

MINUTES  
OF THE  
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING  
JULY 15, 2020  
10:00 AM  
GRAND ECORE RV PARK ACTIVITY CENTER  
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 Activity Center of the Red River Waterway Commission Grand Ecore RV Park located at 1071 Tauzin Island Road 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 Michael Deville, Commissioner Paul Fleming, Commissioner Randell Fletcher, Commissioner Jacques Goudeau, Commissioner David Jones, Commissioner Ronald Lattier, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

**Absent:** Commissioner David Crutchfield, II, Commissioner Charles Greer, and Commissioner James Maxey.

**RRWC Staff Members Present:** Mr. Colin Brown - Executive Director, Mr. Mike Boydston - Operations & Maintenance Director, Ms. Stephanie Bonnette - Executive Assistant, Mr. Luke Pearson - Real Estate Manager, Mr. Ryan Ingles - Engineering Supervisor, Mr. Eric Gilmore - Marketing Director, Mr. Brian Cespiva – Staff Engineer, Mr. Greg Upton - Legal Counsel.

3. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS & PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD PURSUANT TO LRS 42:14**

**Others Present:** None

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

By motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Deville, the revised agenda was unanimously approved. The revised agenda to include item three under Other Business to read as follows: Consideration of Request to Use Grand Ecore RV Park Activity Center/Natchitoches Parish Port Commission. Comments from the public were called for, however, none were offered.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Deville, the minutes of the June 17, 2020 meeting were unanimously approved.

6. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

By motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, the Expenditures, Financial Statements, Investment Reports, & Fund Balance Report for the month of June 2020 were unanimously approved.

7. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) **Contracts**

1. **Consideration of Approval of Grand Ecore RV Park Operator Contract:** By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, the Commission unanimously approved a two year operator contract with contract inclusions consisting of reporting requirements, a revised "Force Majeure" section, and cashless operations.
2. **Consideration of Authority to Advertise Colfax RV Park Activity Center Addition:** By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Jones, the Commission unanimously approved authorizing staff to advertise for construction bids for the Colfax RV Park Activity Center addition.
3. **Consideration of Assignment of Dredging Contract RRW-743:** By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Deville, the Commission unanimously approved request by current contracted dredge company, Bertucci Contracting Company, LLC, to assign contract to their associated company, Crosby Dredging, LLC, due to company reorganization.

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

1. **Consideration of Approval of Mitigation Development and Management Proposal:** By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved the Mitigation Development and Management Proposal between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF), and the Red River Waterway Commission. The Development Proposal is the standard document historically used for the development of mitigation properties which states the CORPS is responsible for the associated acquisition and developments costs of the mitigation property and the Red River Waterway Commission is responsible for the ongoing maintenance and management costs payable to LDWF.

c) **Recreation**

1. **Recreation Area Status Report**

Mr. Mike Boydston highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 137,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of June 2020. Updated maintenance items include, but not limited to:

- Alexandria Levee Park – Siltation cleanup completed
- Lower portion of Pool 3 – Active dredging

d) **Ports - None**

e) **Public Awareness & Marketing - None**

1. **Marketing Update**

A prepared report was provided in the meeting packet. In addition, Marketing Director, Mr. Eric Gilmore, discussed:

- River usage and Port accessibility
- Barges have successfully moved through Lock 5
- Resurgence of conversation for Fishing competitions and other interests on the Red River

f) **Personnel** - None

g) **Revenue, Banking & Budget** - None

h) **Legislative**

- Legislative session has closed
- Governor has approved the 2021 Budget
- National Inland Rivers, Ports and Terminals Ports Act – a bill to allocate funds to inland rivers and smaller ports did receive support

8. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- Welcome to new Commissioners – Mr. Versa Clark and Mr. Jacques Goudeau
- Corps is dredging, currently moving to Lock 1
- Welcome to new Red River Waterway Commission employee, Mr. Brian Cespiva as Staff Engineer
- CLECO has a powerline north of the Boyce Oxbow and will be working there one day next week
- Update of Coronavirus Protocols

a) **Consideration of Approval of Resolution of Appreciation/Larry Sayes:** By motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved the Resolution of Appreciation of former Commissioner Larry Sayes for his service to the Commission.

b) **Consideration of Approval of Resolution of Appreciation/Roy Burrell:** By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Jones, the Commission unanimously approved the Resolution of Appreciation of former Commissioner Roy Burrell for his service to the Commission.

9. **STATUS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY/ENGINEERING REPORT**

Prepared reports were provided in the meeting packet. In addition, Engineering Supervisor, Mr. Ryan Ingles, discussed the following:

- Further progress on the Coushatta Recreation Area boat dock construction
- Dredging from Clarence Oxbow to Socot
- Mobilizing dredge to Stoner Avenue Recreation Area. The siltation issues at Stoner were discussed in the Recreation Committee meeting

10. **GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** - None

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

12. **RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION** – A handout from the RRVA was provided. Following were some, not all, key points in the update:

- Fiscal year 2020 Appropriations update
- River levels updated
- Arkansas Feasibility Study on hold due to the Coronavirus Pandemic

13. **OTHER BUSINESS**

a) **Consideration of Approval of Committee Assignments/Commissioner Versa Clark:** By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Jones, the Commission unanimously approved assignment of Commissioner Clark to all committees.

b) **Consideration of Approval of Committee Assignments/Commissioner Jacques Goudeau:** By motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, the Commission unanimously approved assignment of Commissioner Goudeau to all committees.

c) **Consideration of Request to Use Grand Ecore RV Park Activity Center/Natchitoches Parish Port Commission:** By motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Deville, the Commission unanimously approved the use of the Grand Ecore RV Park Activity Center to the Natchitoches Port Commission for their monthly meetings through the term of the Coronavirus Pandemic.

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

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

  
JAMES F. MAXEY  
SECRETARY/TREASURER

  
TROY ROUSSELL  
CHAIR DESIGNEE