

PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREATER NEW ORLEANS EXPRESSWAY COMMISSION HELD ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 2013, AT 10:00 A.M., IN THE GNOEC CONFERENCE ROOM, VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA BUILDING, 3939 NORTH CAUSEWAY BOULEVARD, SUITE 400, METAIRIE, LA

PRESENT: Lawrence M. Rase, Chairman; Michael R. Lorino, Jr., Vice Chairman; Stephen G. Romig, Treasurer; Lawrence K. Katz, Secretary; Anthony V. Ligi, Jr., Assistant Secretary Treasurer

OTHERS: Carlton Dufrechou; Debbie Lopreore; Cheryl H. Lambert; Chief Nick Congemi; Melissa M. Phillipott; Eileen Barthe'; Georgie Bagnetto; Red Thompson; Robert Graham; Stacie Heffker; Perry Daigrepoint; Cary Bourgeois & Jim Martin, GEC, Inc.; Burgess McCranie, McCranie, Campbell, Sistrunk, Anzelmo, Hardy, McDaniel & Welch; Bill Becknell, The Becknell Law Firm; Denis Milliner, Bank of New York; K. L. Rodriguez, Burk-Kleinpeter, Inc.; Jim Lynch, Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management; Andrea Calvin, Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation; Steve Bowes & Kent Schexnayder, Sisung Investment Management Services; Shelby LaSalle, Jr.; Robert Rhoden, The Times-Picayune

The Chairman called the meeting to order.

On motion by Romig, seconded by Lorino, the minutes of the regular meeting held March 13, 2013 were accepted as written. Mr. Rase, Mr. Lorino, Mr. Romig, Mr. Katz and Mr. Ligi voted in favor of the motion.

On behalf of the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation, Dr. Calvin reported for March that of the thirty-six water quality samples taken, thirty samples (83%) met primary contact recreation standards. There were four exceeding on the South Shore and two on the North Shore. Dr. Calvin stated she has gotten together with the head of DEQ's Southeast Regional office and has put in a call to Mayor Cooper's office to speak with him about the Foundation's monitoring and programs. Mr. Rase stated if Dr. Calvin would like him to go with her, he will be happy to go. Mr. Rase stated Mayor Cooper would be very interested. Dr. Calvin reported that on April 19 the Foundation will have the grand opening of the New Canal lighthouse and Education Center. Mr. Dufrechou stated everyone is invited and he knows mariners want to see it but is sure everybody else does too. He

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stated it is phenomenal the amount of information that is squeezed into the facility. Mr. Dufrechou stated the bell is actually the Coast Guard station bell from 1959. He explained the Coast Guard, when it vacated, left it there; it is being polished and will be remounted at the station. Mr. Dufrechou mentioned it is looking for a sponsor if anyone in the maritime industry is interested. Mr. Rase asked if there is a dollar amount. Mr. Dufrechou replied he does not remember but will find out and let them know. Dr. Calvin stated it would be a good complement because the Foundation was able to get one of the actual lights from 1900, which is in the museum. Mr. Katz stated WYES has had a change in General Managers and philosophy, and is looking for partners who have contacts but do not have the ability to get information out. He stated they are looking to help via internet and television. Mr. Katz suggested that Dr. Calvin or someone from the Foundation call Allan Pizzato, of WYES, adding he has made Mr. Pizzato aware of the idea.

There was no report from the Causeway Police Charitable Foundation.

Mr. Dufrechou stated there was a short bridge closure for maybe five minutes because of a 70 mph gust and has just reopened.

Mr. Dufrechou reported for March there were fifteen vessel openings, two drive fault incidents and two test openings at the drawbridge.

Mr. Dufrechou reported there were fog operation convoys on March 23 and fog logs on April 1 and 2. He added there was a little bit of light fog this morning.

Mr. Dufrechou stated Police and MAP responded to 285 breakdowns on the Causeway Bridge, which was considerably above the normal, and 46 breakdowns on the Huey P. Long Bridge, which is about standard.

