

**Proceedings of the Regular Meeting of the Greater New Orleans
Expressway Commission (GNOEC), Wednesday, June 11, 2025, 10 AM,
North Shore conference room, Mandeville, Louisiana 70448**

Call to Order

Chairman Tim Coulon called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM.

Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Tim Coulon, Chairman; Ralph Cox, Jr., Vice Chairman; James Tucker, Treasurer; Justin Clinton, Secretary; and Donald Sharp. Absent: None. Quorum achieved.

Others Attending: Carlton Dufrechou, Melissa Phillpott, Robert Graham, Thea Andras, Eileen Barthe', Michelle Carlisle, Branden Fos, and Mark Brewster, GNOEC; Cary Bourgeois and Liz Guiza, GEC; Lloyd Orferndorf, Volkert; Kent Schexnayder, Sisung; Stephanie Ferry, Raymond James; and Amanda Plaiscia, Blue Williams.

Minutes

Mr. Tucker moved to accept the minutes of the April 16 GNOEC meeting. Mr. Cox seconded. Chairman Coulon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Tucker, Mr. Clinton, and Mr. Sharp voted in favor of the motion.

Chairman's Remarks

Chairman Coulon opened by welcoming guests and congratulating Mark Brewster for his recent retirement. Chairman Coulon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Tucker, Mr. Clinton, and Mr. Sharp presented Mr. Brewster with a plaque recognizing his almost 34 years of service to the GNOEC and our commuters. Mr. Brewster began his career working on the HPL and concluded as Maintenance Supervisor for all GNOEC operations. Also, Chairman Coulon noted requests from commuters for help to improve cell phone coverage while on the Causeway. Blue Williams has been in contact with Cell providers and will make an update for the August meeting.

General Manager's report

- Drawbridge, Apr: 11 vessel openings, 1 test opening and 0 incidents
- Drawbridge, May: 2 vessel openings, 2 test openings and 0 incidents
- Fog Ops: None
- Bridge Closures: Both bridges closed May 3 due to severe weather from 00:42 AM to 1:25 AM. SB bridge closed May 18 to for response to two vehicle crash at 8 MM from 7:00 AM to 7:42 AM. SB bridge closed May 28 to turn around mobile home at toll plaza from 10:08 AM to 10:30 AM. NB Bridge closed for response to two vehicle crash at 7.9 MM from 4:01 PM to 4:06 PM. Both bridges closed Jun 10 due to severe weather from 4:46 PM to 5:10 PM.

- Breakdowns: During Apr, we responded to 351 on the CW (246 mechanical and 105 debris) and 32 on the HPL (25 mechanical and 7 debris) for a total of 383 for both bridges.
- Breakdowns: During May, we responded to 395 on the CW (274 mechanical and 121 debris) and 17 on the HPL (13 mechanical and 4 debris) for a total of 412 for both bridges.
- Accidents: During Apr, we responded to 8 on the CW (3N, 5S) and 17 at HPL (2 on the HPL).
- Accidents: During May, we responded to 8 on the CW (4N, 4S) and 10 at HPL (3 on the HPL).

Action Items

Official Journal, GNOEC Resolution No. 2025-12: On a motion by Mr. Cox, seconded by Mr. Sharp: The official journal for the GNOEC is chosen for one year to publish all notices, proceedings, and financial statements as required by state law. The GNOEC's Articles of Incorporation require it to alternate the official journal between newspapers published in the parishes of Jefferson and St. Tammany. This year the official journal will be awarded to a qualified newspaper published in Jefferson Parish as well as Orleans in accordance with LA. R.S. 43:142 effective July 3, 2025. Chairman Coulon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Tucker, Mr. Clinton, and Mr. Sharp voted in favor of the motion.

High voltage Power Control System, Phase B, GNOEC Project No. 208, GNOEC Resolution No. 2025-13: On a motion by Mr. Tucker, seconded by Mr. Clinton: Based on the recommendation of the staff, the General Manager is hereby authorized to execute the Project Memorandum for the project titled High Voltage Power System – Control System and Surge Protection and the Consulting Engineers are authorized to design and advertise the project. Chairman Coulon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Tucker, Mr. Clinton, and Mr. Sharp voted in favor of the motion.

Traffic Engineering Services, GNOEC Resolution No. 2025-14: On a motion by Mr. Clinton, seconded by Mr. Cox: The GNOEC desires to procure a traffic engineer. The traffic engineer will prepare the toll revenue budget estimates for the GNOEC for the upcoming fiscal year (s). The GNOEC hereby authorizes the General Manager to issue and advertise a Request for Proposal, seeking the services of a traffic engineer. Chairman Coulon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Tucker, Mr. Clinton, and Mr. Sharp voted in favor of the motion.

Cable Tray Repairs, GNOEC Project No. 438, Plan Change No. 1, GNOEC Resolution No. 2025-15: On a motion by Mr. Sharp, seconded by Mr. Cox: Plan Change No. 1 provides for additional assembly period and adjusts the marine operations procedures to allow for smaller vessels to temporarily tie to the bridge. Based upon the recommendation of the staff and Consulting Engineers, the GNOEC authorizes the General Manager to complete the execution of Plan Change No. 1.

Refunding of Bonds

Sisung and Raymond James outlined current outlook for refunding 2017 bonds and tentative timeline. Leveling of debt service could provide better forecasting for long term budgeting. Gross saving could be about \$7.5 million. Refunding is anticipated late this year.

Closing/Next Meeting

Chairman Coulon asked if there was any further business or comments. There being none, Mr. Cox moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Tucker seconded. All concurred and the meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM. The next GNOEC meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 13, 2025, in the South Shore conference room.



Tim Coulon
Chairman


Justin Clinton
Secretary