

PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREATER NEW ORLEANS EXPRESSWAY COMMISSION, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 2017, 10:00 A.M., VOA BUILDING, 3939 NORTH CAUSEWAY BLVD, SUITE 400, METAIRIE, LA 70002

PRESENT: Shelby P. LaSalle, Jr., Chairman; Anthony V. Ligi, Jr., Vice Chairman; Patrick W. Fitzmorris, Secretary

ABSENT: Stephen Romig, Treasurer; P. Lindsey Williams, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

OTHERS: Carlton Dufrechou; Melissa M. Phillpott; Eileen Barthe; Stacie Heffker; Chief Nick Congemi; Georgie Bagnetto; Robert Graham; Red Thompson; Craig Watson, Blue Williams; Cary Bourgeois, GEC; Robert Rhoden, Times Picayune; Faimon Roberts, the Advocate; Michael Nicoladis, NY and Associates; Jan Evans, Juba Diez and Stephen Cali, Volkert and Associates; David Miller, PFM; Steve Bowes and Kent Schexnayder, Sisung Securities; Robert Boh Sr., Boh Bros.; Rene Chopin, Burke-Kleinpeter; Kendra Taylor, Tom Canciene, Stantec; Matt Berstein, CITI Municipal Securities Division; Jim Difatta, Shallow Draft; AECOM; Jim Martin, Design Engineering Inc.; Cullen Ledet, Modjeski and Masters, Inc.; Kathy Gambino, Arthur J. Gallagher; Hugh Martin, Foley and Judell LLP; Charles Goodwin; Dennis Raziano

The Chairman called the meeting to order.

On the motion by Mr. Ligi, seconded by Mr. Fitzmorris, the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 27, 2017 were accepted as written. Mr. Ligi, Mr. LaSalle and Mr. Fitzmorris voted in favor of the motion.

**Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
Regular Meeting – June 7, 2017**

Mr. LaSalle asked the audience if anyone had any comments or questions for the Commission. Mr. Charles Goodwin stated he would like to speak to item D **(ACCEPTANCE OF ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE DESIGN/DEVELOPMENT OF THE SAFETY BAY IMPROVEMENTS)** listed on the agenda. He stated he wanted to save the Causeway some potential money, for various expenses, by informing the Commissioners there will potentially be some legal action filed by the end of this month. Mr. Goodwin then suggested considering item D after the lawsuit has been filed. He stated delaying this item may help save the Causeway some money. Mr. LaSalle responded that the only action being taken, this month, by the Commission is approving the qualification list. Mr. Goodwin thanked the Commission for the information. There were no other comments or questions.

Mr. Dufrechou reported in April and May the Drawbridge operations included 13 vessel openings, 4 test openings and 1 incident.

Mr. Dufrechou stated there were no fog operations to report.

Mr. Dufrechou reported breakdown responses in April were 371 on the Causeway Bridge and 36 on the Huey P. Long Bridge for a total of 407 breakdown responses. He stated for the month of May, there were 325 breakdowns on the Causeway Bridge and 43 on the Huey P. Long Bridge for a total of 368 breakdown responses. Mr. Dufrechou reported in April, there were 6 accidents on the Causeway Bridge. He stated 3 occurred Northbound, 1 Southbound, 1 at the South Toll Plaza and 1 in a Crossover. He reported 1 was caused by a breakdown. He reported a total of 11 accidents on the Huey P. Long Bridge. Mr. Dufrechou stated 3 were Eastbound and 8 Westbound. Mr. Dufrechou

**Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
Regular Meeting – June 7, 2017**

reported in the month of May there were a total of 15 accidents on the Causeway Bridge. He stated 12 occurred Northbound and 3 Southbound. He reported 6 were caused by breakdowns. He also stated in the month of May, 17 accidents occurred on the Huey P. Long Bridge. He reported 10 Eastbound, and 7 Westbound.

Mr. Dufrechou showed a picture of the sheared guide collar that occurred at the Bascule. He stated that during their daily inspections, the GNOEC Bascule operators noticed the southbound drawbridge decks appeared to be flexing slightly more than usual. Mr. Dufrechou stated the Bascule Operators initiated a test opening for inspection and found the outboard (western) guide collar had sheared. He also showed two pictures of the repaired guide collar. The Southbound bridge was closed for repairs at 8:00 PM on Saturday, May 6, 2017 and reopened at 6:00 AM on Sunday morning. The Northbound span remained open during these repairs.

Mr. Dufrechou showed one video and three pictures of a Causeway wrecker that was hit by vehicle around the 15 Mile Marker on Friday, May 12, 2017. He stated the Southbound span was closed at approximately 6:36 am and reopened at approximately 7:20 am. The attenuator, railing, wrecker and camera in Crossover 1 were damaged due to this accident.

