



Cane River Waterway Commission  
Minutes  
January 19, 2021

There was a public meeting of the Cane River Waterway Commission on January 19, 2021 at 6:00 pm located at 244 Cedar Bend, Natchez, Louisiana.

The meeting was called to order and roll was called, the following members being present: Mr. Rhodes, Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Paige, Mr. Methvin, and Mrs. Vienne.

Also present was the administrator, Betty Fuller and attorney Tommy Murchison.  
Also present was Ben Barron.

The minutes of the December 01, 2020 meeting of the commission were presented. The Chairman opened the floor to public comments, and after discussion, the Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mrs. Vienne, seconded by Mr. Wiggins, and unanimous vote by Mrs. Vienne, Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Paige, Mr. Methvin, and Mr. Rhodes the Commission approved the minutes of the December 01, 2020 meeting, as written.

Mrs. Fuller updated the Commission on the dilapidated structures, and shoreline restoration. She recommended that Phase I of Shoreline Restoration should be between Vienna Bend and Shell Beach. After discussion, the Commission authorized Mrs. Fuller to prepare an RFI and present quotes at the February 16, 2021.

Mr. Barron with the Natchitoches Historic Foundation addressed the Commission. The Chairman advised the Commission that he was an officer and wished to abstain from vote. Mrs. Vienne advised the Commission that she has a relationship with the Natchitoches Historic Foundation and wished to abstain from vote. Mr. Barron provided a comprehensive report to the Commission detailing the project objectives and financial cost. After discussion members opened the floor to public comments, and after discussion, members closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mr. Paige, seconded by Mr. Methvin, and unanimous vote by Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Paige, and Mr. Methvin with Mr. Rhodes and Mrs. Vienne abstaining from vote the Commission authorized Mrs. Fuller to begin the process to amend the budget to add \$1,465,00.00 to the already budgeted \$35,000.00 making the total project cost \$1,500,000.00. Upon motion by Mr. Methvin, seconded by Mr. Wiggins, and unanimous vote by Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Paige, and Mr. Methvin with Mr. Rhodes and Mrs. Vienne abstaining from vote the Commission further authorized Tommy Murchison to seek an attorney general opinion on the project and to prepare resolutions for the relationship between the Commission and the Natchitoches Historic Foundation.

Mrs. Fuller presented an invoice on the Fish Hatchery Road project for Commission review. After discussion, the Chairman opened the floor to public comment, and after discussion the Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mr. Paige, seconded by Mrs. Vienne and unanimous vote by Mrs. Vienne, Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Methvin, Mr. Paige, and Mr. Rhodes the Commission authorized the \$4,800.00 invoice.

Mrs. Fuller advised the Commission that the final audit was complete, and the Commission needed to amend their general account budget beginning fund balance by increasing the fund balance by \$434,703.00. After discussion, the Commission authorized Mrs. Fuller to begin the amendment to the general fund balance beginning fund balance.

Mrs. Fuller provided the treasurer's report for the months of November and December. She also presented the budget to actual comparison for the month of November and December and Investment Report for Commission review. After discussion, the Chairman opened the floor to public comments, and after discussion the Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mr. Methvin, seconded by Mr. Paige, and unanimous vote by Mrs. Vienne, Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Paige, Mr. Methvin, and Mr. Rhodes the Commission approved the financial report and payment of bills.

Mrs. Fuller presented gas, mileage, and activity logs for the period from November 11, 2020 to January 18, 2021 for the review of the Commission. After discussion the Chairman opened the floor to public comments, and after discussion the Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mr. Wiggins, seconded by Mrs. Vienne and unanimous vote by, Mrs. Vienne, Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Paige, Mr. Methvin, and Mr. Rhodes the Commission approved the logs for the period from November 11, 2020 to January 18, 2021.

Mrs. Fuller presented the annual letter requesting authorization to begin the budget process. After discussion, the Chairman opened the floor to public comments, and after discussion the Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mrs. Vienne, seconded by Mr. Paige, and unanimous vote by Mr. Rhodes, Mrs. Vienne, Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Paige, and Mr. Methvin the Commission authorized Mrs. Fuller to begin the budget process.

Mrs. Fuller advised the Commission that an old car was removed from the lake. After discussion the Chairman opened the floor to public comments, and after discussion the Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mr. Paige, seconded by Mr. Wiggins, and unanimous vote by Mrs. Vienne, Mr. Paige, Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Methvin, and Mr. Rhodes the Commission authorized the reimbursement for the removal of the car from the lake.

Mrs. Fuller presented the annual meeting dates for Commission review. After discussion the Chairman opened the floor to public comments, and after discussion the Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mr. Wiggins, seconded by Mr. Paige and unanimous vote by Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Paige, Mrs. Vienne, Mr. Methvin, and Mr. Rhodes the Commission authorized the 2021 meeting dates.

Chairman Rhodes presented plans for the Shell Beach parking lot expansion project. After discussion the Commission removed bathrooms from the project. Further authorizing Mrs. Fuller to have Mr. Lacour attend the February 16, 2021 meeting to provide camera system options and cost.

After review of the agenda the Commission authorized Mrs. Fuller to remove the National Park Service Cooperative Agreement from the agenda.

Mrs. Fuller advised the Commission that Mr. Johnson asked that Riverview Road be placed on the agenda for discussion. After discussion, the Commission believes that this project will fall outside of their scope and state criteria.

Mr. Methvin addressed the Commission about enforcement measures for the downtown riverbank. After discussion, the Commission authorized Mrs. Fuller to email the Sheriff's office with the last correspondence on the enforcement agreement between the Commission and the Sheriff's office. Further authorizing Mrs. Fuller to provide a copy of the USB dealing with the lake's contours.

Mrs. Fuller presented the administrator's report. The current lake level is 98.2 MSL. Fishing season is now in full swing and traffic on the lake is increasing. She issued three building permits, is treating the lake chemically for overgrowth of vegetation and giant salvinia in the north canal/lake, maintained the office/public landings, maintained the state/commission web site, service agreements, completed the required sexual harassment class, and prepared all documentation, reports, and requests that are required for the commissions review, authorization, and knowledge. She worked 1 lake complaint where a car was removed from the lake. Enforcement reported no injury or fatalities but has issued a few fishing license violations on the lake this period. After discussion, the Chairman opened the floor to public comments, and after discussion the Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mrs. Vienne, seconded by Mr. Paige, and unanimous vote by Mr. Paige, Mrs. Vienne, Mr. Mr. Paige, Mr. Methvin, and Mr. Rhodes the Commission authorized the administrator monthly report, and the November 11, 2020 to January 18, 2021 expenditure report contained therein.

Mrs. Fuller presented the Commission annual sexual harassment report for review and taught a class as per law that covered the Commission sexual harassment policy, discussions, and management video on preventing, and handling sexual harassment in the workplace. Mr. Rhodes strongly stated that sexual harassment will not be tolerated on this Commission. After discussion the Chairman opened the floor to public comments, and after discussion the Chairman closed the floor to discussion. Upon motion by Mr. Paige, seconded by Mrs. Vienne and unanimous vote by Mr. Paige, Mrs. Vienne, Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Methvin, and Mr. Rhodes the Commission authorized the annual report that shows 0 sexual harassment claims.

There being no further business to come before the Board, upon motion by Mr. Paige, seconded by Mrs. Vienne, and unanimous vote by Mrs. Vienne, Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Paige, Mr. Methvin, and Mr. Rhodes, the meeting was adjourned.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: Betty Fuller Date Approved: February 16, 2021