

PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREATER NEW ORLEANS EXPRESSWAY COMMISSION, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2015, 6:00 P.M., THE MANDEVILLE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 3101 EAST CAUSEWAY APPROACH, MANDEVILLE, LA.

PRESENT: Stephen G. Romig, Chairman; Michael R. Lorino, Jr., Vice Chairman; Anthony V. Ligi, Jr., Treasurer; Shelby P. LaSalle, Jr., Secretary; Joseph A. Jaeger, Jr., Member

OTHERS: Carlton Dufrechou; Melissa M. Phillpott; Chief Nick Congemi; Perry Daigrepoint; Red Thompson; Robert Graham; Mark Brewster; Cary Bourgeois & Gavin Gillen, GEC, Inc.; Mayor Donald Villere, City of Mandeville; Craig Watson, Blue Williams; Dean DuPlantier, Broadmoor Design Group; Alan Zaunbrecher, Law Offices of Zaunbrecher; Henry Picard, Burk-Kleinpeter; Jim Lynch, Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Svc.; Dr. William Williams, Texas A & M; Robert Rhoden, Times Picayune; Polly Greene, St. Tammany Farmer; Faimon Roberts III, The Advocate; Bill Murhammer

The Chairman called the meeting to order.

On the motion by Ligi, seconded by Capt. Lorino, the minutes of the regular meeting held on May 13, 2015 were accepted as written. Mr. Romig, Capt. Lorino, Mr. Ligi, and Mr. Jaeger voted in favor of the motion.

Mr. Romig recognized Mayor Donald Villere and thanked him for his hospitality for letting us use the meeting room at Mandeville City hall.

Mr. Romig addressed the audience to see if anyone had any comments or questions for the commission. There were no comments or questions.

Mr. Romig then asked about the Causeway Charitable Foundation. Gavin Gillen stated that the annual skeet shoot is scheduled on Friday, October 9th. He stated that it will be held at Covey

**Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
Regular Meeting – August 26, 2015**

Rise again this year. Mr. Gillen asked if anyone is interested in participating to see him after the meeting.

On the Drawbridge operations, Mr. Dufrechou reported there were 20 vessel openings in June and 15 vessel openings in July with no incidents to report.

Mr. Dufrechou reported that for the months of June and July the Police and MAP responded to 407 breakdowns on the Causeway Bridge and 56 breakdowns on the Huey P. Long Bridge for a total of 463. For the month of June, Mr. Dufrechou reported 12 accidents on the Causeway Bridge and 6 accidents on the Huey P. Long Bridge. In July, he reported 12 accidents on the Causeway Bridge and 6 accidents on the Huey P. Long Bridge.

Mr. Dufrechou reported the Causeway was closed due to severe weather on July 5th from 5:40 PM to 6:10 PM.

On July 13th Mr. Dufrechou reported the Northbound span was closed for a crash with injuries from 7:23 AM to 7:51 AM.

Mr. Dufrechou reported on July 20th Southbound was closed due to a tanker truck with locked brakes. He stated the Police department and MAP responded immediately. Mr. Dufrechou stated that he had a video to show the Commission later this meeting.

Mr. Dufrechou reported the Causeway was closed again due to severe weather on July 25th from 5:34 PM to 6:00 PM and from 6:12 PM to 6:51 PM.

On July 30th Mr. Dufrechou reported the Northbound was closed due to a vehicle fire from 4:07 PM to 4:45 PM. He stated the driver was fine and a video of the incident will follow.

**Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
Regular Meeting – August 26, 2015**

Mr. Dufrechou reported on August 3rd the work commenced on the expansion of Crossover 5 and the detour started from 9 PM to approximately 3 or 4 in the morning. He stated that the work is ongoing from Sundays to Thursdays. Mr. Dufrechou stated if you are heading south this evening on the bridge, you will see this work.

On August 6th at 10:30 PM Mr. Dufrechou reported there was an individual that jumped from the Southbound span. He stated that unfortunately it was a very windy and the lake was rough and he was never spotted. Mr. Dufrechou stated it appeared the driver saw the detour and thought it was a roadblock. He stated the subject turned around and went against traffic heading north on the Southbound span. Mr. Dufrechou reported that the officers immediately responded and when they approached his vehicle the door was opened. He stated the subject had already jumped into the lake. He said the Coast Guard and St. Tammany water rescue responded right away and searched all night. Mr. Dufrechou said the Coast Guard continued their air operation until Sunday Morning. He reported the body was recovered in the vicinity of Bayou Lacombe. Mr. Dufrechou said the parents of the deceased did come in that Monday to speak to him. He stated they were very appreciative of the Police Officers, MAP, the staff and the Coast Guard for getting closure for the family.

