

**MINUTES  
OF THE  
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING  
September 18, 2019  
10:00 AM  
COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS  
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 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 Roy A. Burrell, Commissioner Michael P. Deville, Commissioner Paul Fleming, Commissioner Randell Fletcher, Commissioner David Jones, Commissioner Ronald Lattier, Commissioner James F. Maxey, Commissioner Larry K. Sayes, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

**Absent:** Commissioner David L. Crutchfield, II and Commissioner Charles R. Greer

**RRWC Staff Members Present:** Mr. Colin Brown - Executive Director, Mr. Mike Boydston - Operations & Maintenance Director, Ms. Stephanie Bonnette - Executive Assistant, Mr. Luke Pearson - Real Estate Manager, Mr. Ryan Ingles - Engineering Supervisor, Mr. Eric Gilmore - Marketing Director, Mr. Greg Upton - Legal Counsel.

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

**Others Present:** Jessica Broadway with Thomas, Cunningham, Broadway & Todtenbier CPAs; Mr. John Barr with U.S. Senator John Kennedy's office, Shreveport, Louisiana and Ms. Stephanie McKenzie with U.S. Senator Bill Cassidy's office, Shreveport, Louisiana

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

By motion of Commissioner Fleming, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the request to revise the agenda was unanimously approved. By motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner DeVille, the revised agenda was unanimously approved. The revised agenda to include item one under Other Business to read as follows: Consideration of Authorization for Legal Counsel to Request an Attorney General Opinion to Determine if a Member of the Caddo Parish Commission Can Also Serve on the Red River Waterway Commission. Comments from the public were called for, however, none were offered.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

By motion of Commissioner Fletcher, seconded by Commissioner Burrell, the minutes of the August 21, 2019 meeting were unanimously approved.

**6. TREASURER'S REPORT**

By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Burrell, the Expenditures, Financial Statements, Investment Reports, & Fund Balance Report for the month of August 2019 were unanimously approved.

**7. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**a) Contracts**

**Consideration of Change Order No. 1/RRWC Project No. 18-01/Contract No. RRW-739/Brouillette Recreation Area – Ramp Widening Project:** By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Burrell, the Commission unanimously approved Change Order No. 1 - additional bank protection and 2019 flood damage/cleanup costs, along with a corresponding budget amendment of \$117,188.00.

**Consideration of Ratification of Change Order No. 1/RRWC Project No. 19-02/Contract No. RRW-751/Poland Recreation – Access Road Rehabilitation:** By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Deville, the Commission unanimously approved the ratification of Change Order No. 1 along with a corresponding budget amendment, increasing project cost by \$16,056.95, establishing the final contract cost of \$433,016.95.

**Consideration of Proposals/Tauzin Island Road – Maintenance Rehabilitation:** By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Fleming, the Commission unanimously approved award of bid to Cross Keys Construction in the amount of \$155,455.00 along with a corresponding budget amendment up to \$155,455.00.

**Consideration of Authority to Advertise for Bids for the Grand Ecore RV Park Activity Center:** By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Maxey, the Commission unanimously approved granting authority to the staff to advertise for construction bids for the Grand Ecore RV Park Activity Center.

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

**Consideration of Approval of Land Lease Extension/Lock & Dam 4/Tract 1 & Tract 4 Segment A/66 Acres:** By motion of Commissioner Sayes, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved award of the 5-year lease extension to Buddy Collins & Associates, Inc. with a ten percent (10%) increase in the current lease premium for a total lease amount of \$8,712.00 (\$26.40 per acre) for the 5-year lease term.

**Consideration of Request for Temporary Water Pump Site & Water Line Row/Pool 5/Tract 1:** By motion of Commissioner Sayes, seconded by Commissioner Deville, the Commission unanimously approved the request by Comstock Energy, formerly Covey Park Gas, LLC, for a temporary water pump and water line Right of Way at Pool 5, tract 1 for one (1) year at a rate of \$0.20 per barrel.

