

MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
JUNE 18, 2024
10:00 AM
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION
5941 HWY 1 BYPASS
NATCHITOCHEs, LOUISIANA

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Red River Waterway Commission was called to order by Chair Designee, Troy Roussell, in the Board Room of the Red River Waterway Commission Office located at 5941 Highway 1 By-Pass 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 David Jones, Commissioner Ronald Lattier, Commissioner James F. Maxey, Commissioner Kenneth Richardson, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

Absent: Commissioner David L. Crutchfield, II, Commissioner Paul Fleming, Commissioner Jacques Goudeau, Commissioner Charles R. Greer.

RRWC Staff Members Present: Mr. Colin Brown - Executive Director, Mr. Marcus Long - Operations & Maintenance Director, Ms. Stephanie Bonnette - Executive Assistant, Mr. Luke Pearson - Real Estate Manager, Mr. Kyle Smith - Engineering Supervisor, 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: None

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

By motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the agenda was unanimously approved. Comments from the public were called for, however, none were offered.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the minutes of the May 15, 2024 meeting were unanimously approved.

6. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

By motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Expenditures, Financial Statements, Investment Reports, & Fund Balance Report for the month of May 2024 were unanimously approved.

7. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) **Contracts**

Consideration of Approval of Change Order No. 5/RRWC Project No. 21-08/Contract No. RRW-799/Grand Ecore Additional Amenities: By motion of Commissioner Clark seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved the ratification of Change Order No. 5 (final) which provides for an increase in contract cost of \$28,453.63, bringing the final construction cost to \$3,047,580.78 and represents the final change order for the contract.

Consideration of Construction Bids/Twelve Mile Bayou Boat Ramp and Access Road/RRWC Project No. 23-02/Contract No. RRW-821: By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved award of bid to Synergen Construction, LLC for the base bid in the amount of \$2,082,600.20 and alternate 1 in the amount of \$96,673.61 and alternate 2 in the amount of \$278,374.86.

Consideration of Approval of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement Between the Red River, Atchafalaya and Bayou Boeuf Levee District and the Red River Waterway Commission/Brouillette Recreation Area Comfort Station & Playground/RRWC Project No. 24-01/Contract No. RRW-827: By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved the cooperative endeavor agreement which reflects the proposed improvements to the recreation facility and boat ramp being constructed on RRABB land.

Consideration of Approval of RRWC Contract No. RRW-97/Gold, Weems, Bruser, Sues & Rundell: By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved the contract with the proposed rate increase.

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

Consideration of Request for Right of Use Dredging Agreement/Pool 5/Parts of Tracts 4, 5, 6 & 11: The Commission approved this request when it was originally presented in April of 2023. The agreement remains the same and therefore no action was taken.

c) **Recreation**

Consideration of Request to Place Kayak Kiosks on Red River Waterway Commission Property: The request was taken under advisement and Commission staff was directed to do a feasibility study of kiosk site placement. No action was taken.

Recreation Area Status Report – Mr. Marcus Long highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 118,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of May 2024. Updated maintenance items include, but not limited to:

- Expecting lots of ramp cleanup after the siltation fallout from the receding high waters
- Ongoing routine maintenance
- Have received good feedback from the F1 Powerboat Racing recently held in Shreveport

d) **Ports**

Consideration of Approval of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement/Central Louisiana Regional Port/Electrical Substation Manufacturing Facility: By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement along with the corresponding budget amendment and reservation of funds in the amount of \$2,612,390.00 and unreserving \$724,167.00 from the High Water Hardstand and Access Road Project and a corresponding budget amendment.

e) **Public Awareness & Marketing**

Marketing Update:

- F1 Powerboat Racing in Shreveport was held May 25, 2024
- Grand Ecore Additional Amenities Project completion ribbon cutting was held May 21, 2024

f) **Personnel** - None

g) **Revenue, Banking & Budget** - None

h) **Legislative** - None

8. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- 12' Channel Cost-Share Agreement has been signed. A kickoff meeting will be held in a couple of weeks
- USACE Vicksburg District change of command Friday, June 14, 2024 to Colonel Jeremiah Gipson
- Corps of Engineers' dredge is currently at lock & dam 5 and awaiting favorable conditions to proceed
- Avoyelles Parish Port million gallon storage take bid opening taking place today
- Commissioners Simpson and Richardson have been confirmed by the Governor

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

- Grand Ecore Additional Amenities project completed
- Multiple projects are in the design phase
- 12 Mile Bayou Boat Ramp and Access Road project – bid being awarded
- First phases of 1North project (1A and 1B) are getting started
- Alexandria Riverfront Project – continued progression in construction

10. **GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** – Recently implemented Legislative changes by the Governor in oversight of Boards and Commissions should be a non-issue for the Red River Waterway Commission as it does not apply.

11. **CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT** - None

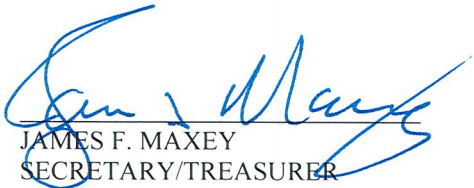
12. **RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION** - None

13. **OTHER BUSINESS** – Liz Swaine with the Advocate has done another article on the 1North Trails

14. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC** - None

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

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


JAMES F. MAXEY
SECRETARY/TREASURER


TROY ROUSSELL
CHAIR DESIGNEE