Mr. Dufrechou stated that four days later on August 10th, another individual stopped at 6:15 AM in Crossover 7. A Police officer patrolling noticed the vehicle. Mr. Dufrechou stated the officer stopped and observed there was no one in the vehicle. He stated the subject had left a note and his wedding ring. The officer immediately looked over the side and saw the subject in the water. Mr. Dufrechou said the officer threw his rescue ring, called for assistance and had the subject out in 10 minutes. He stated the subject is doing very well and he was appreciative

**Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
Regular Meeting – August 26, 2015**

of the rescue. Mr. Dufrechou said it was very fortunate that the officer was in the right place at the right time.

On August 21st Mr. Dufrechou reported another incident of severe weather that closed the Bridges from 3:35 PM to 4 PM.

Mr. Dufrechou reported on August 26th, an 18 wheeler traveling Northbound approached a truck that was not going as fast as he thought. Mr. Dufrechou stated the 18 wheeler slammed on his brakes. Mr. Dufrechou reported that the 18 wheeler went into the left lane and stopped resulting in the left front tire resting on the rail. He stated the Northbound span was closed from 4:10 AM to 4:52 AM to remove the truck. He stated everyone was fine from this incident.

Mr. Dufrechou showed a video of a three vehicle accident in Crossover 7 that happened on June 5th at 2:20 PM.

Mr. Dufrechou showed a video of another three car accident that occurred on June 12th at the South Toll Plaza as the vehicles are getting on the Span.

Mr. Dufrechou showed a video that occurred on June 25th of a vehicle that was backing up on the bridge to U-turn in Crossover 7. He reported the Police intercepted the driver just as he was exiting the bridge. Mr. Dufrechou reported the vehicle was low on fuel. He said the Police were able to get him off of the bridge quickly.

Mr. Dufrechou showed two pictures from a lightning strike that happened at the 1.8 mile marker Northbound on July 5th. He stated the lightning hit the bridge in multiple places.

**Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
Regular Meeting – August 26, 2015**

Mr. Dufrechou showed three pictures of a two car accident that happened Northbound on July 13th. He stated the first responders were needed to extract the occupants but everyone is okay.

Mr. Dufrechou showed four pictures from the Water Rescue training that took place on July 18th and July 25th. He stated this training has been going on for over a decade. Mr. Dufrechou explained that Sgt. Kelly is the instructor.

Mr. Dufrechou showed video and two pictures of the broken down tanker truck that happened on July 20th that he spoke about earlier in the meeting. He stated the brakes had locked up on the vehicle and the driver had notified dispatch. Mr. Dufrechou stated the officers arrived immediately on the scene. He said there was concern that because the vehicle was not full that if something happened there was potential for an explosion. Mr. Dufrechou stated when the Fire Department arrived, the brakes were smoking but everything turned out fine.

Mr. Dufrechou showed a picture of a cat that was rescued by MAP on the Huey P. Long on July 27th. He stated that the cat has been adopted.

Mr. Dufrechou showed video and three pictures of the vehicle fire on July 30th that he mentioned earlier in the meeting. He stated the occupant is fine.

Mr. Dufrechou showed three pictures of the pilings that Boh Bros is driving for the expansion. He stated they are 90 feet in length and have a diameter of 36 inches. Mr. Bourgeois added that 13 have been driven to date.

**Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
Regular Meeting – August 26, 2015**

Mr. Dufrechou showed one picture of the 18 wheeler that was in the accident on August 26th that landed with one tire on the railing that he spoke of earlier. He stated the driver was very fortunate.

On the Cable Support Tray Repairs, Mr. Dufrechou presented Change Order No. 1. On motion by Mr. LaSalle, seconded by Mr. Ligi, Plan Change No.1 adjusts the plan quantities used in the field in the net amount of \$277,640.00. Based upon the recommendation of the Staff and its Consulting Engineers, the GNOEC authorizes the General Manager to complete the execution of Plan Change No. 1. Mr. Romig, Capt. Lorino, Mr. Ligi, Mr. LaSalle and Mr. Jaeger voted in favor of the motion. Also on the Cable Tray Repairs, Mr. Dufrechou presented the Acceptance on the project. On motion by Mr. Ligi, seconded by Capt. Lorino, based upon the recommendation of the Staff and its Consulting Engineers, the Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission accepts the project titled Cable Support Tray Repairs. The Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission authorizes General Manager Carlton Dufrechou to execute any documents associated with the acceptance of this project on behalf of the Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission. Mr. Romig, Capt. Lorino, Mr. Ligi, Mr. LaSalle and Mr. Jaeger voted in favor of the motion.

