

PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREATER NEW ORLEANS EXPRESSWAY COMMISSION, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2020, 10:00 A.M., VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE.

PRESENT: Patrick W. Fitzmorris, Chair; Joy Zainey, Vice Chair; Donald Sharp, Secretary; Wanda Theriot, Member; Red Thompson, Member

OTHERS: Carlton Dufrechou; Melissa M. Phillipott; Robert Graham; Commander Curt Franz; Lt. Mike Kelly; Lt. Thea Andras; Stacie Heffker; Eileen Barthe; Crystal Scott; Georgie Bagnetto; Craig Watson, Blue Williams; Liz Lambert and Chris LeMieux, Riess LeMieux; Cary Bourgeois and Johnny Bradberry, GEC; Jim Martin and John Hartgreve, DEI; Bob Schmidt, Huval & Associates; Jan Evans and Hossein Ghara, Volkert and Associates; Babak Naghavi and Fred Wetekamm, Hardesty and Hanover; Faimon Roberts, the Advocate; Cullen Ledet, Modjeski & Masters; and Shelby LaSalle

The Chairman called the meeting to order.

On the motion by Mrs. Theriot, seconded by Mr. Thompson, the minutes of the regular meeting held on June 24, 2020 were accepted as written. Mr. Fitzmorris asked for comments or questions. There were none. Mr. Fitzmorris, Mrs. Zainey, Mr. Sharp, Mr. Thompson, and Mrs. Theriot voted in favor of the motion.

Mr. Dufrechou reported in June the Drawbridge operations included 9 vessel openings, 2 test openings and no incidents.

Mr. Dufrechou reported in July the Drawbridge operations included 10 vessel openings, 3 test openings and no incidents.

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Mr. Dufrechou reported, since the last GNOEC meeting, there were no days of fog operations.

Mr. Dufrechou reported there were 286 breakdown responses in June on the Causeway Bridge. He stated 179 of those breakdowns were due to mechanical problems and 107 were caused by debris on the Causeway Bridge. Mr. Dufrechou reported 20 breakdowns on the Huey P. Long Bridge. He stated 17 of those breakdowns were due to mechanical problems and 3 were caused by debris on the Huey P. Long Bridge. Mr. Dufrechou reported a total of 306 breakdown responses for both bridges in June.

Mr. Dufrechou reported there were 361 breakdown responses in July on the Causeway Bridge. He stated 235 of those breakdowns were due to mechanical problems and 126 were caused by debris on the Causeway Bridge. Mr. Dufrechou reported 23 breakdowns on the Huey P. Long Bridge. He stated 19 of those breakdowns were due to mechanical problems and 4 were caused by debris on the Huey P. Long Bridge. Mr. Dufrechou reported a total of 384 breakdown responses for both bridges in July.

Mr. Dufrechou reported in the month of June there were a total of 6 accidents on the Causeway Bridge. He stated 1 occurred Northbound and 5 Southbound. Mr. Dufrechou stated 1 was the results of a breakdown. He reported there were 5 accidents that occurred on the Huey P. Long Bridge in May. Mr. Dufrechou stated 1 Eastbound, 4 Westbound and none were caused by breakdown or debris in the roadway.

Mr. Dufrechou reported in the month of July there were a total of 10 accidents on the Causeway Bridge. He stated 5 occurred Northbound and 5 Southbound. Mr. Dufrechou stated 4 were the results of a breakdown. He reported there were 9 accidents that

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occurred on the Huey P. Long Bridge in May. Mr. Dufrechou stated 4 Eastbound, 5 Westbound and none were caused by breakdown or debris in the roadway.

Mr. Babak Naghavi and Fred Wetekamm, with Hardesty and Hanover, presented a summary of the construction of the Segmented Shoulder Project on the Causeway Bridge.

On the Segmented Shoulder Improvements project, Mr. Dufrechou recommended approval for Plan Change 35. **On motion by Mrs. Theriot, seconded by Mr. Thompson, Plan Change No. 35 provides for modifications in the ITS controller cabinets for Safety Bays 1 through 12, excluding Bay 2 which was previously addressed, to provide improved functionality of the bay flashing lights from the dispatch center. This will be a time and material change order with cost not to exceed \$52,000. No time will be added to the contract. Based on the recommendations of GNOEC staff and legal counsel, the GNOEC approves the execution of Plan Change No. 35. Mr. Fitzmorris asked the audience if anyone had comments or questions for the Commission regarding this resolution. There were no comments or questions from the audience. Mr. Fitzmorris, Mrs. Zainey, Mr. Sharp, Mrs. Theriot, and Mr. Thompson voted in favor of the motion.**

On the Segmented Shoulder Improvements project, Mr. Dufrechou recommended approval for Plan Change 36. **On motion by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mrs. Zainey, Plan Change No. 36 provides for modifications to the striping detail in each of Safety Bays 1 through 12. For the length of each bay, audible striping at the edge of lane will be replaced with inverted striping and supplemented with raised**

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pavement markers. This will be a no-cost change order. No time will be added to the contract. Based on the recommendations of GNOEC staff and legal counsel, the GNOEC approves the execution of Plan Change No. 36. Mr. Fitzmorris asked the audience if anyone had comments or questions for the Commission regarding this resolution. There were no comments or questions from the audience. Mr. Fitzmorris, Mrs. Zainey, Mr. Sharp, Mrs. Theriot, and Mr. Thompson voted in favor of the motion.