**c) Recreation**

**Recreation Area Status Report** - Mr. Mike Boydston highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 151,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of August 2019. Updated maintenance items include, but not limited to:

- Stoner Avenue boat ramp opened last week
- All boat ramps are currently open
- Meeting for the preliminary design and construction cost estimate for Colfax Activity Center, in the coming week

d) **Ports**

**Consideration of Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with Central Louisiana Regional Port/Marketing of Red River Waterway Commission Land:** By motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Deville, the Commission unanimously approved the Memorandum of Understanding which states the Central Louisiana Regional Port may market available properties belonging to the Red River Waterway Commission within Rapides Parish to help facilitate economic development in the region. Use of the property as part of an economic incentive package would be subject to the approval of the Red River Waterway Commission.

e) **Public Awareness & Marketing**

**Consideration of Approval of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement/Shreveport-Bossier Sports Commission:** By motion of Commissioner Fletcher, seconded by Commissioner Burrell, the Commission unanimously approved the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement in the amount of \$25,000.00 with the Shreveport-Bossier Sports Commission for the 2019 events on the Red River.

**Consideration of Marketing Plan/Economic Impact Study:** By motion of Commissioner Fletcher, seconded by Commissioner Burrell, the Commission unanimously approved a \$10,000.00 marketing budget for advertising (print, social media, news media, etc.) the findings of the 2019 Economic Impact Study.

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

- September 26, 2019 at 9:30 am, tour of Lock 2 dewater process
- September 27, 2019 Dr. Loren Scott will be at the Caddo-Bossier Port
- Information, along with economic impact statistics, for King Kat Tournaments has been received. Would be a great event for Pools 2 and 3
- Major League Fishing does not have any open dates in their 2020 schedule. Will continue efforts in that area

f) **Personnel** - None

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

h) **Legislative** - None

8. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**Consideration of Out-of-State Travel:** By motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Sayes, the Commission unanimously approved the following out-of-state travel: Deep South Turf Expo in Biloxi, Mississippi, October 1 – 3, 2019; Cabela's King Kat Championship in Decatur, Alabama, November 1 – 3, 2019 and International Right of Way Association Class in Houston, Texas, September 24, 2019.

**Executive Director, Colin Brown, briefed the Commission on the following:**

- Washington, D.C. trip took place September 9 -11, 2019 for Congressional delegation visits
- Discussion of the RRWC 2019 Economic Impact Study
- RRWC's 2019 dredging costs: Budgeted \$4,000,000.00 for 2019. \$4,200,000.00 for channel dredging and \$1,800,000.00 in oxbow/backwater dredging is projected. Channel dredging is currently at approximately river mile 37
- Lock 2 closure began September 08, 2019 and is an approximated 45 – 60 day closure
- Lock 2 dewater visit scheduled September 26, 2019. Commissioners are to notify the RRWC headquarters if intending to attend
- In the beginning stages of preparing the proposed budget for 2020
- Recreational tour (2 days) for Commissioners to be scheduled for the end of October 2019

9. **STATUS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY/ENGINEERING REPORT** - Prepared reports were provided in the meeting packets. In addition, Engineering Supervisor, Ryan Ingles discussed the following:

- Active construction projects: Brouillette boat ramp widening – dock portion; Boyce recreation area and dock construction – installing floating dock. Playground is complete
- Pre-construction conference for Coushatta Recreation Area/Dock Construction September 19, 2019
- Poland Recreation Area/Access Road - completed

10. **GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** - None

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

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

13. **OTHER BUSINESS**

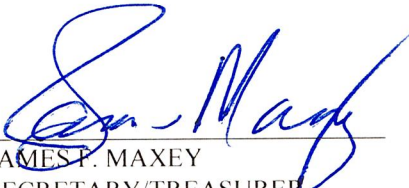
**Consideration of Authorization for Legal Counsel to Request an Attorney General Opinion to Determine if a Member of the Caddo Parish Commission Can Also Serve on the Red River Waterway Commission:**

By motion of Commissioner Sayes, seconded by Commissioner Jones, the Commission unanimously approved authorizing staff to have legal counsel request a legal opinion from the Attorney General on this matter.

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

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

  
JAMES T. MAXEY  
SECRETARY/TREASURER

  
TROY ROUSSELL  
CHAIR DESIGNEE