



## **Media Release**

**For Immediate Release**

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### **Board rescinds proposed Barnett Reservoir user fee**

After considering public response, the Board of Directors for the Pearl River Valley Water Supply District voted Thursday to rescind its proposed lake user fee at Ross Barnett Reservoir.

Under the now-scuttled plan, effective Oct. 1, 2015, all boats launched or moored at the 33,000-acre lake would have been required to have a decal displayed on its forward hull near its state registration decal. Annual fees would have ranged from \$35 a year for boats under 26 feet, to \$50 for boats 26 feet and longer. A \$10 10-day permit was also proposed.

The projected annual revenue from the program ranged from \$250,000 to \$300,000, which was to be put in a special fund account to be used solely for recreation and boating infrastructure on the 50-year-old lake.

“We received many comments both pro and con on the proposed user fee, and after taking those into consideration, the Committee decided it would be best to send it back to the staff for further study,” said John Sigman, general manager of the PRVWSD. “This serves as an example of our board’s willingness to listen to its constituents and involve them in the decision-making process.”

Sigman said the Board of Directors has tasked the PRVWSD staff with seeking and developing additional revenue sources to fund the recreational needs of the District, and he said that work would continue.