

MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
OCTOBER 19, 2022
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 David L. Crutchfield, II, Commissioner Michael P. Deville, Commissioner Paul Fleming, Commissioner Randell Fletcher, Commissioner Jacques Goudeau, Commissioner David Jones, Commissioner Ronald Lattier, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

Absent: Commissioner Charles R. Greer and Commissioner James F. Maxey

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. Greg Upton - Legal Counsel.

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

Others Present: Mr. Rich Brontoli, Executive Director of the Red River Valley Association

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

By motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Lattier the minutes of the September 21, 2022 meeting were unanimously approved.

6. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

By motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Expenditures, Financial Statements, Amended Financial Statements, Investment Reports, & Fund Balance Report for the month of September 2022 were unanimously approved.

7. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) **Contracts**

Consideration of Change Order No. 2/RRWC Project No. 20-07/Contract No. RRW-792/Teague Trails Extension (2020 Request): By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the change order, finalizing the as-built quantities to date, which provides for an increase in contract cost of \$34,704.66 and brings the final price to \$1,352,813.27

Consideration of Approval of 2023 Contracts List: By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Deville, the Commission unanimously approved the 2023 contracts list as presented.

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

Consideration of Request to Cancel Land Lease and Authority to Re-Advertise/Socot Capout/Phase II, Tract 11, Segment B/91 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the request from Mr. Rodney Achord to cancel the land lease with an early cancellation fee of \$200.00, and authorized staff to re-advertise the property for Public Bid Lease at a minimum bid of \$15.00 per acre.

Consideration of Cancellation of Land Lease and Authority to Re-Advertise/Hadden Ft. DeRussy/Area 5/Segments 30-36/18.7 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the cancellation of the land lease with Mr. Brady Gauthier with no early cancellation fee, and authorized staff to re-advertise the property for Public Bid Lease at a minimum bid of \$40.00 per acre.

Consideration of Request for Public Bid Mineral Lease/Pool 5/Parts of Multiple Tracts/526 Acres: No action was taken.

c) **Recreation**

Consideration of Approval of Host Agreement/BassMaster College Event: By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Jones, the Commission unanimously approved the host agreement with BassMasters in the amount of \$23,000.00. The event to take place May 04-05, 2023 at the Grand Ecore Recreation Area.

Consideration of Approval of Host Agreement/BassMaster High School-Junior Series: By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Deville, the Commission unanimously approved the host agreement with BassMasters in the amount of \$10,000.00. The event to take place May 07, 2023 at the Grand Ecore Recreation Area.

Consideration of Approval of Exclusive Use Agreement/Grand Ecore Recreation Area: By motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the exclusive use permit with BassMasters for the College and High School-Junior Series tournaments for the dates of May 04 – 07, 2023.

Recreation Area Status Report – Mr. Marcus Long highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 145,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of September 2022. Updated maintenance items include, but not limited to:

- Continuation of routine maintenance at all recreation areas

d) **Ports**

Consideration of Approval of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement/Avoyelles Parish Port/Liquid Fertilizer Storage Tank: By motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the cooperative endeavor agreement in the amount of \$850,000.00 and the corresponding budget amendment and reservation of funds.

- e) **Public Awareness & Marketing** - None
- f) **Personnel** - None
- g) **Revenue, Banking & Budget** - None
- h) **Legislative** - None

8. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- The 36th Louisiana State Disc Golf Championship was recently held at the Ft. Buhlow Recreation Area and the Commission has received notes of appreciation of a wonderful event, facility, and Red River Waterway staff
- The initial draft of the 2023 Budget will be presented to the Revenue, Banking, and Budget Committee Tuesday, November 15, 2022
- Announcement that the December Commission meeting will fall on the 21st of the month

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

- Pre-construction meeting last week for the Grand Ecore Additional Amenities project's trail and parking lot. Anticipate notice to proceed on November 1st. Revisions to the project's pool area portion are still ongoing
- Poland Floating Dock project will go out for bids in November with bid opening December 1st
- Teague Trails Extension and Comfort Station Projects are closing out
- Alexandria Levee Park Project – the main structure of the band shell is up, additional work is ongoing, and estimating the majority of the project will be completed by the end of the year

10. **GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** - None

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

12. **RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION** – Mr. Rich Brontoli, Executive Director of the Red River Valley Association updated the Commission on the following:

- Appropriations budget was not signed and is under a continuing resolution until December 16, 2022
- Dredging options – the Corps of Engineers has a smaller dredge that they are sending to Lock 1, once that dredge is cleared for use following repair work. There is a contract dredge, however the Corps needs \$1,700,000.00 in available funding to enact the dredging contract. The Corps still holds \$700,000.00 to \$750,000.00 in contributory funding from the Commission for dredge use
- Lock 1 and Old River Lock to re-open November 12, 2022
- Mr. Eric Gilmore has submitted his resume for the Executive Director position of the Red River Valley Association. Next week he will interview with the full Executive Committee. Anyone with comments, please send to my attention. Mr. Brontoli will continue on with his position with the Arkansas Feasibility project after retirement from the RRVA

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 Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Deville, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned.


JAMES F. MAXEY
SECRETARY/TREASURER


TROY ROUSSELL
CHAIR DESIGNEE