trahan

Darlene West, Secretary  
Mark Miller  
Brian Bounds  
Tim Shivers  
David Andrews  
Charles Martin  
Bob Brown

The meeting of October 12<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 dispense with the reading of the minutes by Craig Gusa. Motion was seconded and carried upon vote.

STIMULUS MONEY

Ralph Humphrey and David Andrews had a meeting with Robert Smith and Marty McGrath last week whereupon Mr. Smith presented a draft copy of their proposal for the Restore Act Funds. Mr. Humphrey and Mr. Andrews added points to the proposal and resubmitted it to Mr. Smith. Mr. Humphrey hopes that by the next

meeting we might have a formal draft of the proposal for the members to look at and comment upon.

#### USM CONTRACT

The USM contract is still ongoing. Mark Miller said it's about time to start picking up the recorders. Darlene West said she received a check from USM for \$1200 and deposited it today, so currently there are two invoices for \$1500 each outstanding.

#### 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.

#### TWO VESSELS TO DONATE

Jimmy Taylor was not present for the meeting. Mr. Humphrey informed the group he hopes that we can make this happen soon.

#### 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 relayed that Jimmy Sanders was having trouble with a couple of the TG videos and Mr. Sanders was going to have the IT guy look at the videos. Mr. Sanders said that the newest videos were great and everything looks good.

## FUNDRAISING

Ralph Humphrey asked Mark Miller if there was anything else he wanted to add regarding the latest fundraising idea. Mr. Miller said he's been thinking about doing memorials. Mr. Miller has been talking with Cindy Fredericks with Heritage Funeral Home. Mr. Miller said Ms. Fredericks brought it up to him so there is definitely some interest there.

## CONCRETE JESUS

The Concrete Jesus statue broke in several pieces when it was being lowered down. Glen Camplejohn said when he first talked to the guy about the statue he talked about reinforcing the inside of the statue and the guy told him it was reinforced. This guy buys the statues from someone else. But as they all found out, the statue was not reinforced. Mr. Camplejohn called the guy the next day. The guy was very nice and said he would reimburse the money for a new statue. They are in the process of making a new statue that is reinforced. The new statue is a little different with the arms down and is five feet tall. Mr. Camplejohn said he would like to continue the project but wants to find a statue like the one we had with the arms up and about six and a half feet tall. Ralph Humphrey said he would like the Deep Water Mafia to take this on and run with it and get back to us. So DWM will get back to us on this project.

## FALL BANQUET

Different ideas were discussed for the Fall Banquet. David Andrews got with the Yacht Club and arranged a deal with \$10 a head seafood plate.

Tim Knighten made a motion to authorize up to a \$1000 and charge \$10 a head for the banquet to be held at the Biloxi Yacht Club. Motion was seconded and carried upon vote.

David Andrews is going to work on this and then get with Darlene West on the details. Ms. West will send out an email to the members on the specifics of the banquet.

## NEW BUSINESS

### TIDELANDS GRANT DIVE REPORT

Skip Roberts presented the TG dive report to the members. Copies were submitted for the minutes.

### DIVE REPORT

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

### RENEWING PERMITS

Ralph Humphrey gave some background information to the group on the permit renewal process. What it boils down to is most of the requirements to hold a permit have been in effect for 30 years but have not been enforced. One of the more pertinent requirements is the ability to demonstrate that the MGFB has the financial reserves and a strong enough insurance policy that if something goes south at one of the reefs and there is a civil penalty involved that we can afford to pay it. The DMR is also going through this same process at this time and jumping through hoops to try to get their permits renewed.

Mr. Humphrey had a meeting today with Joe Jewell and Jimmy Sanders. Mr. Humphrey proposed to them that the MGFB partner with the DMR. Mr. Humphrey said he fears the MGFB without the permits will become irrelevant. Mr. Jewell assured Mr. Humphrey that he does not want to see that happen. Mr. Humphrey said he believes the DMR likes the relationship with our organization, they want it to continue, they don't want to see us fade away and they want us to retain the permits. If we work out some sort of partnership, it might be easier to make this happen.

One of the things we have to demonstrate is how is it going to be a benefit to both of us. Different ideas were thrown around. Mr. Humphrey said there are a lot of hoops that have to be jumped but we can't do anything until we have an Executive Board meeting and vote on this. The members discussed the options.

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