Mr. Dufrechou reported twelve accidents on the Causeway Bridge (seven southbound, one at North

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Toll Plaza and four northbound). He reported eighteen accidents on the Huey P. Long Bridge (thirteen westbound and five eastbound).

With respect to the Toll Collection System project by TRMI (The Revenue Markets, Inc.), Mr. Dufrechou stated Cary Bourgeois, Aubrey Deliberto and Liz Files went to New York to see a demonstration of the operations of a test lane for the new system. Mr. Bourgeois showed slides of the test facility in New York, pointing out the Causeway's lane configuration. Mr. Bourgeois stated it was very productive as they got to run through different scenarios, paces and equipment. He added it was a successful trip.

Mr. Dufrechou showed slides of the bridge storm damage inspection. Mr. Bourgeois stated the purpose of the bridge inspection trip was to take representatives from FHWA and LA DOTD to show them the damage done by Hurricane Isaac, adding the damage inspection reports have been submitted to them. Mr. Bourgeois stated the individual damage is not that severe, but this let them visualize the magnitude of having twenty-four miles of bridge.

Mr. Dufrechou showed slides of an incident that occurred on March 19, on the Huey P. Long Bridge, when there was an overturned tractor-trailer truck in the west traffic circle. Mr. Dufrechou stated the officers were there right away and they did have an extra long day participating with this. Mr. Dufrechou stated this is one, while the State Police did go out, our guys stayed with it until the end; they were there until all the hazmat guys left and the vehicle was loaded and departed. Mr. Katz asked if the Causeway will try to get reimbursed for the police overtime involved. Mrs. Lambert stated she will speak with the Third Party Claims Adjuster about it. Mr. Katz stated he believes it is recoverable costs.

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On the southbound bridge inspection, Mr. Dufrechou stated Mr. Graham and his guys completed the northbound inspection about two weeks ago and showed slides of the southbound inspection. He pointed out the Reach-All being used and there are another two weeks to complete the southbound bridge. Mr. Dufrechou stated the guys are out there every day after commuting traffic. Mr. Dufrechou stated there is one challenge with the Reach-All in that it is twenty years old, one of the joints is no longer operational and parts are not available. He stated they are looking at a major overhaul of the Reach-All next year, which should be a capital expense.

Mr. Dufrechou stated they do anticipate delivery of the gantry for the North Shore project within the next four weeks. He stated the South Shore gantry for the Corps project has been ordered but is probably delayed. Mr. Dufrechou stated those are the two big items that they are waiting for to get the North Shore toll collection system to proceed and the South Shore to get the variable message board and gates back over here.

On the North Channel Bascule Control System Replacement project, Mr. Dufrechou stated in the last meeting the DOTD had bid the project, adding there were two bids; the low bid is with Tandem Electric in the amount of \$1,517,375.31. He stated DOTD is recommending award and the engineers and staff are recommending concurrence. Mr. Dufrechou stated the engineers' estimate was \$1.8 million so this is considerably under the engineers' estimate. **On motion by Katz, seconded by Romig, based upon the recommendation of the staff and the Consulting Engineers, the Commission concurs with the recommendation of the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) to award State Project No. H.009323 to the low bidder Tandem Instrument & Electrical Inc. in the amount of \$1,517,375.31. The Commission authorized General Manager Carlton Dufrechou to execute any documents associated with the**

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award of this contract on behalf of the Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission. Mr. Rase, Mr. Lorino, Mr. Romig, Mr. Katz and Mr. Ligi voted in favor of the motion.

