

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE AMITE RIVER BASIN DRAINAGE & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
Location: ARBC Office - 3535 S. Sherwood Forest Blvd., Suite 135 Baton Rouge, LA 70816

**December 18, 2024**

MEMBERS PRESENT DURING ROLL CALL: John Clark, Jack Harris, Lionel Bailey, Clint Cointment, Randy Delatte, Pete Dufresne, Brin Ferlito, Mark Harrell, Gary O’Neal, Ed Parker, Fred Raiford

MEMBERS ABSENT DURING ROLL CALL: Ryan Byrd

Governor-Appointed Vacancies - 1

ALSO PRESENT: Ed Knight, LADOTD; Randy Clouatre, Sr., PLD; Executive Secretary Toni Guitrau, ARBC; ARBC Legal Counsel Larry Bankston, Bankston & Associates; Garvin Pittman, The Water Institute

Members also absent: Brian Lezina, CPRA

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by ARBC President Clark.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

**3. Roll Call:** See above.

**4. Consideration of the selection of Paul Sawyer “Contractor” as Professional Service Contract Consultant as recommended by the ARBC Executive Officers:** ARBC desires Contractor to provide professional services, including but not limited to, contract support for project contract oversight and assistance including, but not limited to the ARBC Master Plan development, implementation, and updates, LWI Region 9 Watershed Coordination (RCBG assistance), and status reporting to the ARBC President, Executive Committee, and all Board Members. Potential Scope of Work (SOW), Period of Performance (POP), Cost Proposal details, deadlines and format of response (more fully described in Professional Service Contract) at \$250,000 annually to be paid in bi-monthly payments. ARBC agrees to compensate Contractor for travel incurred in relation to his services. Contractor will invoice ARBC for travel in accordance with the current Louisiana Travel Policy and Procedure Memorandum 49 adopted by the Commissioner of Administration. Said Professional Services Contract was approved on motion by Bailey, seconded by Parker with Roll Call as follows:

Yeas: John Clark, Jack Harris, Lionel Bailey, Clint Cointment, Randy Delatte, Pete Dufresne, Brin Ferlito, Mark Harrell, Ed Parker, Fred Raiford

Nays: None

Abstain: Gary O’Neal

Absent: Ryan Byrd

**5. On motion by Harrell, seconded by Raiford, the Board approved direction to ARBC Legal Counsel “Bankston” to negotiate the final terms and conditions of the Professional Services Contract, as discussed and agreed upon by the Board. A roll call vote was taken and was as follows:**

Yeas: John Clark, Jack Harris, Lionel Bailey, Clint Cointment, Randy Delatte, Pete Dufresne, Brin Ferlito, Mark Harrell, Ed Parker, Fred Raiford

Nays: None

Abstain: Gary O’Neal

Absent: Ryan Byrd

**6. After Board discussion, it was agreed on motion by Cointment, seconded by G. O’Neal to table the agenda item “Consideration for termination or modification of the Water Institute Agreement.” ARBC Board members thanked Garvin Pittman, The Water Institute, for all his professional, hard work over the past few months. A roll call was taken and was as follows:**

Yeas: John Clark, Jack Harris, Lionel Bailey, Clint Cointment, Randy Delatte, Pete Dufresne, Brin Ferlito, Mark Harrell, Ed Parker, Fred Raiford

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Nays: None  
Abstain: Gary O'Neal  
Absent: Ryan Byrd

7. General or Non-Agenda Item(s) Public Comments. No public Comments. Cointment stated that ARBC should begin outlining its initiatives and objectives for the year 2025 for Capital Outlay, legislation etc.
8. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Delatte, seconded by Raiford, to adjourn the meeting.

APPROVED:

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/s/John Clark/ARBC President  
Date: January 14, 2025

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/s/ Toni B. Guitrau, Executive Secretary