

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
AMITE RIVER BASIN DRAINAGE & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Location: 3535 S. Sherwood Forest Blvd., Suite 135, Baton Rouge, LA 70816

October 24, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT DURING ROLL CALL: Edwin Parker, David Hoover, Jack Harris, Douglas Hillensbeck, James Little, Angela Machin, Richard St. Pierre, Don Thompson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lionel Bailey, Felicia Lee

VACANT SEAT: East Baton Rouge Parish, East Feliciana Parish, St. Helena Parish

ALSO, PRESENT: ARBC Executive Director Dietmar Rietschier, ARBC Executive Secretary Toni Guitrau, ARBC Legal Counsel Jenna Linn Rice

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Parker.
2. Roll Call (see above).
3. Public Comments on Agenda Items: None
4. Minutes

The Board unanimously approved a motion by Hoover, second by Hillensbeck to approve the September 2022 regular meeting minutes.

5. Financial Statements:

- Hoover presented to the Board the August and September 2022 General Fund and CRDC Fund financial statements. The Board unanimously approved a motion by St. Pierre, second by Thompson to approve the August and September 2022 General Fund and CRDC Fund financial statements.
- The Board unanimously approved a motion by Thompson, second by Little to approve Administrative Budget 2022-2023 - Amendment #1. It was agreed to appropriate a total of \$50,000 under line-item Professional Services – Consultants, if the Board approves a contract with CSRS totaling that amount. This expenditure would be to comply with HR 149 by Representative Mincey.
- Update Hancock/Whitney Bank Signature(s) – The Board unanimously approved a motion by St. Pierre, second by Machin to add Executive Secretary Toni Guitrau to authorized signers/users for ARBC Hancock-Whitney bank accounts. This will enable the Executive Secretary to pay ARBC invoices/bills online due to the upcoming transition to new ARBC Board members in January 2023. During this transition all invoices and bills must continue to be paid in a timely manner.

6. Executive Director Report

- Rietschier updated the Board on the status of the Comite River Diversion Canal Project.
- HR 149 by Representative Mincey.

The Board discussed the CSRS contract proposal. The Board agreed they need a written legal opinion that would confirm whether or not they can utilize unrestricted funds to enter into a contract for \$50,000 to comply with HR 149. In order to reconsider the CSRS contract, the Board requested it contain a better description of the Scope of Work, the total charges, etc., as discussed. Parker said that he would invite Representative Mincey to the next ARBC meeting to clarify HR 149.

7. ARBC Legal Counsel: None

8. Old Business: None

9. New Business: It was noted that the regular ARBC meeting in December will be held on December 13, 2022, same time and place.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

APPROVED:

/s/ Edwin Parker, ARBC President
Date: 11/15/22

/s/ Toni B. Guitrau, Executive Secretary