In Sept. 2006, CLAIBORNE PARISH CITIZENS VOTED FOR A 7-YEAR 1/8 CENT SALES TAX.

The revenue is dedicated to the work of the Claiborne Parish Watershed District Commission. Some projects proposed to be undertaken with the funds that the tax generates are the following:

1) Projects around Lake Claiborne:

- Install permanent channel markers; (No. 1 Priority Project)
- Maintain public landings, piers, and the dam on a regular schedule;
- Intensify lake patrols;
- Restock fish as recommended by Wildlife and Fisheries;
- Improve the public's access to the Watershed Commission and develop mechanisms to help assure a dependable response;
- Promote shoreline development with an aim to improve Lake Claiborne's contribution to the parish economy;
- Revitalize the Lake Claiborne Advisory Committee, to generate ideas for enhancing the lake and surrounding properties.

2) Economic development around all of the parish's water resources:

- Study the feasibility of constructing one new lake to attract residents and thereby improve the parish economy;
- Explore other approaches to better utilize the parish's abundant surface waters to benefit the parish economy;
- Apply for state and federal grants available for enhancement of water resources;
- Collaborate with state and local agencies on economic development projects.

The Claiborne Parish Watershed District was created by state statutes to "develop the natural resources and wealth of the parish for sanitary, agricultural, industrial and recreational purposes" and to "maintain Lake Claiborne." Commissioners, who are appointed by the Police Jury, serve without compensation.

Commission Chairman Dr. Phillip Fincher: 927-5266; http://cpwater.org