

**COMMUNITY CENTER AND PLAYGROUND  
DISTRICT 4 WARD 1  
MEETING MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2024**

The meeting was called to order by Bill Willis at 6:00pm.

**Board Members in attendance:** David Nixon, Connie Hoffpauir, Theo Chantlin, and Bill Willis

**In attendance:** David Brossett – Brossett Architect, Darby Quinn – Police Juror, Cody White – Moss Bluff Little League (President), Paul Burgess – Calcasieu Soccer Club (Executive Director), William Wilcox, Mack Rousseau, Mitch Robertson, Toni Wilcox, and Richard Dow

**Prayer/Pledge:** Prayer was led by Bill Willis; followed by the Pledge of Allegiance by board members.

**Previous Meeting Minutes:** Minutes for the January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, meetings were presented to the Board.

*David made a motion to accept the January 22<sup>nd</sup>,2024 minutes. Seconded by Connie. Motion passed unanimously.*

**Police Jurors Comments:** The Board recognized Darby Quinn, Police Juror -District 1. Darby gave an update on the upcoming River Bluff Park pavilion project that will be moving forward this year. Darby stated he is looking at some capital outlays for future projects. He would like to see the Boards vision for the next three, five, and ten years for Moss Bluff Recreation.

**Treasurers Report:** Richard presented the board with the Year-to-Date budget reports. Capital Account 773 was at \$2,339,894.81 with the encumbrances at \$494,414.97. Community Center maintenance budget item 774 was \$4,307,979.16. Senior Center account 775 stood at \$1,128,280.62 with the encumbrances at \$23,864.84. The Board was reminded that some of the reports did not indicate the monies that were already allocated in awarded bids. Richard stated the Lake Area Signs were to replace the memorial signs.

**Committee Reports:**

**Park:** Richard stated Moss Bluff Little League practices started today. Staff have been busy assembling bleachers and preparing the facility for the Little League season. SWLA Knight's Soccer Team has competed their season. The SWLA Knights Varsity and JV Soccer Teams won the State Championship. SWLA Knight's Baseball Team has started practicing at the Jones Road Facility. Richard stated the new playground equipment is scheduled to be delivered this week. Richard stated the tractor is down. We are awaiting Abell & Son's to access and make repairs to the tractor. Richard stated Hornsby Sports Turf Specialists had the necessary equipment to cut the fields in preparation for Little League season. M&M Lawn & Irrigation did not have the necessary equipment needed to cut the fields as suggested by Bayou Irrigation. Zero Turn Lawn Mowers are not recommended for the baseball/softball fields. Richard presented the Board with a Sunshine Quality Solution quote for a John Deere X570 Lawn Tractor with attachments needed to cut the fields only. Currently, the Park has two zero turns lawn mowers, both of which need to be evaluated for repairs. Richard stated he feels with the improvements made to the fields; it would be best to take care of the mowing services for the fields

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internal. Celebration Bermuda may need to be mowed more often. By bringing the mowing services internal, staff will be able to better maintain the fields. The Board was presented with three quotes from Hornsby Sports Turf Specialist. The first quote is to mow (10) baseball/softball fields only, 45 times from March to December. This includes mowing twice per week March to May, once per week June to August, twice a month September to November, and no cuts the month of December. Hornsby Sports Turf Specialist second quote is for mowing and weed eating the common grass areas at the Main Complex. The common areas will be mowed 36 times, weed eating 18 times, and blowing off all concrete areas as necessary throughout the year. The common areas include all grass outside of the baseball/softball fields including the old field #6, the old football field, and the large grass area beside field #9. Hornsby Sports Turf Specialist third quote is to perform yearly pesticide and fertilizer applications on (10) baseball/softball fields including herbicide, insecticide, and fungicide. The price is for 10 visits, 5 for pesticide applications and 5 for fertilizer applications. This price is for March to December for 2024. The Board was presented with three quotes from M&M Lawn & Irrigation. The first quote is for 36 mowing visits to cut the common grass areas at the Main Complex. M&M Lawn & Irrigations' second quote is for the spraying and fertilizing (February, March, May, July, August, and September) for the Main Complex. M&M Lawn & Irrigations' third quote is for 36 visits to mow the Jones Road Complex. Bill Willis asked about the zero turn mowers the Park currently owns and if we purchased the quoted John Deere, would it be sufficient to bring all mowing services internal. Mitch stated the Kubota needs a new deck and some repairs, and it can mow the common areas. The Scragg is approximately 10 years old and out of service. After discussion, the Board feels bringing the mowing services internal would be beneficial to maintain the field maintenance needs more adequately. The Board expressed the importance of the labor needed and routine maintenance on the equipment. David stated he feels purchasing a second John Deere X570 would help staff to adequately keep up with the fields. David asked how long did it take Hornsby to mow the baseball/softball fields? Toni stated Hornsby had one mower and it took approximately 2.5 days with having to stop one day due to weather. The grass on the baseball/softball fields was tall and needed to be mowed twice. The Board would like to get a quote to repair the Kubota mower and a quote for a new Kubota mower for the common grass areas. The Board suggested reviewing other equipment needed to bring the mowing services internal such as weed eating and blowers. Connie asked about the delivery time for the John Deere mowers. Richard stated the delivery time for the John Deere mowers is up to 4 weeks. David suggested using Hornsby to mow the fields until the John Deere mowers are onsite. The Board would like to reevaluate the status of the mowing services in approximately six months. Theo stated the M&M Lawn & Irrigation quote for the Spraying/Fertilizing is for 6 visits (February – September), while Hornsby Sports Turf Specialists quote for the Spraying/Fertilizing is for 10 visits (March – December). Both quotes are for the 10 baseball/softball fields only.

