

**Proceedings of the Regular Meeting of the Greater New Orleans
Expressway Commission (GNOEC), Wednesday, April 15, 2026, 10 AM,
South Shore conference room, Metairie, Louisiana 70002**

Call to Order

Chairman Tim Coulon called the meeting to order at 10 AM.

Roll Call

Present: Tim Coulon, Chairman; Ralph Cox, Jr., Vice Chairman; Justin Clinton, Secretary; and Donald Sharp, Assistant Secretary Treasurer. Absent: James Tucker, Treasurer. Quorum achieved.

Others Attending: Carlton Dufrechou, Melissa Phillpott, Robert Graham, Thea Andras, Eric Simmons, Michelle Carlisle, and Branden Fos, GNOEC; Cary Bourgeois, GEC; Gavin Gillen, All South Consulting Engineers (ASCE); Lloyd Orferndorf, Volkert; and Craig Watson, Blue Williams.

Minutes

Mr. Cox moved to accept the minutes of the Mar 4 meeting. Mr. Sharp seconded. Chairman Coulon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Clinton, and Mr. Sharp voted in favor of the motion.

Chairman's Remarks

Chairman Coulon recognized Officer Eric Simmons who was injured in the line of duty on March 23. Chief Andras described how while responding to a vehicle in distress, Officer Simmons used his police unit to shield our Motorist Assistance Patrolman as well as the motorist in distress from an oncoming vehicle that crashed into Officer Simmons' unit. Officer Simmons briefly lost consciousness and had to received multiple stiches. He is on light duty and should return to patrolling the bridge within a few weeks. Chief Andras and the Commissioners praised Officer Simmons for his selfless actions.

Mr. Coulon also reminded everyone that one of the outcomes/directions from the GNOEC's planning session from last fall was to enhance safety of our commuters whenever feasible. Mr. Dufrechou noted that two Action Items considered today, Safety Bay Incident Signs and Pavement Marking of Bridge and Roadway, should both improve safety.

General Manager's Report

- Drawbridge: Mar - 7 vessel openings, 2 test openings and 0 incidents.
- Fog Ops: Mar 2,3, and 4.
- Bridge Closures: NB bridge closed Mar 23 for rear end crash into a police unit responding to a breakdown at the 18.7 MM from 10:15 PM to 11:45 PM.
- Breakdowns: During Mar, we responded to 366 on the CW (249 mechanical and 117 debris) and 19 on the HPL (15 mechanical and 4 debris) for a total of 385 for both bridges.

- Accidents: During Mar, we responded to 10 on the CW (7N, 3S) and 20 at HPL (2 actually on the HPL) for a total of 30 for both bridges.

Action Items

Emergency Turn Around/Median Cut, GNOEC Project Mo. 641, GNOEC Resolution No. 2026-08: On a motion by Mr. Sharp, seconded by Mr. Cox: The project titled Emergency Turn Around/Median Cut was completed on time and within budget. Based upon recommendations by Staff and Project Engineers, the GNOEC authorizes the General Manager to accept the project and any related change orders. Chairman Coulon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Clinton, and Mr. Sharp voted in favor of the motion.

North Channel Bascule Roadway Lighting and Gate Replacement, GNOEC Project No. 213, Plan Change No. 2, GNOEC Resolution No. 2026-09: On a motion by Mr. Cox, seconded by Mr. Sharp: Proposed Plan Change No. 2 provides for reimbursement for costs of repairing the PLC due to inadvertent water damage and for the installation of a 4/0 AWG conductor to bond structures to the grounding system at the bascule. Plan Change No. 2 is a net reduction in contract cost of \$19,956.07 and will add an additional 15 calendar days. Based upon the recommendations of the Staff and Consulting Engineers, the GNOEC authorizes the General Manager to complete the execution of Plan Change No. 2. Chairman Coulon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Clinton, and Mr. Sharp voted in favor of the motion.

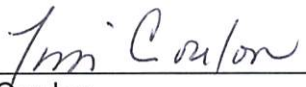
Fender Repair, GNOEC Project No. 436, Plan Change No. 4, GNOEC Resolution No. 2026-10: On a motion by Mr. Sharp, seconded by Mr. Clinton: Proposed Plan Change No. 4 provides for the replacement of clamps on the pile cluster cable wraps of the fender system at the North Channel in the total amount of \$198,647.53 and 30 additional calendar days. Based upon the recommendations of the Staff and Consulting Engineers, the GNOEC authorizes the General Manager to complete the execution of Plan Change No. 4. Chairman Coulon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Clinton, and Mr. Sharp voted in favor of the motion.

Safety Bay Incident Ahead Signs, GNOEC Project No. 214, GNOEC Resolution No. 2026-11: On a motion by Mr. Clinton, seconded by Mr. Cox: Based upon the recommendations of the Staff, legal counsel, and Consulting Engineers, the project titled Safety Bay Incident Ahead Signs, GNOEC Project No. 214, is awarded to the Low Bidder, Kevin Clark Electrical Services, LLC, in the amount of \$456,432.00. The General Manager is hereby authorized to execute the contract with Kevin Clark Electrical Services, LLC, pending review of the bonds and insurance by legal counsel and insurance representatives. Chairman Coulon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Clinton, and Mr. Sharp voted in favor of the motion.

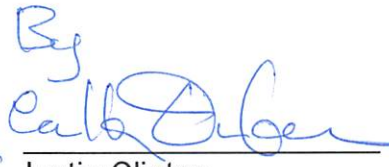
Pavement Marking of Bridge Deck and Roadway, GNOEC Project No. 439, GNOEC Resolution No. 2026-12: On a motion by Mr. Clinton, seconded by Mr. Sharp: Based upon the recommendations of the Staff, legal counsel, and Consulting Engineers, the project titled Pavement Marking of Bridge Deck and Roadway, GNOEC Project No. 439, is awarded to the Low Bidder, Highway Graphics, LLC, in the amount of \$2,245,771.80. The General Manager is hereby authorized to execute the contract with Highway Graphics, LLC, pending review of the bonds and insurance by legal counsel and insurance representatives. Chairman Coulon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Clinton, and Mr. Sharp voted in favor of the motion.

Closing/Next Meeting

Chairman Coulon asked if there was any further business or comments. There being none, Mr. Clinton moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Sharp seconded. All concurred and the meeting adjourned at 10:20 AM. The next regular GNOEC meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 13, 2026, in the north shore conference room.



Tim Coulon
Chairman

By 
For  Justin Clinton
Secretary 