On Sunday, May 14, 2017 a kitten rescued by Officer Mike Johnson at the 20.9 Mile Marker on the Southbound span. Mr. Dufrechou showed one picture of the kitten that was adopted by Officer Johnson's daughter. The kitten's tail was removed and the money was raised by a go fund me page set up by Officer Johnson's daughter. Mr.

**Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
Regular Meeting – June 7, 2017**

Dufrechou also stated the kitten's name, Causey, was chosen by a contest through Times Picayune.

Mr. Dufrechou showed video of an accident that occurred at the 3.4 Mile Marker on the Northbound span on Tuesday, May 23, 2017. He explained that the driver of a vehicle rear ended a motorcycle. This caused the motorcycle to spin into the Crossover. Mr. Dufrechou stated the motorcycle driver suffered minor road rash.

Mr. Dufrechou showed a picture of Officer Colt Bruhl and MAP Don Cerise receiving a Life Saving Recognition from the Jefferson Parish Council on Tuesday, May 24, 2017.

On Tuesday, May 24, 2017, there was a one vehicle accident that occurred at the 14.7 Mile Marker on the Northbound span. Mr. Dufrechou showed two pictures from the incident and explained that the driver struck the curb in an apparent suicide attempt. He stated that there were no injuries and the driver was taken to East Jefferson Hospital.

Mr. Dufrechou showed three pictures from an accident at the 19 Mile Marker on the Northbound span on Sunday, June 4, 2017. He explained that a driver stated he was being tailgated by another vehicle. While pulling into the Crossover 5000, the driver's brake locked up causing him to be unable to stop and strike the bridge railing in the Crossover. Mr. Dufrechou reported there were no injuries.

Mr. Ligi asked Carlton Dufrechou if any information is gathered from vehicles that breakdown on the Causeway bridge due to low of fuel. Since this is easily avoidable, Mr. Ligi stated it is troublesome that this still occurs. He asked if it is vehicles that are out of state and are unfamiliar with the Causeway. Mr. Ligi requested staff to track of this information to see if these are tag holders. He stated if so, we may be more

**Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
Regular Meeting – June 7, 2017**

aggressive about getting the word out to watch their fuel levels. Mr. Dufrechou stated this information is gathered already and confirmed with Chief Congemi that most of the time this occurs when people are not paying attention. Mr. Dufrechou and Chief Congemi stated they would take a closer look into this subject and report back next month.

On the Switchgear Replacement at Crossover #6, Mr. Dufrechou recommended approval for Plan Change Number 1. **On motion by Mr. Fitzmorris, seconded by Mr. Ligi, Plan Change Number 1 provides for a 60 calendar day extension of the Assembly Period at no change in the contract cost. 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. LaSalle, Mr. Ligi, and Mr. Fitzmorris voted in favor of the motion.**

On the Relocation of Generator and Fuel Station Project, Mr. Dufrechou recommended approval for Plan Change Number 1. **On motion by Mr. Ligi, seconded by Mr. Fitzmorris, The GNOEC entered into a Contract with ARC Mechanical Contractors for the Relocation of Generator and Fuel Station Project No 822. Section 5.2.1 of the Contract requires all Subcontractors to maintain the same insurance as the Contractor. ARC Mechanical meets all applicable insurance requirements as required by the Contract. However, 4 Subcontractors do not meet the insurance requirements. ARC Mechanical disputes that Section 5.2.1 requires its Subcontractors to meet the insurance requirements as the Prime Contractor. To resolve this dispute, ARC Mechanical and the GNOEC have agreed to a \$9,800.00 credit to the GNOEC and an adjustment to the insurance requirements for 4**

**Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
Regular Meeting – June 7, 2017**

Subcontractors. Thus, a Plan Change is necessary. Plan Change No. 1 to Project No. 822 will adjust the insurance requirements for ARC Mechanical Contractors: 1) Advanced Electrical; 2) Crescent Foundations; 3) Coastal Crane; and 4) Total Construction Services to the limits specified in the attached certificates. Plan Change No.1 will result in a \$9,800.00 credit to the GNOEC. There is no adjustment to the contract time in Plan Change No. 1. Based upon review by GNOEC Staff, Consultants, and Legal Counsel, the adjustment is appropriate and recommended considering the work to be performed by the Subcontractors. Therefore, the GNOEC hereby authorizes the General Manger to execute Plan Change No. 1. Mr. LaSalle, Mr. Ligi, and Mr. Fitzmorris voted in favor of the motion.