*David made a motion to move the field mowing internally and to purchase (2) John Deere X570 tractor mowers at the quoted state contract price. Seconded by Theo. Motion passed unanimously.*

*David made a motion to accept the Hornsby Sports Turf Specialists quote for the Moss Bluff Recreation- Field Maintenance (Spraying/Fertilizing). Seconded by Connie. Motion passed unanimously.*

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**Office:** Richard stated we are an employee short, currently. He has reached out to Weststaff for a temporary employee. Moss Bluff Little League has made a request for backstop padding for the baseball/softball fields with the brick backstops. Richard presented the Board with quotes for the backstop padding. The quotes are for (2) 2'x6' and (12) 2'x8' backstop padding for the fields. Bill Willis asked how the backstop padding will be attached to the wall. Richard stated there are a few different ways to attach the backstop padding such as attaching the padding to the brick wall or attaching the padding to the eyebolts/guidewire from the netting. Bill Willis asked if the backstop padding would be removed after the season. Richard stated the backstop padding will be removed and stored after the completion of the season.

*David made a motion to accept the Richardson Athletics bid for the backstop padding. Seconded by Theo. Motion passed unanimously.*

**Senior Center:** Richard stated the new sign should be installed this week.

**Old Business:**

**Maintenance Shop Repairs Project:** Brossett stated all the walls panels have been installed. The contractor originally thought they were going to be completed at the end of February but will now look at the beginning of March. The projected completion date is March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**Upcoming Projects Update: Pickleball, Batting Cages & Senior Center Repairs:** Richard stated Brossett submitted suggestions for the Senior Center Repair project. He is going to meet with the Senior Center staff to make sure the suggestions are ideal for the center.

Brossett stated the pickleball project would construct a total of 4 pickleball courts with an added alternate to build an additional 2 courts. The courts will be fully fenced in and include court lighting for nighttime use. The bids will be received on Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

Brossett stated the architectural drawings are completed for batting cages. We are waiting for the electrical engineer to complete their part. The new batting cages will be a 3-bay batting cage on the west side and a 2-bay batting cage with an alternative option for a 3-bay batting cage in place of the 2-bay batting cage on the east side.

**FEMA/Hurricane Laura and Delta:** Richard stated he feels they made progress in the last meeting. He feels hopeful we are moving forward with the process.

**Guest Business:** The Board recognized Paul Burgess with Calcasieu Soccer Club. Burgess stated he has been working with Bobby Boom, President of Moss Bluff Youth Soccer League to collaborate transitioning to Calcasieu Soccer Club. Registration for the upcoming season will begin in June. The Fall Soccer season will be played in September and October. Based on the interest, a spring soccer season may be considered with a view to playing in March and April in 2025. Games will be played on Saturdays throughout the season. There will also be one or two mid-week games played. David asked will the facility agreement be under the Calcasieu Soccer Club and fall under the Calcasieu Soccer Club insurance. Burgess stated all players are registered with the Louisiana Soccer Association. Louisiana Soccer Association covers

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all players once they are registered. Bill Willis asked what type of screening is done for coaches. Burgess stated the Louisiana Soccer Association requires a background check, concussion training and a two-hour safe sport training for coaches. Burgess stated he is working with Madison Sommers and Blake Carrier; both were on the Moss Bluff Youth Soccer League Board.

*Bill Willis made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel issues. Seconded by David. Motion passed unanimously. 7:33PM*

*David made a motion to resume the regular session. Seconded by Theo. Motion passed unanimously. 7:58PM*

**Commissioner's Comments:** The next regular meeting for the Board of Commissioners for the Community Center and Playground District 4 of Ward 1 is scheduled to be held Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 6:00PM in an open-air conference room.

*Theo made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Connie. Motion passed unanimously. 8:00PM*

Minutes recorded by and reported by Toni Wilcox.