

MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
OCTOBER 16, 2024
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 Jacques Goudeau, Commissioner Charles R. Greer, Commissioner David Jones, Commissioner Ronald Lattier, Commissioner Kenneth Richardson, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

Absent: Commissioner James F. Maxey

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: Katy Breaux and Camryn Willoughby with the USACE, Vicksburg District and Robert Vinet with KSA Engineers.

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

5. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Richardson, 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 September 18, 2024, meeting were unanimously approved.

7. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Expenditures, Financial Statements, Investment Reports, & Fund Balance Report for the month of September 2024 were unanimously approved.

8. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) **Contracts**

Consideration of Construction Bids/Brouillette Playground and Comfort Station Project/RRWC Project No. 24-01/Contract No. RRW-828: By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved award of bid to Bayou Rapides Corp. in the amount of \$358,100.00.

Consideration of Construction Bids/1North 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 Richardson, the Commission unanimously approved award of bid to Specialty Trackhoe & Dozer Service, Inc. in the amount of \$366,364.20 which was for the base bid only.

Consideration of Proposals/Ft. Buhlow Lift Station Repairs: By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved award of bid to Poston Plumbing, LLC in the amount of \$25,522 and a corresponding budget amendment in the amount of \$26,000.00.

Consideration of Approval of 2025 Contracts List: By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved the 2025 contracts list as presented.

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

Consideration of Award of Leaseback Renewal/Pool 5 Tract 7/85.3 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the 5-year leaseback renewal agreement to Magnolia Point Lands, LLC for a total of \$4,275.00.

Consideration of Request for Leaseback/Pool 3 Tract 63/19 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Richardson, the Commission unanimously approved the 5-year leaseback agreement to Mr. Joel B. Braud for \$1,425.00 for the 5-year term.

Consideration of Approval of Post-Closing Agreement/John Franks Wildlife Management Area Mitigation Property: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Richardson, the Commission unanimously approved the post-closing agreement with Newt Brown Contractor, Inc. for an (equal value) in-kind transaction to perform grading work in exchange for the right to remove 3,600 cubic yards of material from the property.

c) **Recreation**

Consideration of Sponsorship Request/Shreveport Bossier Sports Commission: By motion of Commissioner Greer, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved the \$59,250.00 funding request for the following events: The 2025 F1 Powerboat Championship Series and the 2025 National Fishing League Tournament.

Consideration of Sponsorship Request/KingKat Catfish Tournament: By motion of Commissioner Greer, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved the \$30,000.00 sponsorship funding request for the KingKat Catfishing Tournament to be held on Red River in July 2025.

Recreation Area Status Report – Mr. Marcus Long highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 118,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of September 2024. Updated maintenance items include, but not limited to:

- Testament is dredging at the Port
- Aquatic spraying in Pool 4 and the Blue Hole

- d) Ports - None
- e) Public Awareness & Marketing - None
- f) Personnel - None
- g) Revenue, Banking & Budget

Consideration of Approval of Purchase of Recreation Area Maintenance Equipment: By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the purchase of the following: Quick Power Scape Soil Conditioner; Conex Box/shipping container; Turftime pull behind smooth drum roller compactor and the corresponding budget amendment in the amount of \$16,500.00.

Consideration of Payment for Propane Tanks/Lock and Dam 3 Tract 1: By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved payment to Jim's South Propane for a 250 gallon and a 500 gallon propane tank in the amount of \$4,200.00.

- h) Legislative - None

9. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- 12' Channel Meetings ongoing. There is Federal funding for one half and local sponsorship funding by the DOTD in the amount of \$1,500,000.00.
- Initial presentation of the 2025 budget at the November 19, 2024, meeting
- Levee Boards meeting – First week of December
- Caddo-Bossier Port dredging is underway
- Reminder of the 2024 annual training requirements. An instructor-led session will be held on November 19th prior to committee meetings
- Request for 2024 reimbursable expenses be submitted prior to year-end

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

- 12 Mile Bayou Project – Under construction: Roadway and parking lot area in progress. Boat ramp work to begin in three weeks
- Alexandria Riverfront Project - Under construction: staircases and sidewalks poured.
- Projects out for bid: Ft. Buhlow Playground and Comfort Station and Red Oak/Bishop Point Seawall Rehabilitation

11. **GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** - None

12. **CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT** – The following was presented by Katy Breaux with USACE, Vicksburg District:

- Introduction of new team member, Camryn Willoughby, who will be assisting with the JBJ Project
- Active projects: Alexandria Front Dike; opposite the Alexandria Front Dike; Approach to Lock 2; 12' Channel
- 2024 Dredging contract completed

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

14. **OTHER BUSINESS** - None

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

17. **ADJOURNMENT**

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


JAMES F. MAXEY
SECRETARY/TREASURER


TROY ROUSSELL
CHAIR DESIGNEE