

MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
JANUARY 19, 2022
10:00 AM
GRAND ECORE RV PARK ACTIVITY CENTER
1071 TAUZIN ISLAND ROAD
NATCHITOCHE, LOUISIANA

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Red River Waterway Commission was called to order by Chair Designee, Troy Roussell, in the Activity Center of the Red River Waterway Commission Grand Ecore RV Park located at 1071 Tauzin Island Road in Natchitoches, Louisiana.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Roll was called and a quorum was present. Others in attendance were asked to identify themselves and offer any comments they may have regarding the agenda. However, no comments were offered.

Present: Chair Designee, Troy Roussell, Commissioner Versa Clark, Commissioner Michael P. Deville, Commissioner Paul Fleming, Commissioner Charles R. Greer, Commissioner David Jones, Commissioner Ronald Lattier, Commissioner James F. Maxey, Commissioner Michael Simpson. In accordance with Louisiana R.S.42.17.1 (Act 302) Commissioner Jacques Goudeau and Commissioner David Jones participated virtually.

Absent: Commissioner David L. Crutchfield, II and Commissioner Randell Fletcher

RRWC Staff Members Present: Mr. Colin Brown - Executive Director, Mr. Luke Pearson - Real Estate Manager, Mr. Ryan Ingles - Engineering Supervisor, Mr. Eric Gilmore - Marketing Director, Mr. Brian Cespiva - Staff Engineer, Mr. Greg Upton - Legal Counsel.

3. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD PURSUANT TO LRS 42:14**

Others Present: Molly Bourgoyne with the Louisiana DOTD and Rich Brontoli, Executive Director of the Red River Valley Association participated virtually.

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

By motion of Commissioner Greer, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the agenda was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the minutes of the December 15, 2021 meeting were unanimously approved by roll call vote.

6. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, the Expenditures and Investment Reports for the month of December 2021 were unanimously approved by roll call vote.

7. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) **Contracts**

Consideration of Revision of Red River Waterway Commission By-Laws/Per Diem: By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Greer, the Commission approved, by roll call vote of 7-2, to amend the Red River Waterway Commission By-Laws to change the per diem amount from \$75.00 to \$300.00, subject to approval of Governor Edwards as required by statute. Commissioners Simpson and Deville voted no. Staff was directed to submit a written request to Governor Edwards.

b) **Land Management, Legal Affairs & Affirmative Action**

Consideration of Authority to Re-Advertise for Public Bid Land Leases Expiring in 2022 and early 2023: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved, by roll call vote, authorizing staff to re-advertise the following properties for Public Bid Lease: Lock & Dam 1, Tracts 7-9, containing 6 acres; Wilson Point Realignment containing 69.7 acres; and Bijou Realignment containing 366 acres.

Consideration of Authority to Re-Appraise Leasebacks Expiring in 2022: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved, by roll call vote, authorizing staff to re-appraise the following Leaseback properties: Pool 3, Tracts 80 & 81, containing 14 acres; Carroll Realignment containing 366 acres; Lock & Dam 1, Tract 1, containing 640 acres; Pool 3, tract 58, containing 12 acres; and Pool 3, Tract 70, containing 24.6 acres.

Consideration of Renewal of Waterline Right-of-Way/Lock & Dam 1/Tract 1/0.70 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Fleming, the Commission unanimously approved, by roll call vote, renewal of the 20-year waterline right-of-way with Delta Ridge Ranch, LLC for the amount of \$1,800.00, paid in 20 annual installments of \$90.00.

Consideration of Award of Public Bid Land Lease/Pool 3/Tracts 68 & 88/168Acres: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission approved, by roll call vote, award of 5-year land lease to Heath Hayden for \$22,260.00 (\$26.50 per acre) for the 5-year term.

Consideration of Request for Letter of No Objection/Lock & Dam 4 and Crain Revetment/Multiple Servitudes: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Lattier and one abstention by Commissioner Simpson, the Commission approved the request from DTM Louisiana Gathering, LLC for the Letter of No Objection (LONO) to cross four Red River Waterway Commission servitudes.

