

PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREATER NEW ORLEANS EXPRESSWAY COMMISSION, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2015, 10:00 A.M., GNOEC CONFERENCE ROOM, VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA BUILDING, 3939 NORTH CAUSEWAY BOULEVARD, SUITE 400, METAIRIE, LA

PRESENT: Stephen G. Romig, Chairman; Michael R. Lorino, Jr., Vice Chairman; Anthony V. Ligi, Jr., Treasurer; Shelby P. LaSalle, Jr., Member; Joseph A. Jaeger, Jr., Member

OTHERS: Carlton Dufrechou; Debbie Lopreore; Georgie Bagnetto; Melissa M. Phillipott; Eileen Barthe; Chief Nick Congemi; Perry Daigrepoint; Red Thompson; Robert Graham; Bill Murhammer; Cary Bourgeois & Phil Meyers, GEC, Inc.; Craig Watson, Blue Williams; Jim Lynch & Kathy Gambino, Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Svc.; Rene Chopin, Burk-Kleinpeter; Byron Poydras and Kathy Pine, Bank of New York; Polly Greene, St. Tammany Farmer; Warren Montgomery, St. Tammany District Attorney's Office

The Chairman called the meeting to order.

**On the motion by Romig, seconded by Ligi, the minutes of the regular meeting held on January 14, 2015 were accepted as written. Mr. Romig, Capt. Lorino, Mr. Ligi, Mr. LaSalle and Mr. Jaeger voted in favor of the motion.**

Mr. Romig addressed the audience to see if anyone had any comments or questions for the commission. There were no comments or questions.

Mr. LaSalle introduced St. Tammany Parish District Attorney, Mr. Warren Montgomery. Mr. Montgomery introduced himself to the Commission and the audience. He thanked the Commission for allowing him to speak. Mr. Montgomery stated that he is available to help if the Causeway Commissioners or staff needs any assistance. He stated that he

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appreciates everyone's hard work at the Causeway. Mr. Dufrechou thanked Mr. Montgomery for attending.

Mr. Romig then asked about the Causeway Charitable foundation. Mr. Bill Murhammer stated that there is no report this month and that he will keep the Commission posted if anything changes.

On the Drawbridge operations, Mr. Dufrechou reported there were 8 vessel openings, in January and February with 1 pin incident and 6 test openings.

Mr. Dufrechou stated there was fog once in January and the first 4 days in February.

Mr. Dufrechou reported that Police and MAP responded to 360 breakdowns on the Causeway Bridge and 49 breakdowns on the Huey P. Long for a total of 409. He reported 25 accidents on the Causeway Bridge and 13 on the Huey P. Long from January and February of this year.

Mr. Dufrechou showed a video of a female in Labor mid-span on the Causeway Bridge on January 14, 2015. He stated that as usual our officers and the EMS responded quickly. Mr. Dufrechou reported the female did give birth to twins.

Mr. Dufrechou showed pictures of our officers receiving a lifesaving award for rescuing and performing CPR from an incident that occurred on December 31, 2014 on the Causeway Bridge. He stated these officers showed exemplary performance. Mr. Dufrechou asked Chief Congemi to describe Cpl. Bernard's actions. Chief stated that Cpl. Bernard was involved in a similar incident last year at the Huey P. Long. Chief Congemi stated that the Cpl. Bernard was notified of a motorist that was slumped

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behind the wheel with the vehicle motor still on. Cpl. Bernard was able to break a window of the vehicle and extricated the person. He stated that Cpl. Bernard resuscitated the driver and he was transported to the hospital. Chief reported that unfortunately the driver passed several days after. Cpl. Bernard will be recognized for his lifesaving actions on the scene. Mr. Dufrechou stated that award is well deserved.

Mr. Dufrechou then shows a picture of the Aircraft Enforcement signs that are currently on the bridge. He feels that these signs have become a deterrent to speeding.

Mr. Dufrechou showed a still picture of the fog on March 3, 2015 that appeared on the South Shore and another picture of fog from the morning of March 4, 2015. Mr. Dufrechou stated that he was very proud of the performance of all Causeway personnel. He stated the Maintenance, Dispatch, Camera and Police employees have been working around the clock for four days.

