

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE
AMITE RIVER BASIN DRAINAGE & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

3535 S. Sherwood Forest Boulevard, Suite 135, Baton Rouge, LA

March 17, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT DURING ROLL CALL: Don Thompson, Ben Babin, Anthony “Tony” Rouchon, John Brass, David Hoover, William “Carey” Jenkins, Willie George Lee, Jerry Thibea, Kenneth Wade Welborn

MEMBERS ABSENT: Terry Louque, Larry Thomas

NOTE: Vacant Seat(s) Livingston Parish, St. Helena Parish

ALSO PRESENT: ARBC Executive Director Dietmar Rietschier, ARBC Executive Secretary Toni Guitrau,
ARBC Legal Counsel Larry Bankston

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Thompson.
2. Public Comments on Agenda Items: Mr. Kim Mayhall was present on behalf of Crown Minerals. David Ogwyn was present on behalf of Profit Island owners.
3. Minutes
 - The Board unanimously approved a motion by Rouchon, second by Hoover to approve the February 2015 regular meeting minutes as presented.
4. Financial Statement Report:
 - Rouchon presented to the Board the February 2015 General Fund and CRDC Fund financial statements. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Babin, second by Hoover to approve the February 2015 General Fund and CRDC Fund financial statements
5. Report by Executive Director
 - Profit Island: Rietschier announced that there was an Executive Meeting held on March 13, 2015 with Don Thompson and Anthony “Tony” Rouchon present. It was discussed and agreed upon to recommend to the full Board of Commissioners “to withdraw the Profit Island intent of friendly expropriation and to halt negotiations on an attempt to purchase the island for mitigation property.” It was also recommended to the full Board of Commissioners that if the Profit Island owners and its mineral lease owners later propose a sales agreement to the ARBC, only then would the ARBC consider the purchase. A motion agreeing to this as recommended was offered by Thibea and seconded by Lee. A roll call was taken and the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Don Thompson, Ben Babin, Anthony “Tony” Rouchon, John Brass, David Hoover,
William “Carey” Jenkins, Willie George Lee, Jerry Thibea, Kenneth Wade Welborn

NAYS: None

MEMBERS ABSENT: Terry Louque, Larry Thomas

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 - Rietschier discussed the progress being made with the Floodplain Management Plan and the ARBC weir. He then deferred to George Hudson, with GEC.
 - George Hudson, with GEC, reported that GEC is updating the Floodplain Management Plan in coordination with parishes to include their Hazard Mitigation Plans summaries. Also, GEC is finalizing the Amite River Division Canal Weir report.
 - Discussed DOTD advancing \$4 million cash, per the USACE request by letter. It is part of the 5% cash contribution to ensure buying mitigation and one construction project. DOTD plans to contribute the \$4 million. Also, discussed that Lilly Bayou Control structure is considered a dam under the Dam Safety Program. A report by DOTD has been prepared concerning the condition of the structure.
 - Report by DOTD: Delmar reported that the DOTD Real Estate has completed their title work on McHugh Swamp. The appraisals for eight properties will be reviewed pending an HTRW survey on each property. The Phase I HTRWs are estimated to take 30 days. Utility Relocations and its contractor are scheduled to have a meeting with the utility companies and USACE, tomorrow, March 18th. This will be a site visit to show where the bypass road will be constructed. The DOTD Project Management Team has received a letter from USACE. This letter states that the Non-Federal Sponsors could contribute an additional \$4,000,000 as part of our 5% cash contribution to the project. This money would help ensure USACE could complete the contract for the bypass and acquire the necessary mitigation credits. DOTD has taken their GIS files and combined them with USACE plans for the bypass at Hwy. 61. This provides a decent picture of affected properties.
6. Report by ARBC Legal Counsel
 - Bankston’s monthly status report was emailed to the Board of Commissioners.
 - Amite River Weir meeting/March 12, 2015, in regard to the ARDC weir, and on the jurisdiction of the PLD, a bid package will be prepared for construction, as a necessity for the weir. After the bid package is prepared, it may become a joint effort by PLD, Ascension and Livingston Parishes. Bankston mentioned that there were two legislators present at the meeting. The plan is to seek Capital Outlay Funds, CPRA funds and/or other funds to potentially work on the weir. There is a Capital

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Outlay Bill requirement that there must be a 20% percentage contribution by the locals. The work being done by PLD and GEC can go toward the 20% percentage. Rietschier noted that Babin and Thibeu were instrumental in addressing the weir problem.

7. Old Business: None

8. New Business:

- Adopt the millage rate(s) for the tax year 2015: Resolution 1116. As there were no public comments, a motion was made by Rouchon, second by Hoover to approve Resolution No. 1116, as presented, to adopt the millage rate of 2.52 for the tax year 2015. Results were as follows:

YEAS: Don Thompson, Ben Babin, Anthony "Tony" Rouchon, John Brass, David Hoover,
William "Carey" Jenkins, Willie George Lee, Jerry Thibeu, Kenneth Wade Welborn

NAYS: None

MEMBERS ABSENT: Terry Louque, Larry Thomas

NOTE: Vacant Seat(s) Livingston Parish, St. Helena Parish

9. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Rouchon, second by Welborn to adjourn the meeting.

APPROVED:

/s/ Don Thompson

Don Thompson, ARBC President

Date: April 21, 2015

/s/ Toni B. Guitrau

Toni B. Guitrau, Executive Secretary