

10/12/17

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

September 14th, 2017

ATTENDANCE:

Ralph Humphrey, President

Alva Bennett

Tim Knighten

Jimmy Sanders

Jimmy Taylor

Darlene West, Secretary

Mark Miller

Brian Bounds

Jay Trochesset

David Andrews

The meeting of September 14th, 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 Tim Knighten. Motion was seconded. There was one opposed. Motion was 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 was not present for the meeting. Ralph Humphrey informed everyone he talked to Mr. Smith yesterday and they will be having a meeting in three weeks, the first week of October. Mr. Humphrey asked Darlene West to send him a file containing the monthly financials for the last two years for his meeting.

USM CONTRACT

The USM contract is still ongoing. We received a check from USM that is shown on the financial statement. Mark Miller made two more 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.

TWO VESSELS TO DONATE

Jimmy Taylor told the group he looked at the boats today. Mr. Taylor said John has about twenty floating oil rigs that he had to move out for the storm so they haven't had breakfast together since before Hurricane Harvey. Mr. Taylor said those boats have been on the yard for quite a while and he's not sure how those fees were handled. Mr. Taylor said he doesn't think we will have to pay any money to get the boats – other than maybe a two or three hundred dollar lifting fee – but he will follow up on the situation.

DERELICT VESESEL PROGRAM (SAILBOAT)

Ralph Humphrey said the sailboat is in the water behind the Ladniers. David Andrews said the boat is ready to go and we just need to decide on when to deploy it to FH2. Discussion was held on when to deploy the sailboat. It was decided to deploy Saturday.

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

Bob Brown, Skip Roberts and Brian Bounds did the three dives for the Tidelands Grant. Mr. Brown was not present for the meeting. Ralph Humphrey said Mr. Brown asked that for income tax purposes we make three checks for a total of \$800, in other words bill each diver that participated.

Ralph Humphrey asked for Jimmy Sanders' input on the dives. Mr. Sanders reported as follows: Everything went well. Two of the videos were kind of chopped up. He doesn't know what happened to it. The fire boat dive and the bare bottom were perfect. They did an awesome job doing that. He's going to try and use the computer with IT and see if something went wrong. But the video goes, then stops and then the sound continues. But they did a great job.

FUNDRAISING

Ralph Humphrey asked Mark Miller if there was anything else he wanted to add regarding the latest fundraising idea. Mr. Miller said with the voiding of FADS this has really taken a back seat. Right now, they do have some letters cut out. Mr. Miller said rather than complicate things and mount letters before sinking something that they can mount any letters afterwards and they may even put them on the Baratavia Bay with the statue. Mr. Miller said they may try to sell some sponsorships on future reef projects. Mr. Humphrey said we'll keep this subject open.

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 MGFB website and advertised on FaceBook.

CONCRETE JESUS

Ralph Humphrey said it looks like the Concrete Jesus will be deployed Saturday so everything is good to go. Skip Roberts said they just have to make sure they have enough straps. David Andrews said he had some straps they could use.

NEW BUSINESS

DIVE REPORT

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

Ralph Humphrey asked Skip Roberts and Brian Bounds if they had an activity report for the Tidelands Grant dives. Mr. Roberts said he didn't know they were supposed to do a report. Mr. Humphrey gave them a pass this month but reminded everyone the agreement was that although all the data in the log sheets is proprietary for the DMR it is expected for the divers to give a report similar to Mark's about where you went and what you did, just general observations.

Mr. Roberts and Mr. Bounds gave verbal reports to the members on their dives.

FALL BANQUET

Darlene West brought up that November was when we usually have our banquet. Ms. West suggested the French Club. Ms. West said she didn't know if they usually sold food or fish plates on certain days but that she would check and get some information for the next meeting. Ms. West said she thought we should keep it simple and not too expensive. Mr. Humphrey said he thought it was a good idea. Mr. Humphrey also stated he didn't think we needed a big deal for the banquet, something like fish plates and beer would be great. Everyone agreed that the Friday after our meeting would be the best time if that was feasible.

OYSTER FARM MEETING FOR DEER ISLAND

David Andrews brought to the members' attention that DMR is going to have an 80 acre oyster farm south of Deer Island. People will not be allowed to fish in the farm. The farm will consist of baskets suspended between pylons. There was discussion on this project.

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

President

Secretary