Mr. Dufrechou showed a video of a traffic stop that turned into an accident on February 20, 2015. He stated the driver was unharmed.

Mr. Dufrechou also showed a video of an 18 wheeler that was trying to come out of the crossover but hit an attenuator. He stated our Officers did stop him at the end of the bridge and the company will reimburse the Causeway for the damages. Robert Graham did state that the attenuator could be repaired.

Mr. Dufrechou showed the last video where there was a controller failure that shut down Lane 2 early in the morning. He stated although the lane was closed, there was a near accident as one vehicle tried to go into another lane. Mr. Dufrechou stated that Lane 2 controller has been repaired and it is operational.

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On Replacing the North Channel Bascule Control System, Mr. Dufrechou presented Plan Change No. 10. **On motion by LaSalle, seconded by Ligi, Plan Change No. 10 includes contract documents that provide details for Work Zone Police Officers with no initial quantity. Plan Change No. 10 also provides for adjusting the quantity for Work Zone Police Officers to the quantity used for \$36,500.00. Based upon the recommendation of the Staff and its Consulting Engineers, The GNOEC authorizes the General Manager to complete the execution of Plan Change No. 10. Mr. Romig, Capt. Lorino, Mr. Ligi, Mr. LaSalle and Mr. Jaeger voted in favor of the motion.**

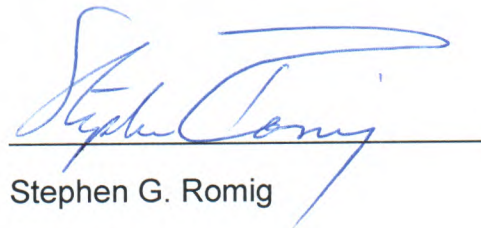
On Replacing the Damage Traffic Signs Northbound / Southbound, Mr. Dufrechou presented Change Order No. 5. **On motion by Mr. Ligi, seconded by Capt. Lorino, Plan Change No. 5 provides for the addition of Forced Work Stoppage item in the amount \$8,416.07 and 30 calendar days. Based upon the recommendation of the Staff and its Consulting Engineers, the GNOEC authorizes the General Manager to complete the execution of Plan Change No. 5. Mr. Romig, Capt. Lorino, Mr. Ligi, Mr. LaSalle and Mr. Jaeger voted in favor of the motion.** Also on Replacing the Damage Traffic Signs Northbound / Southbound, Mr. Dufrechou presented Change Order No. 6. **On motion by Mr. Lorino, seconded by Mr. Ligi, Plan Change No. 6 includes contract documents that provide details for Work Zone Police Officers with no initial quantity. Plan Change No. 6 provides for adjusting the quantity for Work Zone Police Officers to the quantity used of \$21,320.00. Based upon the recommendation of the Staff and its Consulting Engineers, the GNOEC authorizes**

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**the General Manager to complete the execution of Plan Change No. 6. Mr. Romig, Capt. Lorino, Mr. Ligi, Mr. LaSalle and Mr. Jaeger voted in favor of the motion.**

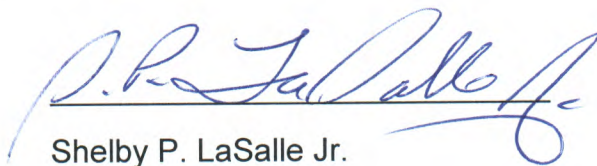
Mr. Romig stated that since Mr. Rase's term expired on the GNOEC Commission in December and Mr. Cvitanovich reluctantly resigned due to increase business, the GNOEC has new Commissioners. He said that elections of officers were needed for Mr. Jaeger and Mr. LaSalle. Mr. Romig nominated Mr. LaSalle as secretary for the Commission. Mr. Ligi seconded the motion. **Mr. Romig, Capt. Lorino, Mr. Ligi, Mr. LaSalle and Mr. Jaeger voted in favor of the motion.**

There being no further business, the meeting was be adjourned.



Stephen G. Romig

Chairman



Shelby P. LaSalle Jr.

Secretary