Consideration of Request to Cancel Land Lease for Monitoring Wells/Grand Ecore Recreation Area/0.34 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved the request to cancel the land lease and refund DCP Black Lake Holdings, LP the prorated amount of \$4,488.00 for 3 years of the 5-year pre-paid lease.

Consideration of Request to Advertise Land for Public Bid Lease/Pool 3/Tract 24/82 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the Commission unanimously approved, by roll call vote, authorizing staff to advertise Pool 3, Tract 24, containing 82 acres for public bid lease at a minimum bid of \$15.00 per acre.

c) Recreation

Recreation Area Status Report - Mr. Ryan Ingles highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 90,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of December 2021. Updated maintenance items include, but not limited to:

- Field staff are performing routine duties. Additionally, they have replaced the playground border at the Alexandria Levee Park and completed restriping parking lots at Teague Parkway and Stoner Avenue. Restriping of parking lots at Ft. Buhlow and the Ben Routh Recreation Areas will begin next week.
- Currently advertising an extensive mowing contract - covering 6 recreation areas from Colfax RV Park south to the Brouillette Recreation Area. Anticipate having contract proposals brought forth at the February Commission meeting.

d) Ports

Consideration of Approval of Funding Request/Central Louisiana Regional Port/Marine Crane: By motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the funding request for the upfront funding of the entire project at a cost of \$217,819.36. The Red River Waterway Commission will be reimbursed by Central Louisiana Regional Port/Port Priority Program less 10% of construction costs and 100% of the engineering and soft costs, which is estimated at \$39,603.52.

e) Public Awareness & Marketing

Consideration of Approval of 2022 Out-of-State Travel Calendar: By motion of Commissioner Maxey, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the travel calendar for 2022.

Marketing Update - A prepared report was provided in the meeting packet. In addition, Marketing Director, Eric Gilmore discussed:

- Commissioners with interest in attending any of the events/conferences noted on the 2022 travel calendar should notify Eric Gilmore
- Will move forward with the Grand Ecore RV Park Operator contract and event contract with Mr. Crappie
- Caddo-Bossier Port activity – has received 10 barges so far this month
- Lots of contact interest in future fishing tournaments on the Red River

f) Personnel - None

g) Revenue, Banking & Budget

Consideration of Approval of 2021 Audit Compliance Questionnaire: By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Greer, the Commission unanimously approved, by roll call vote, approval of the 2021 Louisiana Audit Compliance Questionnaire and authorized the Secretary-Treasurer and Executive Director to execute the document.

h) Legislative - None

8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Red River Valley Association Conference in February. Please contact Eric Gilmore if interested in attending.
- Texas Street Bridge Lighting grand opening ceremony invitation for February 22, 2022.
- Staff is continuing work on the 2021 Audit.

9. STATUS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY/ENGINEERING REPORT - Prepared reports were provided in the meeting packets.

- Teague Trails Extension Project – asphalt and concrete pavement completed. Project at approximately 85% of completion.
- Alexandria Riverfront Development – foundation footings have been poured for the band shell. Executing a change order to increase the construction contract time by 211 days pushing completion to late 2022.
- Texas Street Bridge Lighting opening ceremony in February
- Grand Ecore RV Park additional amenities project – received version of preliminary plans, obtaining permits from Corps of Engineers.
- Poland Floating Dock project - design contract awarded to Meyer, Meyer, LaCroix & Hickson, survey proposal accepted and surveying process of two weeks to be followed with Notice to Proceed of preliminary design phase.

10. GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT - None

11. CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT - None

12. RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION – Mr. Rich Brontoli provided the following update:

- Monitoring issues below Lock 1
- No navigation issues so far this Winter
- Appropriations – Fiscal year 2022 budget is still unsigned by the President. There is a continuing resolution in place into February. If budget continues to go unsigned, another continuing resolution goes into effect
- The President's fiscal year 2023 budget should be out in early February
- Red River Valley Association Conference – February 23 – February 24, 2022 at the Shreveport Convention Center. February 23, 2022 – Navigation meeting and briefing on Lock 1

13. OTHER BUSINESS - None

14. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - None

15. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct at this time, by motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Clark, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned.


JAMES F. MAXEY
SECRETARY/TREASURER


TROY ROUSSELL
CHAIR DESIGNEE