

MINUTES  
OF THE  
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING  
JULY 19, 2023  
10:00 AM  
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION  
5941 HWY 1 BYPASS  
NATCHITOCHEES, 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 Jacques Goudeau, 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 Charles R. Greer

**RRWC Staff Members Present:** Mr. Marcus Long - Operations & Maintenance Director, Ms. Stephanie Bonnette - Executive Assistant, Mr. Luke Pearson - Real Estate Manager, Mr. Kyle Smith - Engineering Supervisor, Mr. Dustin Hayes – Marketing Director, Mr. Brian Cespiva – Staff Engineer, Mr. Greg Upton - Legal Counsel.

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

**Others Present:** Ms. Katy Breaux with the US Army Corps of Engineers, Mr. Robert Vinet with KSA Engineers, and Mr. Ben Russo, Executive Director of the Central Louisiana Regional Port

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Clark the Commission unanimously approved amending the agenda to include the following under “Other Business”: Consideration of Approval of Committee Assignments/Kenneth Richardson. By motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved the agenda as amended. Comments from the public were called for, however, none were offered.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the minutes of the June 21, 2023 meeting were unanimously approved.

6. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Expenditures, Financial Statements, Investment Reports, & Fund Balance Report for the month of June 2023 were unanimously approved.

7. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) **Contracts**

**Consideration of Approval of Addendum No. 2/Contract No. RRW-418/Merrick Construction/General Services Contract:** By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved amending the contract limit of the General Services and Maintenance Contract with Merrick to the current allowable limit provided under Public Bid Law, LA Revised Statute 38:2211 C (1), currently set at \$250,000.00.

**Consideration of Change Order No. 3/RRWC Project No. 21-11/Contract No. RRW-806/Poland Floating Dock and Comfort Station:** By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved the change order to provide an additional 49 days due to high water and a net increase of \$5,046.00 to repair asphalt pavement. Bringing the total contract amount to \$1,398,643.00.

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

**Consideration of Approval of Land Lease Extension/Pool 3/Tract 78/79 Acres:** By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Richardson, the Commission unanimously approved the 5-year lease extension with Mr. William M. Beauboeuf for a total of \$10,862.50 for the 5-year lease term.

**Consideration of Approval of Leaseback Renewal/Pool 3/Tract 100/40 Acres:** By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the 5-year leaseback agreement with Mr. Charles Hampton, Jr. for \$1,700.00 for the 5-year term.

**Consideration of Approval of Leaseback Renewal/Pool 3/Tract 99/25 Acres:** By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the 5-year leaseback agreement with Richard Todd Hampton and Dianne Hampton Abraham for \$937.50 for the 5-year term.

**Consideration of Approval of Leaseback Renewal/Pool 3/Tract 11/20.9 Acres:** By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the 5-year leaseback renewal with McQuillen Properties, LLC for \$940.50 for the 5-year term subject to signatures of proper parties of the LLC.

**Consideration of Approval of Leaseback Renewal/Grappe Cut-Off/Phase II/Tract 2/35 Acres:** By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Clark and one abstention by Commissioner Richardson, the Commission approved the 5-year leaseback renewal with Dr. Robert Craig for \$1,575.00 for the 5-year term.

**Consideration of Proposals for Sale and Removal of Building/Lock & Dam 3/Tract 1:** By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Richardson, the Commission unanimously accepted the bid from Rachel Bradley in the amount of \$5.00 for the sale and removal of the building.

c) **Recreation**

**Consideration of Authority to Purchase Flex-Wing Bush Hog:** By motion of Commissioner Goudeau, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved the purchase of a new John Deere FC12E Flex Wing Rotary Cutter through State contract in the amount of \$14,833.26 and the corresponding budget amendment in the amount of \$15,000.00.

**Recreation Area Status Report** – Mr. Marcus Long highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 160,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of June 2023. Updated maintenance items include, but not limited to:

- Dredging by Blount Brothers is completed
- Dredging by Crosby ongoing
- Dredging by Testament Construction will begin in a couple of weeks in Pool 3
- Ongoing routine maintenance

d) **Ports**

**Consideration of Funding Request/Central Louisiana Regional Port:** By motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved the total funding request and corresponding budget amendments for various Port projects in the amount of \$3,743,509.00 of which \$3,247,509.00 will be allocated in fiscal year 2023 and \$495,000.00 in fiscal year 2024.

e) **Public Awareness & Marketing**

**Marketing Update** - None

f) **Personnel** - None

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

h) **Legislative** – one veto padded during the session

8. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** - None

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

- Grand Ecore Additional Amenities project – the base is in all the way around the walking trail less 700' that is adjacent to the RV Park. The standing water issue has been addressed. Overlook areas have been cleaned and mulched
- Poland Floating Dock and Comfort Station project – 90% complete. Auto-flush valves have been installed. Gangway foundation is complete. Work is underway on sidewalks and switchbacks
- Alexandria Riverfront bandshell appears to be complete. Still awaiting the final pay request from the City of Alexandria
- 12 mile Bayou Boat Ramp project – should receive preliminary report by end of the week. Due diligence is being done on drainage for southern and northern sides for feasibility of construction options. Northern side may be the best option for placement of the ramp
- Fish Lake project – Drone Lidar mapping of the 500 acres and Hydrological survey of the pond will be done at the same time and is scheduled to occur within 3-4 weeks

10. **GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** - None

11. **CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT** – Katy Breaux with the Corps of Engineers updated the Commission on the following:

- Dredging at Lock 5 is fully funded
- Alexandria front dike award of contract in October/November 2023
- Area opposite of the Alexandria front dike – awaiting surveys before moving to award of contract
- Earmarked funds for Fiscal Year 2024 includes: Eddies, dikes and 12' Channel
- 14,023 acres of mitigation property has been acquired concluding the mitigation property acquisition requirement mandated by Congressional decree
- Approach to Lock 2 – Hydrodynamic and settlement modeling will take place and will be followed up with a planning meeting in August. A physical model and shipping modeling will be done before project goes to award phase (possibly in 2025)
- Red River inspection trip with Corps' engineers scheduled for the second week of August
- August 23 – Navigation meeting
- August 29-31 – Design meeting for the Alexandria dikes
- Fish Lake property – Corps will purchase property at 100% of value from the Red River Waterway Commission by year end. There is funding for mitigation (100% Federal) and funding for recreation (cost shareable)

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

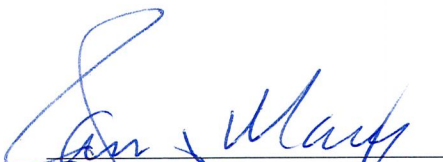
13. **OTHER BUSINESS**

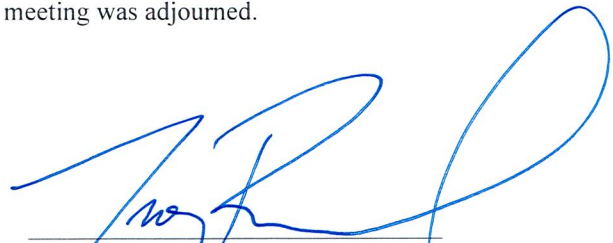
**Consideration of Approval of Committee Assignments/Kenneth Richardson:** By motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, and unanimously approved, the newly appointed Commissioner for Grant Parish, Mr. Kenneth Richardson, was appointed to serve on all committees of the Commission

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

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

  
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JAMES F. MAXEY  
SECRETARY/TREASURER

  
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TROY ROUSSELL  
CHAIR DESIGNEE