

**MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
APRIL 16, 2025
10:00 AM
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION
5941 HWY 1 BYPASS
NATCHITOCHEES, LOUISIANA**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Red River Waterway Commission was called to order by Chair Designee, Troy Roussell, 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: Chair Designee, Troy Roussell, Commissioner Versa Clark, Commissioner David L. Crutchfield, II, Commissioner Michael P. Deville, Commissioner Paul Fleming, Commissioner Charles R. Greer, Commissioner Ronald Lattier, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

Absent: Commissioner Jacques Goudeau, Commissioner James F. Maxey, 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: 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 Deville, 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 Crutchfield, the minutes of the March 19, 2025, meeting were unanimously approved.

7. TREASURER'S REPORT

By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Expenditures, Financial Statements, Investment Reports, & Fund Balance Report for the month of March 2025 were unanimously approved.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Contracts

Consideration of Authority to Award Design Contract/1North Adventure Trails/Phase 1F/Additional Cross-Country Trails/Project No. 25-04/Contract No. RRW-856: By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved award of design contract to KSA Engineers, Inc. with a corresponding budget amendment and reservation of funds in the amount of \$1,200,000.00.

b) Land Management, Legal Affairs & Affirmative Action - None

c) Recreation

Recreation Area Status Report – Mr. Marcus Long highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 83,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of March 2025. Updated maintenance items include, but not limited to:

- Ramp cleanup ongoing following highwater
- Several ramp closures still in effect
- Colfax sunken boat – State Farm agreed to pay for removal and will forward payment

d) Ports - None

e) Public Awareness & Marketing - None

f) Personnel - None

g) Revenue, Banking & Budget

Consideration of Approval to Purchase Office Chairs: By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved the purchase of 44 office chairs from Hester's Office Solutions in the amount of \$24,943.00 and a corresponding budget amendment in the amount of \$25,000.00.

Consideration of Approval to Declare Assets as Surplus: By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Deville, the Commission unanimously approved declaring a 2002 John Deere lawn mower as surplus and authorizing staff to properly dispose.

Adoption of 2025 Tax Millage by Resolution: By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Greer, and reflecting a complete vote count, the Commission adopted its 2025 Tax Millage Rates of 1.45 mills for capital outlay and 0.78 mills for operations and maintenance for a total of 2.23 mills. Following is the 2025 Tax Millage Resolution read aloud by Commissioner Crutchfield:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proper administrative officials of the Parishes of Avoyelles, Bossier, Caddo, Grant, Natchitoches, Rapides, and Red River, State of Louisiana, be and they are hereby empowered, authorized, and directed to spread said taxes, as hereinabove set forth, upon the assessment roll of said Parish for the year 2025, and to make the collection of the taxes imposed for and on behalf of the taxing authority, according to law, and that the taxes herein levied shall become a permanent lien and privilege on all property subject to taxation as herein set forth, and collection thereof shall be enforceable in the manner provided by law.

The foregoing resolution was read in full, the roll was called on the adoption thereof, and the resolution was adopted by the following votes:

	<u>Yeas</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>Abstained</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Vacancy</u>
Commissioner Clark	√				
Commissioner Crutchfield	√				
Commissioner Deville	√				
Commissioner Fleming	√				
Commissioner Goudeau				√	
Commissioner Greer	√				
Commissioner Jones					√
Commissioner Lattier	√				
Commissioner Maxey				√	
Commissioner Richardson				√	
Commissioner Simpson	√				

Discussion of Building and Property Insurance Options: No action taken. Staff was instructed to gather premium information on high-value assets but to otherwise continue insuring specific buildings through Glatfelter while self-insuring other buildings as done in the past.

h) **Legislative** - None

9. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- Reminder to Commissioners of the annual requirement of the Tier 2.1 Financial Disclosure deadline of May 15th
- Following Senate Bill 97. Will continue to monitor and update the Commission.
- F1 Powerboat races to be held May 23-25
- Carp Tournament October 17- 18 at Red River South Marina
- Coast Guard Appreciation Day May 22 at Stoner Avenue Boat Launch
- INorth Adventure Trails already having an impact on economic development in the surrounding area

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

- Alexandria Levee Park project – ongoing construction
- Ft. Buhlow Recreation Area project – dirt work
- 12 Mile Bayou Boat Ramp project – parking lot work finishing up
- Brouillette Recreation Area project – bathhouse and playground construction
- Red Oak and Bishop Point Seawall Rehabilitation projects - progressing

11. **GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** - None

12. **CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT** - None

13. **RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION** - None

14. **OTHER BUSINESS**

Consideration of Resolution of Appreciation/David Jones: By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the Resolution of Appreciation.

15. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC** – Mr. Robert Vinet of KSA Engineers, Inc. thanked the Commission for its continued support and opportunity with the INorth Adventure Trails project.

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 Deville 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 Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Deville, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned.


 JAMES F. MAXEY
 SECRETARY/TREASURER


 TROY ROUSSELL
 CHAIR DESIGNEE