

Board of Directors

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TOLEDO BEND ALERT

December 2018

Toledo Bend Citizens' Advisory Committee#

To Educate and Activate

www.tbccac.net

tbccac3@gmail.com

Next TBCAC SOCIAL 7:00 - 8:30PM Tuesday, March 12, 2019

Our Next TBCAC Quarterly Membership Meeting and Dinner will be held on Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at the **Sabine Council on Aging – Toledo Town Location (SCOA)** located on Hwy. 191, 3/4 miles north of the Hwy. 6 Toledo Town intersection. The SCOA is located next to the DAV. Socials are held quarterly on the 2nd Tuesday of the designated month.

There will not be a guest speaker for the March meeting/social. The March meeting is devoted to organization business including election of board members. Candidates for the Board of Directors will be announced in the February 2019 newsletter. Any TBCAC member in good standing for at least one year is eligible to run for a position on the Board of Directors. Please let president Jim Mifflin know if you are interested at 318-586-7897. The March social entrée will also be announced in the February 2019 newsletter. Please bring complimentary side dishes and desserts and join us for good food, fellowship and updates on TBCAC. For more information, contact Jim Mifflin at (318) 586-7897.

2019 Calendar of Meetings: Be sure to “*save the date*” for the upcoming 2019 Socials:

March 12 June 11 September 10 November 12

Meetings/Socials begin at 7:00 p.m. We hope to see you there, and bring a guest!

Board Meetings: The Board meets on the 2nd Thursday of even numbered months at 2:00 pm at the SCOA-Toledo Town location. The Board welcomes all members to attend these meetings. The December 2018 meeting will not be held at the SCOA this year. It is being held on December 13 at 6:00PM at the home of one of the board members. Please contact TBCAC president Jim Mifflin if you are interested in attending that board meeting and he will provide directions to the meeting location. The detailed minutes of all Board of Directors meetings are posted on the TBCAC website at www.tbccac.net.

Lake Level as of 11/27/2018: The lake level for Toledo Bend is reported to be 170.55 feet above mean sea level, as measured near the dam by the National Weather Service automated gauge. Last year at this time the lake level was reported at 167.38 feet. Up-to-date reservoir elevations and releases may be obtained from the Toledo Bend Project offices on a 24 hour per day basis at (337) 286-5253 and (409) 565-2273. For the most current lake levels, go to www.srala-toledo.com and click on the National Weather Service link.

Sabine River Authority (SRA/LA) Updates:

Update on Power Generation Contract

On October 26, 2018, the Louisiana Public Services Commission approved the new power generation contract negotiated by the Sabine River Authorities (SRA) of Louisiana and Texas along with three power companies, Entergy Louisiana, Swepco and Cleco. The new 5 –year power generation contract for Toledo Bend Reservoir will expire on May 1, 2023.

Update on Spillway Repair Plans

The spillway repairs are progressing well. The contractor who was awarded the bid, American Equipment Company of Anococo, LA has completed the coffer dam below the spillway that allows repairs to continue while diverting water flow around the repair area.

Work will continue to complete the concrete apron repairs and “rip-rap” stone replacement with a currently projected completion date of April 15, 2019.

The repair work is still planned to be accomplished under the normal lake operations within the generating pool range of 168 feet to 172 feet mean sea level. However, should abnormal weather patterns disrupt the construction schedule, a variance request may be requested from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). TBCAC will provide updates as the schedule proceeds.

Update on Water Sales

No specific proposed water sale is currently planned.

Proposed Property Tax Increase for Road Maintenance in Wards 2 and 3

One of TBCAC’s missions is to provide the communities that surround Toledo Bend Reservoir with information on issues that could affect their lives. We are presenting information about this road tax proposal so that our readers can be more informed in making their voting decision.

No one will be shocked to hear that most parish roads are in poor condition. All you have to do is drive on the roads. Why are they in this condition? Because for many years, there has been inadequate funding for proper road repair and maintenance.

Wards 2 and 3 include most parish roads west of State Highway 191 to the shore of the lake and from the dam to just north of Lanana Bay. Because of the particular condition of those roads and also because those Wards have the lowest road tax rates of any Wards in the parish, the Sabine Parish Police Jury passed a resolution earlier this year to increase the road taxes in Wards 2 and 3. The voters in those Wards will have an opportunity to vote on that resolution on Saturday, December 8, 2018.