On the Emergency Repair of Broken Lockbar Socket on the Right Lane Southbound Bascule, Mr. Dufrechou recommended to ratify the contract with Boh Bros. On motion by Mr. Fitzmorris, seconded by Mr. Ligi, On May 2, 2017, the Lockbar Socket on the Right Lane Southbound Bascule of the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway broke necessitating the emergency procurement of repairs due to the imminent threat to the public health, welfare, safety, and/or public property. On May 3, 2017, the GNOEC attempted to obtain five bids for the repair work from contractors who have expertise in repair of movable bridges, and the Causeway specifically. Two bids were received. After review and discussion, Boh Bros. Construction Co., L.L.C.'s bid was determined to be reasonable and the best value to the GNOEC and therefore selected to perform the emergency repairs. Accordingly, the May 5, 2017 selection of Boh Bros. Construction Co., L.L.C. to perform emergency

**Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
Regular Meeting – June 7, 2017**

repairs to the Lockbar Socket on the Right Lane Southbound Bascule in the amount of \$62,500.00 is hereby ratified. Additionally, the contract executed on May 5, 2017 with Boh Bros. Construction Co., L.L.C. for the emergency repairs on the Lockbar Socket on the Right Lane Southbound Bascule in the amount of \$62,500.00 is hereby ratified. Mr. LaSalle, Mr. Ligi, and Mr. Fitzmorris voted in favor of the motion.

On the Engineering Services for the Design/Development of the Safety Bay Improvements for the Causeway, Mr. Dufrechou recommended to enter into initial agreements with the qualified firms. On motion by Mr. Ligi, seconded by Mr. Fitzmorris, On April 7, 2017, the GNOEC issued RFQ No. 2017-432-01 for Statements of Qualifications from qualified firms interested in providing design engineering services for the GNOEC Safety Bay Improvements. The purpose of RFQ No. 2017-432-01 was to 1) establish a list of qualified firms or individuals to design the Safety Bay Improvements; 2) obtain initial competitive design/development proposals from qualified firms; and 3) select the qualified firm with the most advantageous design/development proposal to perform the services. On May 1, 2017, responses were received by the GNOEC to provide initial competitive design/development proposals. After evaluation and consideration by the Evaluation Committee, four firms were found to be qualified. Thus, based upon the recommendation from the Evaluation Committee, GNOEC staff, and legal counsel, the GNOEC hereby authorizes the General Manager to enter into initial agreements for design/development services with the qualified firms. Mr. LaSalle, Mr. Ligi, and Mr. Fitzmorris voted in favor of the motion.

**Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
Regular Meeting – June 7, 2017**

On the Strategic Planning and Engineering Services, Mr. Dufrechou recommended to advertise the issuance of a RFQ for strategic planning and engineering services. On motion by Mr. LaSalle, seconded by Mr. Ligi, The GNOEC is seeking Statements of Qualifications from qualified firms interested in providing strategic planning and engineering services to determine future improvements, maintenance, preservation, and modernization of the Causeway. The firm or firms selected will perform their work on an as needed basis under the direction of the GNOEC and services may include, but are not limited to engaging in evaluations, future innovative and sustainable transportation strategies, intelligent transportation systems, incident management technology, and threat and security assessment, and developing an overall 15-20 year strategic plan for the GNOEC, and providing guidance to the GNOEC as requested. Accordingly, the GNOEC hereby authorizes the General Manager to advertise the issuance of a RFQ for strategic planning and engineering services for the Greater New Orleans Expressway. Mr. LaSalle, Mr. Ligi, and Mr. Fitzmorris voted in favor of the motion.

On the Acceptance of Statement of Qualifications of Investing Banking Firms, Mr. Dufrechou recommended to execute all contracts with Citigroup Global Markets Inc. On motion by Mr. Fitzmorris, seconded by Mr. LaSalle, The GNOEC issued a Request for Proposal for the selection of Investment Banking firms to assist the Commission in completing the proposed issuance of its non-recourse Toll Revenue Bonds, Series 2017, and potentially future project bonds. Based upon recommendations of the PFM Financial Advisors, staff, and bond counsel, the GNOEC selects Citigroup Global Markets Inc. as the senior-managing

**Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
Regular Meeting – June 7, 2017**

underwriter, and Raymond James & Associates, Inc. as the co-manager to assist the Commission in completing the proposed issuance of non-recourse Toll Revenue Bonds, Series 2017. The GNOEC further authorizes its General Manager to execute all contracts necessary to facilitate the selection of these Investment Banking firms. Mr. LaSalle, Mr. Ligi, and Mr. Fitzmorris voted in favor of the motion.

On the Official Journal, Mr. Dufrechou recommended appointment of the Advocate. On motion by Mr. Ligi, seconded by Mr. Fitzmorris, The Official Journal for the Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission is chosen for one year to publish all notices, proceedings, and financial statements as required by state law. Based on a proposals received, the Commission appoints the low bidder, the Advocate, with a bid of 84¢ per column inch, as the Official Journal for one year, effective July 1, 2017. Mr. LaSalle, Mr. Ligi, and Mr. Fitzmorris voted in favor of the motion.

Mr. LaSalle reminded everyone the next meeting is tentatively scheduled July 12, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at the VOA building on the South Shore.

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



Shelby P. LaSalle Jr.
Chairman



Patrick W. Fitzmorris
Secretary