

**Washington Parish Reservoir Commission (WPRC)**  
**July 17, 2007**  
**Minutes of meeting**

Chairman Huey Pierce called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken with the following Commissioners being present: Bob Bateman, Mike Burris, Bill Jenkins, Huey Pierce, Ralph Pierce, Beryl Schilling, Bernie Brennan, Mike Creel, Charles Mizell and Henry Harrison.

Chairman Pierce noted there were two items that needed to be added to the agenda.  
Item 1: Engage William R. Durden as Commission auditor. The motion by Mr. Mizell second by Mr. Burris to add this to the agenda carried unanimously.  
Item 2: Louisiana Attestation Questionnaire. The motion by Mr. Burris second by Mr. Creel to add this to the agenda carried unanimously.

Invocation was delivered by Chairman Pierce.

**AGENDA ITEM #1A (added) – To engage Mr. William R. Durden, CPA as Commission Auditor.**

Discussion was held on the requirement by the State for a full audit of the Commission. A motion by Mr. Burris second by Mr. Mizell to hire Mr. Bill Durden, CPA as the Commissions auditor passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM #1B (added) – Louisiana Attestation Questionnaire**

A motion by Mr. Burris second by Mr. Creel to accept the questionnaire as completed by Mr. Durden and submit it to the state passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM #1 – Discussion with Counsel on Allegations of Misconduct by a Consultant to the Commission.**

A motion by Mr. Bateman second by Mr. Mizell to go into executive session carried unanimously.

Prior to the executive session Chairman Pierce informed the public that anyone desiring to address the Commission needed to fill out a speaker form and present it to the Commission.

Chairman Pierce, without objection, declared the meeting back to public session.

Chairman Pierce opened the floor to public comments. Ms. Beech and Mr. Miley addressed the Commission. Chairman Pierce asked if there was anyone else. There being none Chairman Pierce closed the public session.

Chairman Pierce recognized the Commission attorney, Mr. Ted Dittmer. Mr. Dittmer explained the allegations against the Consultant to the Commission. Mr. Dittmer also informed the Commission on its legal obligation and exposure. Mr. Dittmer informed the Commission that the current contract with the consultant expired September 26, 2007.

Chairman Pierce explained to the Commission his actions and inquiries upon being informed of the allegations.

Chairman Pierce presented a resolution to the Commission for consideration. Mr. Bateman made a motion, second by Mr. Mizell to adopt the resolution as presented. After discussion Mr. Harrison requested a roll call vote. The roll was called with all members present voted in favor with the exception of Mr. Harrison who chose to abstain. Chairman Pierce declared the motion passed.

Chairman Pierce thanked the Commission Members for their time and dedication to the project.

Motion by Mr. Burris second by Mr. Creel to adjourn carried unanimously.

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Huey Pierce, Chairman

Attachment:

**Resolution**

WHEREAS, the Washington Parish Reservoir Commission has reviewed, with counsel, its legal standing and contractual obligations with consultant Michael L. Thompson of Michael L. Thompson, Administrative Governmental Consultant, LLC., regarding the recent charges filed against Mr. Thompson on a matter unrelated to the reservoir project in Washington Parish; and

WHEREAS, said review reinforces that the consultant has provided and is providing expert services as contracted; and

WHEREAS, such expert consultant services, presently under legal contract, are needed for the timely completion of the reservoir project; and

WHEREAS, this Commission fully subscribes to the basic and sacred foundation of justice within the judicial system, being the presumption of innocent until proven otherwise; and

WHEREAS, this Commission, using due diligence, will not abandon its steady course of operating factually, legally and with moral compass; NOW

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED - that the Washington Parish Reservoir Commission hereby affirms its current contractual term and obligations with consultant Michael L. Thompson, and thereafter, authorizes the Commission Chairman to exercise the continuation clause of the agreement on a month to month - 30 day termination - basis for consultant services with Michael L. Thompson while he is utilizing all due legal process regarding the recent allegations.

**Adopted at the meeting of July 17, 2007.**

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***Bob Bateman, Secretary***

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***Huey L. Pierce, Chairman***