Ward 2 has 84 gravel miles and 34 hard surface miles for a total of 118 miles. Ward 3 has 106 gravel miles and 30 hard surface miles for a total of 136 miles. There are four employees to service a total of 254 miles in those two Wards. **The road tax rates in Wards 2 and 3 are currently the lowest for any Wards in the parish.**

The approximate materials cost for road repairs and maintenance is as follows:

- Spreading of new gravel or rock: \$15,000 per mile
- Spraying sealant on hard surface roads to extend the life of the road: \$20,000 per mile
- Two inch resurfacing of hard surface roads: \$125,000 per mile

The estimated 2018 road tax revenue for the two wards is as follows:

- Ward 2: \$262,381
- Ward 3: \$374,250

Considering the repair/maintenance costs above, it should be obvious that this current revenue stream is woefully inadequate.

The proposed road tax increases for Wards 2 and 3 on the December 8, 2018 ballot are as follows:

- To increase road taxes in Ward 2 by 15 mills from 10.02 mills to 25.02 mills for a 10-year period.
- To increase road taxes in Ward 3 by 10 mills from 10.25 mills to 20.25 mills for a 10-year period

If approved, the estimated additional annual funding would be \$171,000 in Ward 2 and \$221,000 in Ward 3.

If approved, how much would the increase in road taxes affect the property owners in Wards 2 and 3? Some examples based on property tax assessment values follow:

Ward 2

Property Tax Assessment	Annual Dollar Property Tax Increase
\$400,000	\$487.50
\$200,000	\$187.50
\$100,000	\$ 37.50

Ward 3

Property Tax Assessment	Annual Dollar Property Tax Increase
\$400,000	\$325.01
\$200,000	\$125.01
\$100,000	\$ 25.01

As you consider how to vote on additional road repair and maintenance funding, please consider the following factors:

- **The new funding can only be used for the purpose of constructing, improving, maintaining and/or repairing public roads and bridges including ditching and drainage.**
- **The new funding cannot be used for salaries, employee benefits or equipment purchases.**
- **All taxes collected must be used exclusively in the Ward that approves the increase and cannot be allocated to other Wards.**
- **Additional funding will provide materials for much needed repair and maintenance.**
- **With additional funding, you will start to see an improvement in the condition of parish roads in Wards 2 and 3.**

Please get to the polls and vote on the December 8, 2018 resolution to provide more funding for road repairs and maintenance.

Note: For those who have computer access, we have attached a Power Point presentation with more detailed information about the road tax resolution.

TBCAC 2019 Membership Renewals

We thank you for your loyal support of the Toledo Bend Citizens' Advisory Committee (TBCAC). Your support enables us to continually monitor proposed legislative proceedings or planned governmental actions that could affect the communities surrounding Toledo Bend Reservoir. The TBCAC will support public agencies when they act in the best interests of our communities and vigorously oppose them when they do not.

It is very important that we maintain a large membership since there is always strength in numbers. Please let us know if you have any suggestions regarding how we may better serve you.

Our February newsletter will summarize our accomplishments for 2018 and our major action plans for 2019.

We wish all members a very happy and healthy holiday season and a safe and prosperous 2019.

Your 2019 membership renewal notice was sent to you the last week of November. We sincerely hope we can depend on your continued support.

Many Community Center Upcoming Events – Movies in Many (free admission, cokes and popcorn \$1.00 each)

Dec. 1 – National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation

Dec. 22 – STAR (Kid’s Annual Christmas Party)

Music in Many (ticket prices vary)

Dec. 15 – 2nd Annual Willie Stewart Family and Friends Christmas Concert – 7PM

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

to all

TBCAC Members and Their Families

Remember: You can help us save money by providing your e-mail address as a means of receiving your copy of the newsletter. You can list your e-mail address with your dues, or drop us a line at tbcac3@gmail.com. Every newsletter that we can send out via e-mail helps to save \$\$.

Help Us Grow Our TBCAC Membership: If you know someone who is not a member, give them a membership form and ask them to join. The TBCAC is a Civic & Educational Organization, dedicated to making the lake and surrounding community a true “Sportsman’s Paradise” and the retirement destination of choice for people from all walks of life. JOIN US TODAY! *We need your support!* And visit our website at www.tbcac.net Questions? E-mail us at: tbcac3@gmail.com.



MEMBERSHIPAPPLICATION

For new members, or RENEWAL form for existing members.

Annual membership is \$20.00 per single, \$30.00 per couple. *Not tax deductible under IRS rules.*

Name:	_____	Spouse:	_____
Address:	_____	City, State:	_____
Zip:	_____	Home Phone	_____
		Lake Phone:	_____
Occupation:	_____	E-mail Address:	_____
Dues amount:	_____	Donation enclosed:	_____

* Providing an e-mail address allows us to quickly send you the Toledo Bend Alert electronically, keep you informed and save printing and postage costs.

With your paid membership, you'll receive our periodic newsletter, the "Toledo Bend Alert."

Make check payable to: TBCAC and Mail to: TBCAC, P.O. Box 983, Many, LA 71449.