

MINUTES  
OF THE  
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING  
MARCH 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 Paul Fleming, Commissioner Jacques Goudeau, Commissioner Charles R. Greer, Commissioner Ronald Lattier, Commissioner James F. Maxey, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

**Absent:** Chair Designee, Troy Roussell, Commissioner Michael P. Deville, Commissioner David Jones, and Commissioner Kenneth Richardson.

**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:** None

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 Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the minutes of the February 19, 2025, meeting were unanimously approved.

7. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

By motion of Commissioner Greer, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Expenditures, Financial Statements, Investment Reports, & Fund Balance Report for the month of February 2025 and the Fund Balance Reports for December 2024 and January 2025 were unanimously approved.

8. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) **Contracts**

**Consideration of Proposals/Hydraulic Dredging Contracts:** By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Greer, the Commission unanimously approved entering into an ongoing maintenance contract with both Testament, LLC and Crosby Dredging, LLC for a 3-year term in which contractors will be used on an as needed basis as determined by Commission staff.

**Consideration of Authority to Purchase Vehicles on State Contract:** By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved authorizing staff to purchase two new trucks through State Contract from Premier Automotive for a total amount of \$76,105.74.

**Ratification of Change Order No. 1/North Adventure Trails/Phase 1A/Initial Parking and General Use Area/RRWC Project No. 24-03/Contract No. RRW-833:** By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved the ratification of Change Order No. 1 which rectifies the final contract quantities of the project and increased the project cost by \$929.80 and length of time by an additional 20 days.

**Consideration of Construction Bids/North Adventure Trails/Phase 1D/Multi-Use Trails/RRWC Project No. 24-07/Contract No. RRW-843:** By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Greer, the Commission unanimously approved award of bid to Lawler Construction Company in the amount of \$1,348,185.00.

**Ratification of Change Order No. 1/Brouillette Playground and Comfort Station Project/RRWC Project No. 24-01/Contract No. RRW-828:** By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved the ratification of Change Order No. 1 which provides for an additional 250 feet of necessary water line for the project at a cost of \$6,046.00 and an additional thirty days.

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

**Consideration of Request for Land Lease Extension/Lower Gin Lake Realignment/120 Acres:** By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved award of lease to Mr. Samuel Guillot for the 5-year lease extension in the amount of \$9,900.00 for the 5-year lease term.

**Consideration of Award of Public Bid Land Lease/Lock & Dam 1/Tracts 3 & 6/5.7 Acres:** By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved award of the 5-year land lease to Mr. Ricky Dupuy in the amount of \$427.50 for the 5-year lease term.

**Consideration of Cancellation of Leaseback/Pool 3 Tract 63/19 Acres:** By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the cancellation of the 5-year leaseback with Mr. Joel Braud based on Mr. Braud no longer being statutorily eligible for leaseback of said tract.

**Consideration of Request for Leaseback/Pool 3 Tract 63/19 Acres:** By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved award of the 5-year leaseback to JPL Property Investments, LLC in the amount of \$1,425.00 for the 5-year term.

**Consideration of Cancellation of Leaseback/Pool 3 Tract 73/4.7 Acres:** By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved the cancellation of the 5-year leaseback with Mr. Frank Beaudoin based on Mr. Beaudoin no longer being statutorily eligible for leaseback of said tract.

**Consideration of Request for Leaseback/Pool 3 Tract 73/4.7 Acres:** By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved award of the 5-year leaseback to Mr. Robert Charles Brossette, Jr. in the amount of \$470.00 for the 5-year term.

**Consideration of Extension of Temporary Access Servitude/INorth Adventure Trails Mitigation Property:** By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the extension of the temporary access servitude with Hall-Williams, LLC at the INorth Adventure Trails mitigation property and directed staff to enter into inquiry conversation with appropriate parties for the purchase of the private road.

c) **Recreation**

**Recreation Area Status Report** – Mr. Marcus Long highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 70,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of February 2025. Updated maintenance items include, but not limited to:

- Ongoing routine maintenance including mowing cycles and boat ramp clean up

d) **Ports**

**Consideration of Approval of Second Cooperative Endeavor Agreement/Central Louisiana Regional Port/Electrical Substation Manufacturing Facility:** By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the second cooperative endeavor agreement with the Central Louisiana Regional Port providing availability of additional funding by the Commission in the amount of \$3,830,300.00 with the stipulations that the \$3,380,300.00 would be fully reimbursed.

e) **Public Awareness & Marketing**

**Marketing Update** - None

f) **Personnel** - None

g) **Revenue, Banking & Budget**

**Announcement of Upcoming 2025 Tax Millage Adoption/April 16, 2025:** An announcement was made that the Commission will adopt the 2025 Tax Millage at the April 16, 2025, Commission meeting.

h) **Legislative** - None

9. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- Reminder to Commissioners of the annual requirement of the Tier 2.1 Financial Disclosure due May 15<sup>th</sup>
- Last week was the National Waterways Conference and Congressional visits in Washington, D.C.
- No further information or updates on the DENR reorganization
- BassMasters begins this Friday
- Coast Guard Appreciation Day – May 22<sup>nd</sup>
- F1 Power Boat Racing – May 23<sup>rd</sup> thru May 25<sup>th</sup>

10. **STATUS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY/ENGINEERING REPORT** - Prepared reports were provided in the meeting packets.

- Alexandria Levee Front project – continued progress
- Brouillette park project – playground and building pads constructed
- Ft. Buhlow park project – demolition, clearing, and dirt work underway
- 12 Mile Bayou boat launch project – awaiting drop in water levels to proceed with pouring concrete for the ramp. Parking lot work underway
- Bishop Point and Red Oak seawall rehabilitation – project moving along well

11. **GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** - None

12. **CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT**

- Corps participated in virtual meetings last week with Washington, D.C.
- Conference call this afternoon regarding the Economic Impact Study update

13. **RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION**

14. **OTHER BUSINESS** - None

15. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC** - None

16. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – No action was taken

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

17. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

  
JAMES F. MAXEY  
SECRETARY/TREASURER

  
TROY ROUSSELL  
CHAIR DESIGNEE