

**MINUTES  
OF THE  
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING  
OCTOBER 20, 2021  
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 Roussel, 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 Roussel, Commissioner Versa Clark, Commissioner David L. Crutchfield, II, Commissioner Michael P. Deville, Commissioner Paul Fleming, Commissioner Randell Fletcher, 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 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. Brian Cespiva – Staff Engineer, Mr. Greg Upton - Legal Counsel. **Absent:** Mr. Eric Gilmore - Marketing Director

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

**Others Present:** Ms. Pam Gras and Ms. Natalie Steinsholt with Congressman Mike Johnson's office, Ms. Misty Alexander and Jeffrey Goodman with YMCA-Shreveport and Charley Kingery with Weiland present on behalf of YMCA-Shreveport. Mr. Rich Brontoli, Executive Director of the Red River Valley Association participated virtually.

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the revised agenda was unanimously approved by roll call vote. The revised agenda to include item two under Recreation Committee to read as follows: Consideration of Approval of Exclusive Use Permit/Teague Boat Ramp/Caddo Lake Productions. Comments from the public were called for, however, none were offered.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

By motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, the minutes of the September 15, 2021 meeting were unanimously approved by roll call vote.

**6. TREASURER'S REPORT**

By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Deville, the Expenditures, Financial Statements, Investment Reports, and Fund Balance Report for the month of September 2021 were unanimously approved by roll call vote.

**7. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**a) Contracts**

**Consideration of Ratification of Change Order No. 1/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, by roll call vote, the ratification of Change Order No. 1 of the Teague Trails Extension project. The change order results in a decrease in the contract price of \$299.76 and an increase to the contract time of six (6) days.

**Consideration of Approval of 2022 Contracts List:** By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Fleming, the Commission unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the 2022 contracts list as presented.

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

**Consideration of Renewal of Vehicular Right-of-Way/Alexandria Levee Park/0.19 Acres:** No action was taken. The item was deferred to the November 2021 Commission meeting.

**Consideration of Request to Cancel Cooperative Endeavor Agreement/Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries/Aquatic Research Center:** By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the request to cancel the cooperative endeavor agreement with LDWF. The Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries will take possession, ownership, and removal of the research center's equipment and instructed that the property is to be left in a manicured, debris-free condition. The research center's greenhouses will revert back to possession of the Commission.

**c) Recreation**

**Consideration of Funding Request/Ft. DeRussy:** By motion of Commissioner Goudeau, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, the Commission unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the funding request by the American Battlefield Trust in the amount of \$37,500.00 of the \$100,000.00 acquisition cost to purchase an additional 22 acres of land at Ft. DeRussy. Commissioners directed staff to prepare a cooperative endeavor agreement to be brought before the Commission.

**Consideration of Approval of Exclusive Use Permit/Teague Boat Ramp/Caddo Lake Productions:** By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Jones, the Commission unanimously approved, by roll call vote, an exclusive use permit to Caddo Lake Productions for the Teague boat ramp area for November 13 and 14, 2021.

**Recreation Area Status Report** - Mr. Mike Boydston highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 142,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of September 2021. Updated maintenance items include, but not limited to:

- North Caddo dock has been removed
- Dredging update: Spud barge dredge nearing completion. A few remaining areas remain to be dredged in Pools 4 and 5. Dredge will continue working its way towards Shreveport.

d) **Ports**

**Consideration of Approval of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement/Caddo-Bossier Parishes Port**

**Commission/Hardstand Project:** By motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the cooperative endeavor agreement to fund \$3,963,650.00 for the following Port projects: Hardstands A, B & C, the purchase of a barge winch plinth and laser flow meter, and upgrades to fleet dolphins.

e) **Public Awareness & Marketing** - None

f) **Personnel** - None

g) **Revenue, Banking & Budget**

**Consideration of Approval of Revised Policies and Procedures:** By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Deville, the Commission unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the addition of section 11 to the Red River Waterway Commission's Policies and Procedures which incorporates the required language for procurement and records retention specifically related to Community Development Block Grant or FEMA Public Assistance funded projects.

**Consideration of Funding Request/Arkansas Red River Commission/Feasibility Study for Extension of**

**Navigation into Arkansas:** By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Maxey, the Commission unanimously approved, by roll call vote, funding \$900,000.00 (a previously approved request and funds reserved in the Commission's 2021 budget) to be disbursed in two equal amounts of \$450,000.00 in fiscal year 2022 and fiscal year 2023 to the Arkansas Red River Commission for the feasibility study.

h) **Legislative** - None

8. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**Consideration of Approval of Resolution of Appreciation/Michael Boydston:** By motion of Commissioner Fleming, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved the resolution of appreciation.

- Reminder to Commissioners of the annual training requirements to be completed by December 31, 2021
- Budget process is underway. Initial draft of the 2022 budget to be presented at the November 2021 Commission meeting

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

- Texas Street Bridge Lighting project – anticipate substantial completion by December 31, 2021
- Commission received update on the Grand Ecore RV Park Additional Amenities project
- Alexandria Levee Park – anticipated completion in late Spring 2022
- Poland Dock project – work to begin at first of the year 2022
- Currently advertising for bids for the Bishop Point, Red Oak and Natchitoches comfort stations. Bid opening is November 9<sup>th</sup> and will be presented to the Commission at the November 2021 Commission meeting

10. **GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** - None

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

12. **RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION** – Richard Brontoli, Executive Director of the RRVA provided the Commission with the following update:

- Navigation Committee weekly updates
- Two navigational concerns - river mile 33.7 and lock & Dam 2
- New coast guard chief in Colfax, Louisiana – Chief Guidry

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 Simpson, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned.

  
JAMES F. MAXEY  
SECRETARY/TREASURER

  
TROY ROUSSELL  
CHAIR DESIGNEE