On the Bridge Modifications at South Toll Plaza Optical Fiber System - Ridgelake Office to VOA Building, Mr. Dufrechou presented Plan Change No. 2. He explained that part of the Corps of Engineers' work, the final completion of the fiber optics between the VOA office and the Ridgelake office, was delayed because of the construction of the hurricane protection project. Mr. Dufrechou stated unfortunately the federal government is not as efficient as it should be and has delayed this 842 calendar days. He added it has been operational, nevertheless, they were unable to close out the project until this was completed. Mr. Dufrechou stated this Plan Change recommends the addition of 842 calendar days at no additional cost, adding the engineers and staff recommend it also. **On motion by Lorino, seconded by Romig, Plan Change No. 2 provides for the additional 842 calendar days that were necessary to facilitate the sequence of construction of U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Project LPV 17.2. No additional compensation is associated with the additional calendar days. Based upon the recommendation of the staff and Consulting Engineers, the Commission authorized the General Manager to complete the execution of Plan Change No.2 with Fisk Electric Company. Mr. Rase, Mr. Lorino, Mr. Romig, Mr. Katz and Mr. Ligi voted in favor of the motion.** Mr. Dufrechou stated the project is complete and the staff is recommending acceptance. **On motion by Rase, seconded by Katz, based upon the recommendation of the staff and Consulting Engineers, the Commission accepted the project titled Bridge Modifications at South Toll Plaza Optical Fiber System - Ridgelake Office to VOA Building. The General Manager is hereby authorized to complete the execution of the certificate of acceptance with Fisk Electric Company. Mr. Rase, Mr. Lorino, Mr. Romig,**

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Mr. Katz and Mr. Ligi voted in favor of the motion.

On the Replacement of the Toll Collection System project, Mr. Dufrechou presented Plan Change No. 3 to provide for modification to the toll collection system software for a dynamic fare schedule.

Mr. Dufrechou explained this is when someone has a toll tag with a zero balance and they go through the toll booth, instead of getting charged the \$2.00 toll tag cost, they will be charged the cash toll of \$3.00. He stated the change order adds \$31,320 to the contract amount with TRMI and thirty additional calendar days. Mr. Dufrechou stated this will greatly enhance the efficiency of the operations and he recommends it. **On motion by Romig, seconded by Lorino, Plan Change No.**

3 provides for modification to the toll collection software to accommodate a dynamic fare schedule in the amount of \$31,320 and thirty additional calendar days. Based upon the recommendation of the staff and Consulting Engineers, the Commission accepted Plan Change No. 3 on the referenced project. The General Manger is hereby authorized to complete the execution of Plan Change No. 3 with The Revenue Markets, Inc. (TRMI Systems Integration).

In response to Mr. Katz's comment that this will save money and help collect, Mr. Dufrechou stated this will take a lot of manpower work away from toll collections, toll analyst, and toll tag office and will be very helpful. **Mr. Rase, Mr. Lorino, Mr. Romig, Mr. Katz and Mr. Ligi voted in favor of the motion.**

Mr. Dufrechou stated he wants to specifically recognize Mr. Graham, Chief Congemi, maintenance and police guys for the rapid response this morning with the signal light that was hanging down at the drawbridge.

In response to Mr. Rase's inquiry as to what TRMI stands for, Mrs. Lopreore stated The Revenue Markets, Inc.

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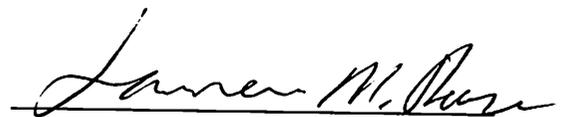
Mr. Rase congratulated Mr. Ligi on being the new Commissioner, adding he is sure Mr. Ligi will be as active and outgoing as Commissioner Egan was. Mr. Rase stated Mr. Egan will be at the next meeting to be thanked for his efforts.

Mr. Rase stated he would like to make a nomination that Mr. Katz become the Secretary and Mr. Ligi become the Assistant Secretary Treasurer. **On motion by Rase, seconded by Romig, Mr. Katz was elected Secretary and Mr. Ligi was elected Assistant Secretary Treasurer. Mr. Rase, Mr. Lorino, Mr. Romig, Mr. Katz and Mr. Ligi voted in favor of the motion.**

Mr. Dufrechou stated he will be putting out a RFQ, Request for Qualification, on architects and engineers for potential future services for the Commission.

There being no further business, on motion by Romig, seconded by Lorino, the meeting was adjourned.


LAWRENCE K. KATZ
SECRETARY


LAWRENCE M. RASE
CHAIRMAN