

MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
NOVEMBER 20, 2024
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 Paul Fleming, Commissioner Charles R. Greer, Commissioner David Jones, Commissioner Ronald Lattier, Commissioner James F. Maxey, Commissioner Kenneth Richardson, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

Absent: Chair Designee, Troy Roussell and Commissioner Jacques Goudeau

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, David Hayden with Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and with the US Army Corps of Engineers-Katy Breaux, Camryn Willoughby and Grace Bodron

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 Deville, the minutes of the October 16, 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 October 2024 were unanimously approved.

8. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) **Contracts**

Consideration of Authority to Award Design Contract/1North Adventure Trails/Phase 1D/Multi-Use Trails/Project No. 24-07/Contract No. RRW-842: By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved award of the design contract to KSA Engineers, Inc. for design and administration of the project and authorized the Executive Director to execute the contract and to reserve \$1,900,000.00 in the 2025 budget.

Consideration of Authority to Advertise for Construction Bids/1North Adventure Trails/Phase 1D Multi-Use Trails/Project No. 24-07/Contract No. RRW-843: By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved authorizing staff to advertise for construction bids.

Consideration of Construction Bids/Seawall Rehabilitation/Red Oak and Bishop Point/Project No. 24-02/Contract No. RRW-830: By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved award of construction bid to Synergen Construction in the amount of \$406,819.00.

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

Consideration of Request for Right of Entry/Central Louisiana Regional Port/Hudson Realignment/60 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved the Right of Entry Permit for the Central Louisiana Regional Port to enter and perform soil borings on land owned by the Commission.

Consideration of Approval of Land Sale to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers/1North Adventure Trails Mitigation Property/432.712 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the deed and resolution for the sale of the 432.172 acre 1North Adventure Trails mitigation property to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for \$2,845,000.00. The Resolution, as follows, was read aloud: Be it resolved, that the District, by and through the Executive Director of the Commission, Colin S. Brown, is hereby authorized to sell on behalf of the District the immovable property described on Exhibit "A-1" attached hereto, for a price and sum of \$2,845,000.00 to the United States of America. Be it further resolved, that Colin S. Brown, Executive Director of the Commission, is hereby authorized and empowered in the name of and on behalf of the District to execute any Act of Sale, affidavits, certifications, settlement statement, receipt, checks, and any other documents necessary to carry out the intentions set forth above, and such other documents containing provisions which he may deem necessary and proper.

c) **Recreation**

Recreation Area Status Report - Mr. Marcus Long highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 80,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of October 2024. Updated maintenance items include, but not limited to:

- Ongoing dredging at the Port which should conclude within the month
- Bass stocking areas of Red River

d) **Ports** - None

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

f) **Personnel** - None

g) Revenue, Banking & Budget

Discussion of 2025 Proposed Budget: Direction was given to staff, and a meeting of the Revenue, Banking and Budget Committee was scheduled for Monday, December 2, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. at Commission Headquarters.

h) Legislative - None

9. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A public hearing will be held prior to the Commission meeting on December 18, 2024
- Reminder to Commissioners of the deadline for completion of annual requirements, December 31, 2024

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

- 12 Mile Bayou project – Roadway complete and up to grade. Boat ramp area up to grade and sheet pilings going in
- Alexandria Levee Park project – Most of the retaining wall work along the levee is completed
- Ft. Buhlow project – Bid opening December 5, 2024

11. GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT - None

12. CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT

- Alexandria River Front Dike project – Finishing up this week
- Opposite the Alexandria River Front Dike project – Rock placement next week (Pineville side). Project should finish within a few months
- 12' Channel Project – Working towards tentative planning

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



JAMES F. MAXEY
SECRETARY/TREASURER



TROY ROUSSELL
CHAIR DESIGNEE