**Jackson Point Hunting Club, LLC**

**Minutes of the Board of Director’s Meeting**

**Saturday, August 5th, 2023**

Joey Quinn, President, called the meeting to order. Attending were Joey Quinn, Larry Garland, Shannon Kelley, Ernie Sibley, Turner Sibley, Steve Kelley, Paul Sellers, Gary Inman, Bill Kennedy and Jeff Carnathan. Absent were Lance Audirsch and Lannie Travis. The guest attending was Kyle Vansickle. Joey said that John Cook had resigned from the Board, and he had appointed Ernie Sibley to take his place.

Joey asked Kyle to report. Kyle said that he had completed repairing the roads. He was now preparing the food plots for the fall planting. He said that he has seen numerous turkeys. We evidently have had another terrific hatch. He has seen a lot of deer and several good bucks. Unfortunately, there have been sightings of several hogs.

Larry read the minutes of the February 25th, 2023, Board Meeting and they were approved as read.

In Lance’s absence, Joey delivered the financial report. He said that, as of August 1, we had $25,555 in the bank. We have collected $80,500 in dues with $127,500 still to be collected. Several members have prepaid the future year’s dues, and some members did not realize that the dues increased and paid the old amount. Our expenses through July were $134,113 including $24,133 in depreciation. Our expenses are now running over $14,000 per month. We had to spend almost $10,000 to completely rebuild the grain drill and both disks. The compressor is out in the cooler and the estimate to fix it is $3,800. We will have the $5000 attorney retainer returned soon but we owe $16,000 in the Takings Litigation expert witness fees. Cash is tight and any members that can pay their dues early, please do so.

Turner gave the turkey harvest report. He said we harvested 25 turkeys and based on sightings; we have had a very good hatch this year. He said that several members are abusing the disabled hunter designation in clear violation of several rules. They are “road hunting” and using the privilege as a “taxi” service for their friends. One hunter was filmed on a game camera going down Whiskey Chute 28 times in one day. It is not fair for other hunters to be disturbed by vehicles on closed roads while calling to a turkey. The Board discussed several remedies, including limiting the riding hours to non-prime hunting time or completely eliminating designated hunter status during turkey season. After a discussion, the Board decided to table the discussion until later to give the Turkey Committee more time to fully decide what is fair to everyone.

Jeff asked if the Board would approve changing rule #13 under HUNTING to allow squirrel hunting with dogs in both states beginning January 1 instead of January 2nd. After a discussion, Paul made a motion to change rule #13 under HUNTING to allow squirrel hunting with dogs in both states beginning January 1. The rule change passed 8 for and 1 against.

Larry gave a quick update on the Takings Litigation. He recently spoke with the lead attorney Don Barrett. Don said he believes we will go to trial sometime between Thanksgiving and early spring. He believes we have a strong case and hopes for a favorable decision. There was a recent precedence where landowners in the state of Missouri were granted damages from the Corp on a smaller but similar basis. Our case was originally filed by the state of Mississippi under their Title Sixteenth Section Land and was later joined by other landowners bordering the Mississippi River like Jackson Point Hunting Club, LLC.

Larry then talked about his meeting with Lan Wilf. He was able to spend most of the day visiting with Lan, showing him the island and discussing our deer management program. Lan said that our deer habitat is now excellent thanks to an ice storm and 2 windstorms. There is a limited canopy, and the understory has exploded. There was very little deer use of the high preference plants because there is so much of it. He felt as though the body weights and overall health of the herd should be excellent over the next few years. Lan said that the CWD positive deer that was discovered in Tunica County should have put Coahoma County in the CWD zone but for some unknown reason they drew the line at old 61 highway and 49 so we are not in the zone. But he said he would strongly advise that we pull out all stops to delay its spread. He said that we should stop all supplemental feeding including corn, minerals, protein pellets and anything that promotes nose to nose contact. He used Ames Plantation (an18,000 acre club 60 miles east of Memphis) as an example. They discovered their first case in 2018 and now have a thirty percent prevalence rate. There are now very few mature bucks, and the value of the memberships has declined. He said we should stop the baited camera survey at Jackson Point and go to a passive camera survey along trails and food plots. We would not be able to determine total herd size but will have the buck/doe ratio, fawn crop and a predator index. Larry added that we should not bring any deer to Jackson Point that was killed anywhere but at Jackson Point. If the Board votes to stop the baited camera survey, we can estimate the current herd size and make-up by using the beginning 2022 estimates and project the current estimates by deducting last years harvest, allowing for a 10% natural mortality and adding fawns based on a .7 recruitment rate. The recruitment rate, which is the most crucial unknown, can be verified by the lactation rate. If we accept those assumptions, we should begin the 2023/2024 season with 420 bucks, 277 does and 194 fawns for a total herd size of 891. 891 deer represent a 75 reduction from last year and is 1 deer per 9 acres which is optimal for batture soil land. There is 1.5 bucks for every doe which Lan said is good and only gets to be a problem if it reaches 3 bucks per doe. Our emphasis should be in keeping the buck headcount high and use the does to restock the herd but not overstock the herd. Based on this analysis Lan recommended we harvest 115 does next year and leave the buck harvest criteria as it was last year.

Larry then made a motion to stop all supplemental feeding including minerals, stop the baited camera survey and go to a passive survey. Turner seconded the motion and the motion passed 8 for and 1 against.

After a deer harvest discussion Steve Kelley made a motion that we set the doe quota at 115 and keep the buck harvest criteria the same with one exception: The gross B&C score for 9 point bucks be lowered to 150 points. Ernie seconded the motion and the motion passed 8 for and 1 against.

Joey then commented that there would be no timber cut this year because of low prices.

Joey said the annual meeting will be at the tractor shed, Saturday, October 21st . Lunch will be served at 12 and the meeting will begin as soon as everyone is finished. Board members whose term is expiring are Paul Sellers, Bill Kennedy, Laney Travis and Ernie Sibley. Nomination for Board members and/or business you want to present at the annual meeting must be received by Joey by September 21st.

With no more business the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Garland