On the Segmented Shoulder Improvements project, Mr. Dufrechou recommended approval for Plan Change 37. On motion by Mr. Fitzmorris, seconded by Mr. Thompson, Plan Change No. 37 acknowledges that all work under the Safety Bay contract has been successfully completed and provides for final acceptance of the project. This will be a no-cost change order. Final acceptance of the project enables the beginning of project closeout procedures over the next 45 to 60 days for payment of retainage and other items. Based on the recommendations of GNOEC staff and legal counsel, the GNOEC approves the execution of Plan Change No. 37. Mr. Fitzmorris asked the audience if anyone had comments or questions for the Commission regarding this resolution. There were no comments or questions from the audience. Mr. Fitzmorris, Mrs. Zainey, Mr. Sharp, Mrs. Theriot, and Mr. Thompson voted in favor of the motion.

On the Southbound Bridge Rail Improvements project, Mr. Dufrechou recommended approval for Plan Change 8. On motion by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Sharp, Plan Change No. 8 provides for the: purchase of Metal Pallets, Racks and Spare Rail Posts; delivery and installation of Metal Pallets and Racks; delivery and

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stacking of all Spare Rail Components at the GNOEC's Maintenance Yard. The cost of materials for this plan change includes: metal pallets and racks for \$71,270.00, spare rail posts (60 posts) for \$9,900.00, and connex box relocation for \$276.10. Delivery, stacking, and other incidental work will be performed via Force Account for an amount Not-to-Exceed \$92,000. Total cost of this change order is established Not-to-Exceed \$173,446.10. No additional time will be added to the contract. Based on the recommendations of GNOEC staff and legal counsel, the GNOEC authorizes the General Manager to complete the execution of Plan Change No. 8 with JB James Construction. Mr. Fitzmorris asked the audience if anyone had comments or questions for the Commission regarding this resolution. There were no comments or questions from the audience. Mr. Fitzmorris, Mrs. Zainey, Mr. Sharp, Mrs. Theriot, and Mr. Thompson voted in favor of the motion.

On the subrecipient agreements with St. Tammany and Jefferson Parishes, Mr. Dufrechou recommended approval to apply for CARES Act Funds. On motion by Mr. Sharp, seconded by Mr. Thompson, the GNOEC desires to apply for CARES Act funds for reimbursement of COVID-19 related expenditures through St. Tammany Parish and Jefferson Parish. The Parishes require the execution of a subrecipient agreement whereby the GNOEC agrees to reimburse the Parishes in the unlikely event the CARES Act funds were to be used for ineligible expenditures requiring payback to the Federal government. Based on the recommendations of GNOEC staff and legal counsel, the GNOEC hereby authorizes its General Manager and/or Chairman to execute the subrecipient agreements and all necessary documents with St. Tammany Parish and Jefferson Parish in order to apply for CARES Act funds.

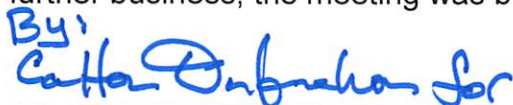
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Mr. Fitzmorris asked the audience if anyone had comments or questions for the Commission regarding this resolution. There were no comments or questions from the audience. Mr. Fitzmorris, Mrs. Zainey, Mr. Sharp, Mrs. Theriot, and Mr. Thompson voted in favor of the motion.

On the GNOEC's 2020/21 budget, Mr. Dufrechou recommended to accept and approve. **On motion by Mr. Fitzmorris, seconded by Mrs. Zainey, the Commission accepts and approves the Amended Budget for fiscal year November 1, 2019 – October 31, 2020 and the Proposed Budget for fiscal year November 1, 2020 – October 31, 2021 as presented. The Commission also accepts and approves the Toll Covenant calculations made of the net worth requirements in accordance with Section 6.15 of the Bond Indenture. Mr. Fitzmorris asked the audience if anyone had comments or questions for the Commission regarding this resolution. There were no comments or questions from the audience. Mr. Fitzmorris, Mrs. Zainey, Mr. Sharp, Mrs. Theriot, and Mr. Thompson voted in favor of the motion.**

Mrs. Zainey requested to make a notation on record that, although she may not have been heard voting on the meeting's resolutions due to technical difficulties, she did in fact vote in favor for all motions.

Mr. Fitzmorris reminded everyone the next meeting is tentatively scheduled on Wednesday, October 7, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. via Video Conferencing. There being no further business, the meeting was be adjourned.

By:


Patrick Fitzmorris
Chair

By:


Joy H. Zainey
Vice Chair