On the Overlay of the West Causeway Approach Road, Mr. Dufrechou presented Change Order No. 2. On motion by Capt. Lorino, seconded by Mr. Jaeger, after milling the existing overlay it was determined that the use of Asphalt Reinforcement Geogrid was not warranted. Plan Change No. 2 deletes the Geogrid and increases the quantities for saw cutting and joint sealing in a net credit to the GNOEC of \$153,584.00 and 6 additional calendar days. Based upon the recommendation of the Staff and its

**Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
Regular Meeting – August 26, 2015**

Consulting Engineers, the GNOEC authorizes the General Manager to complete the execution of Plan Change 2. Mr. Romig, Capt. Lorino, Mr. Ligi, Mr. LaSalle and Mr. Jaeger voted in favor of the motion.

On the 9-Mile Turnaround Spans, Mr. Dufrechou presented Change Order No. 2. On motion by Mr. Romig, seconded by Mr. LaSalle, Plan Change No. 2 incorporates revised plan sheets into the project. The original crossover extension was to be built by removing the bridge railing and connecting Southbound Bridge to the Northbound Bridge. The modified crossover will be constructed as a separate platform behind the existing barrier railing. Plan Change No. 2 will result in a net reduction in cost of \$386,155.50 and no change in calendar days. Based upon the recommendation of the Staff and its Consulting Engineers, the GNOEC authorizes the General Manager to complete the execution of Plan Change No. 2. Mr. Romig, Capt. Lorino, Mr. Ligi, Mr. LaSalle and Mr. Jaeger voted in favor of the motion.

On the Police Building, Mr. Dufrechou presented the approval to advertise for bids. On motion by Mr. Ligi, seconded by Capt. Lorino, the GNOEC Police Headquarters building on the south shore was demolished to make way to improve levees/floodwalls for regional hurricane protection. Plans and specifications have been completed by Broadmoor Design Group to construct a replacement Headquarters building at the Toll Plaza on the north shore. Based on recommendations of staff, the GNOEC authorizes Broadmoor Design Group to advertise and receive bids to construct the replacement Headquarters building. Mr. Romig, Capt. Lorino, Mr. Ligi, Mr. LaSalle and Mr. Jaeger voted in favor of the motion.

**Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
Regular Meeting – August 26, 2015**

On the Official Journal, Mr. Dufrechou presented the award of publication. On motion by Capt. Lorino, seconded by Mr. Jaeger, the Official Journal for the Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission is chosen for one year alternating between a publication located in the Parish of Jefferson or St. Tammany. Based on a proposal received from The Times Picayune, which quoted a rate of \$0.39 per column inch, the Commission appoints The Times Picayune (Parish of Jefferson) as the Official Journal for one year, effective August 26, 2015. Mr. Romig, Capt. Lorino, Mr. Ligi, Mr. LaSalle and Mr. Jaeger voted in favor of the motion.

On the Budget, Mr. Dufrechou presented the approval. On motion by Mr. Jaeger, seconded by Capt. Lorino, the Commission accepts and approves the Amended Budget for fiscal year November 1, 2014 to October 31, 2015 and the Proposed Budget for fiscal year November 1, 2015 to October 16, 2016 as presented. The Commission also accepts and approves the Toll Covenant calculations made of the new worth requirements in accordance with Section 6.15 of the Bond Indenture. Mr. Romig, Capt. Lorino, Mr. Ligi, Mr. LaSalle and Mr. Jaeger voted in favor of the motion.

On the Extension of Employment, the Commission considered extending the General Manager's contract. On motion by Mr. Romig, seconded by Mr. LaSalle, GNOEC is desirous of ensuring its continued sound operations and the efficient and cost effective administrative of its financial, maintenance, safety, training, traffic management, long term planning, and staffing. In order to further and continue the afore-referenced purposes, GNOEC desires to assure itself of the continued professional and administrative services of Carlton Dufrechou as GNOEC's General Manager. Carlton Dufrechou is willing to continue General Manager's professional and administrative

Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
Regular Meeting – August 26, 2015

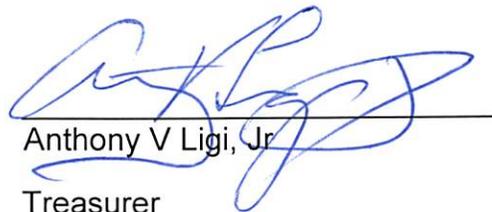
services to GNOEC. Pursuant to the Extension of Employment Agreement By and Between Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission and Carlton Dufrechou dated August 1, 2012, Carlton Dufrechou's term as GNOEC's General Manager extends through only October 31, 2017. Accordingly, the GNOEC hereby authorizes its Chairman, Stephen G. Romig, to negotiate and execute a 2015 Extension of Employment Agreement By and Between Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission and Carlton Dufrechou to extend Carlton Dufrechou's term as GNOEC's General Manager from October 31, 2017 through and including October 31, 2020. Mr. Romig, Capt. Lorino, Mr. Ligi, Mr. LaSalle and Mr. Jaeger voted in favor of the motion.

There being no further business, the meeting was be adjourned.



Stephen G. Romig

Chairman



Anthony V Ligi, Jr

Treasurer