

MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
FEBRUARY 19, 2025
10:00 AM
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION
5941 HWY 1 BYPASS
NATCHITOCHEs, LOUISIANA

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Red River Waterway Commission was called to order by Assistant Secretary/Treasurer, Michael Simpson, in the Board Room of the Red River Waterway Commission Office located at 5941 Highway 1 By-Pass in Natchitoches, Louisiana.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Roll was called and a quorum was present. Others in attendance were asked to identify themselves and offer any comments they may have regarding the agenda. However, no comments were offered.

Present: Commissioner Versa Clark, Commissioner David L. Crutchfield, II, Commissioner Michael P. Deville, Commissioner Charles R. Greer, Commissioner Ronald Lattier, Commissioner James F. Maxey, Commissioner Kenneth Richardson, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

Absent: Chair Designee, Troy Roussell, Commissioner Paul Fleming, Commissioner Jacques Goudeau, and Commissioner David Jones.

RRWC Staff Members Present: Mr. Colin Brown - Executive Director, Mr. Marcus Long - Operations & Maintenance Director, Ms. Stephanie Bonnette - Executive Assistant, Mr. Luke Pearson - Real Estate Manager, Mr. Kyle Smith - Engineering Supervisor, Mr. Brian Cespiva – Staff Engineer, Mr. Greg Upton - Legal Counsel.

3. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Others Present: Mr. Robert Vinet with KSA Engineers, Inc.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD PURSUANT TO LRS 42:14**

5. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the agenda was unanimously approved. Comments from the public were called for, however, none were offered.

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Richardson, the minutes of the January 15, 2025 meeting were unanimously approved.

7. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Financials and Fund Balance Report for December 2024 and Expenditures, Financial Statements, Investment Reports, & Fund Balance Report for January 2025 were unanimously approved.

8. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) **Contracts**

Consideration of Approval of Contract/Economic Impact Study Update/Loren C. Scott & Associates:

By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Greer, the Commission unanimously approved the contract with Loren C. Scott & Associates for an economic impact study at a cost to the Commission in the amount of \$112,000.00.

Consideration of Proposals/Colfax Lift Station Repairs: By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Richardson, the Commission unanimously approved award of bid to Poston Plumbing, LLC in the amount of \$18,536 and a corresponding budget amendment.

Consideration of Construction Bids/INorth Adventure Trails/Phase 1B/Cross-Country Trails/Contract No. RRW-834: By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved award of bid to Vanguard Trailworks, LLC in the amount of \$505,948.28.

Consideration of Authority to Award Design Contract/INorth Adventure Trails/Phase 1E/Site, Paving, and Utility Improvements/RRWC Project No. 25-03/Contract No. RRW-852: By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved award of contract to KSA Engineers, Inc. for design and administration of the project and to reserve \$5,000,000.00 for the design and construction of the project.

b) **Land Management, Legal Affairs & Affirmative Action**

Consideration of Award of Public Bid Land Lease/Hadden Ft. DeRussy Realignment/Tracts 45, 46 & 47/235 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved awarding the lease to C & J Livestock, LLC in the amount of \$36,436.75 for the 5-year lease term.

Consideration of Award of Public Bid Land Lease/Hudson Realignment/Tract 9/60 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Greer, the Commission unanimously approved awarding the lease to Kerry Luneau for \$6,975.00 for the 5-year term.

Consideration of Approval of Development and Management Proposal/INorth Adventure Trails/Fish Lake Mitigation Property: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved the Development and Management proposal plan between the Red River Waterway District and the US Army Corps of Engineers for the INorth Adventure Trails/Fish Lake Mitigation Project.

c) **Recreation**

Consideration of Boat Removal Options/Colfax Recreation Area: No action was taken on this matter. Executive Director and legal counsel were given direction to acquire further information and present at the March meeting.

Recreation Area Status Report – Mr. Marcus Long highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 50,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of January 2025. Updated maintenance items include, but not limited to:

- INorth Adventure Trails – Feral hog trapping and walk path bridge construction
- Routine maintenance at various parks
- Teague Parkway and Stoner Avenue boat launches currently closed due to high water

d) Ports

Consideration of Funding Request/Central Louisiana Regional Port/Electrical Substation Manufacturing Facility: By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved providing the Port with “gap funding” in the amount of \$3,830,300.00 for the electrical substation project, bringing the funds committed by the Commission to \$6,442,690.00 of which the full amount of the “gap funding” will be reimbursed to the Commission.

e) Public Awareness & Marketing

Consideration of Approval of Proposal for Drone/Gimbal Videography Services/1North Adventure Trails: By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved the proposal from Basic Matrix in the amount of \$3,340.00 to provide hi-resolution drone and gimbal videography services for the March 1, 2025 trail race at 1North Adventure Trails.

Consideration of Approval of Logo/1North Adventure Trails: By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved the logo renderings as presented for 1North Adventure Trails.

f) Personnel - None

g) Revenue, Banking & Budget

Consideration of Approval of 2024 Audit Compliance Questionnaire: By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the 2024 Louisiana Audit Compliance questionnaire and authorized the Secretary-Treasurer and Executive Director to execute the document.

Investment Management Update: A presentation was provided in committee. No action was taken.

h) Legislative – Session begins in April.

9. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Red River Valley Association Conference – February 26 & 27, 2025
- Caddo-Bossier Port Night – March 4, 2025
- BassMaster Classic 2025 in Ft. Worth, Texas
- RedCrest Tournament in Huntsville, Alabama

10. STATUS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY/ENGINEERING REPORT - Prepared reports were provided in the meeting packets. Engineering Supervisor, Kyle Smith, updated the Commission on the progress status of the following projects: 1North Adventure Trails; 12 Mile Bayou Boat Launch; Brouillette Recreation Area; Ft. Buhlow Comfort Station; Bishop Point and Red Oak Seawall Rehabilitation; and Alexandria Levee Park

11. GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT - None

12. CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT – The Red River Waterway Commission will be hosting the Vicksburg Leadership Team.

13. RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION – Conference February 26 & 27.

14. OTHER BUSINESS - None

15. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – Robert Vinet with KSA Engineers, Inc. thanked the Commission for the continued support and trust in the engineering firm.

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield and unanimously approved, the Commission entered into Executive Session to discuss the following matters of litigation:

a) **Discuss Privileged Matters Pursuant to Louisiana Code of Evidence Article 506**

Immediately following Executive Session, by motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Clark and unanimously approved, the Commission entered into Regular Session.

17. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct at this time, by motion of Commissioner Greer, seconded by Commissioner Deville, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned.


JAMES F. MAXEY
SECRETARY/TREASURER


TROY ROUSSELL
CHAIR DESIGNEE