

PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREATER NEW ORLEANS EXPRESSWAY COMMISSION, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015, 10:00 A.M., GNOEC CONFERENCE ROOM, VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA BUILDING, 3939 NORTH CAUSEWAY BOULEVARD, SUITE 400, METAIRIE, LA

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

OTHERS: Carlton Dufrechou; Melissa M. Phillpott; Stacie Heffker; Georgie Bagnetto; Chief Nick Congemi; Robert Graham; Red Thompson; Eileen Barthe; Cary Bourgeois, GEC, Inc.; Craig Watson and Chris LeMieux, Blue Williams; Steve Bowes, Sisung Securities; Kathy Gambino and Jim Lynch, Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Svc.; Rene Chopin, Burk-Kleinpeter; Byron Poydras, Bank of New York

ABSENT: Anthony V. Ligi, Jr., Treasurer

The Chairman called the meeting to order.

**On the motion by Capt. Lorino, seconded by Mr. LaSalle, the minutes of the regular meeting held on October 7, 2015 were accepted as written. Mr. Romig, Capt. Lorino, Mr. LaSalle and Mr. Jaeger voted in favor of the motion.**

Mr. Stephen 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. Mr. Carlton Dufrechou reported the skeet shoot was very successful. He stated the Charitable Foundation netted over \$5,000 for this event.

On the Drawbridge operations, Mr. Dufrechou reported in October there were 43 vessel openings, 1 test openings and 0 incidents.

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Mr. Dufrechou reported that Police and MAP responded to 202 breakdowns on the Causeway Bridge and 21 breakdowns on the Huey P. Long Bridge for a total of 223. He reported 18 accidents, of these 5 of these were rear end crashes into disabled vehicles on the Causeway Bridge. Mr. Dufrechou also reported 10 accidents occurred on the Huey P. Long Bridge.

Mr. Dufrechou stated on October 15, 2015, Standard and Poor's issued an A stable rating for the bonds. He thanked Melissa Phillipott, Mr. Romig and Bill Murhammer for their help.

Mr. Dufrechou reported there was vehicle fire and rear end on Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup> closing the Northbound Bridge from 8:59 AM to 9:42 AM. He stated there were no injuries.

Mr. Dufrechou stated the Joint Budget Committee hearing was held on October 30, 2015. He reported that the budget was approved. Mr. Dufrechou thanked Melissa Phillipott and Bill Murhammer for all of their hard work.

Also on October 30<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Dufrechou reported the bids were received for the Police Building. He stated there were seven submissions received and they are being reviewed.

Mr. Dufrechou showed a video from October 9, 2015 of a vehicle that stalled Southbound on the Causeway Bridge. He reported the smaller vehicle did not see the stalled vehicle before striking it. Mr. Dufrechou stated that every life is priceless.

Operationally if the Causeway Bridge had segmented shoulders or safety bays it would increase the emergency stopping area for commuters.

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Mr. Dufrechou showed a picture of the night out against crime. He stated every year our Police department represents us on the North and Southshore. In the picture, Sgt. Jacob and Walter Teoulet had a tent for the Southshore event. Mr. Dufrechou stated in the future they are looking to improve the tent and handouts.

Mr. Dufrechou showed three pictures from an overturned vehicle that occurred on October 17, 2015. The vehicle damaged some of the Bridge's railing but no one was injured.

Mr. Dufrechou showed two pictures of the vehicle fire he spoke of previously that occurred on October 24<sup>th</sup>. He stated the bridge was closed for approximately forty five minutes.

Mr. Dufrechou showed three pictures of an accident from October 26<sup>th</sup> at the 3.3 mile marker Southbound. He stated the vehicle hit the attenuator in Crossover 7000 but the occupant had minor injuries.

Mr. Dufrechou showed three pictures from the annual Bridge inspection. He showed pictures that were taken at the drawbridge on the reach all. Mr. Dufrechou reported the reach all's range of motion is now limited due to availability of replacement parts. He stated the truck and the engine on the reach all is solid and low mileage but the hydraulics are not functioning properly. Mr. Dufrechou stated the reach all may need to be replaced.

On the Switchgear replacement at Crossover #6, Mr. Dufrechou recommended execution for this project. He stated the bridge is powered by Cleco and Entergy. Mr. Dufrechou explained the Switchgear automatically switches the power if there is a

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shortage. He explained the Switchgear in Crossover 6 has a gas leak. Unfortunately it needs to be removed before it can be repaired. Mr. Dufrechou stated this resolution would provide for installation of the new Switchgear in Crossover 6 and repair of the leaking unit to keep as a spare. **On motion by Mr. LaSalle, seconded by Capt. Lorino, based upon the recommendation of the GNOEC staff, the General Manager is hereby authorized to execute the project memorandum for the project titled Switchgear Replacement at Crossover #6 and the Consulting Engineers are authorized to begin development of plans and specifications and advertise the project. Mr. Romig, Capt. Lorino, Mr. LaSalle and Mr. Jaeger voted in favor of the motion.**

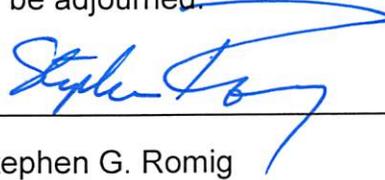
On the Overlay of the West Causeway Approach Road, Mr. Dufrechou presented Change Order No. 3. **On motion by Mr. Jaeger, seconded by Capt. Lorino, Plan Change No. 3 provides for additional pipe to be located between the driveways at Station 73+50 and for Modifications to the North Toll Plaza driveway necessary for Fog Operations during construction of the new Police Building in the amount of \$54,978.00 and 45 additional 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. 3. Mr. Romig, Capt. Lorino, Mr. LaSalle and Mr. Jaeger voted in favor of the motion.**

Robert Graham reminded the Commission of the upcoming surplus auction scheduled for November 19, 2015 at the Maintenance facility.

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Mr. Romig reminded everyone the December meeting is scheduled in the normal location but the January 2016 will be held at Mandeville City Hall.

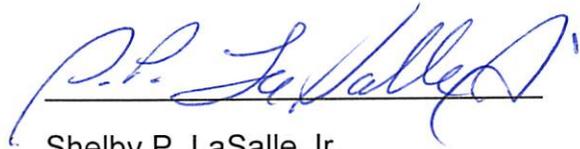
There being no further business, the meeting was be adjourned.



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Stephen G. Romig

Chairman



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Shelby P. LaSalle Jr.

Secretary