

MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
JANUARY 18, 2023
10:00 AM
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION
5941 HWY 1 BYPASS
NATCHITOCHE, LOUISIANA

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Red River Waterway Commission was called to order by Chair Designee, Troy Roussell, 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: Chair Designee, Troy Roussell, Commissioner Versa Clark, Commissioner David L. Crutchfield, II, Commissioner Jacques Goudeau, Commissioner Charles R. Greer, Commissioner David Jones, Commissioner Ronald Lattier, Commissioner James F. Maxey.

Absent: Commissioner Michael P. Deville, Commissioner Paul Fleming, Commissioner Randell Fletcher, and Commissioner Michael Simpson

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. Dustin Hayes - Marketing Director, Mr. Brian Cespiva - Staff Engineer, Mr. Greg Upton - Legal Counsel.

3. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD PERSUANT TO LRS 42:14**

Others Present: Mr. Ben Russo, Executive Director of the Central Louisiana Regional Port, Mr. Robert Vinet with KSA, Shreveport, Louisiana; Matt Adkins and Matthew O'Neal both with Synergen, Bossier, Louisiana.

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

By motion of Commissioner Greer, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the agenda was unanimously approved. Comments from the public were called for, however, none were offered.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

By motion of Commissioner Maxey, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the minutes of the December 21, 2022 meeting were unanimously approved.

6. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Jones, the Expenditures and Investment Reports for the month of December 2022 were unanimously approved.

7. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) **Contracts**

Consideration of Contract Cancellation/RRW-781/Office Headquarters Cleaning Service: By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved the cancellation of the current cleaning services' contract and authorized staff to proceed with entering into contract with Maids of Many, LLC.

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

Consideration of Authority to Re-Advertise Public Bid Land Leases Expiring in 2023 and Early 2024: By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Greer, the Commission unanimously approved authorizing staff to re-advertise the applicable properties for public bid lease.

Consideration of Authority to Re-Appraise Leasebacks Expiring in 2023: By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved authorizing staff to re-appraise the applicable leaseback properties.

Consideration of Award of Public Bid Land Lease/Bijou Realignment/366 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Greer, the Commission unanimously approved award of lease to Mr. William Walker for \$57,645.00 (\$31.50 per acre) for the 5-year term.

Consideration of Award of Public Bid Land Lease/Socot Capout/Phase II/Tract 11/Segment B/91 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved award of lease to Mr. Rodney Achord for \$8,212.75 (\$18.05 per acre) for the 5-year term.

Consideration of Approval of Proposal for Mulching/Mitigation Property: By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Greer, the Commission unanimously approved the proposal by Hydroline/Synergen Construction, LLC to perform mulching and clearing services at the Fish Lake mitigation property up to a cost of \$65,000.00.

Consideration of Approval of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement and Land Sale/Red River Parish Sheriff's Department: By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the cooperative endeavor agreement to transfer ownership of the buildings and other improvements at Lock & Dam 4 to the Red River Parish Sheriff's Department and approved the sale of the 3.5 acres of land on which the buildings are situated to the Red River Parish Sheriff's Department for the appraised value of \$19,000.00.

c) **Recreation**

Consideration of Approval of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement/City of Natchitoches and Natchitoches Convention and Visitors Bureau/Mr. Crappie 2023 Qualifier: By motion of Commissioner Greer, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved the cooperative endeavor agreement funding request of \$25,000.00 for the Mr. Crappie 2023 Qualifier event.

Consideration of Approval of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement/Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries/Bass Stocking: By motion of Commissioner Greer, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the cooperative endeavor agreement of a 5-year commitment with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries funding \$100,000.00 per year to purchase bass fingerlings for the Red River.

Recreation Area Status Report – Mr. Marcus Long highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 79,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of December 2022. Updated maintenance items include, but not limited to:

- Ft. Buhlow Disc Golf Project is completed less a few minor details
- Headquarters re-carpeting project is completed
- Some dredging done at the North Caddo facility

d) **Ports** - None

e) **Public Awareness & Marketing**

Consideration of Approval of 2023 Out of State Travel Calendar: By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the 2023 out of state travel calendar as presented.

f) **Personnel** - None

g) **Revenue, Banking & Budget**

Consideration of Approval of 2022 Audit Compliance Questionnaire: By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the 2022 Audit Compliance Questionnaire.

h) **Legislative** - None

8. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- Red River Valley Association Annual Conference will be held in Shreveport/Bossier area February 22-23, 2023.
- Upcoming travel: Washington, D.C.- National Waterways Conference/Legislative Summit and Congressional visits in March
- Personal mileage rate increased to .655 per mile
- Please complete and return committee assignment form
- Incoming Red River Valley Association Executive Director - Ms. Emily Mott

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

- Poland Floating Dock Project – pre-construction conference on Friday, January 20, 2023 along with site visit and notice to proceed to be given
- Grand Ecore Additional Amenities Project – Walking trail is slowly progressing due to adverse weather conditions

10. **GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** - None

11. **CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT** - None

12. **RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION** - None

13. **OTHER BUSINESS** - None

14. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

14B. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

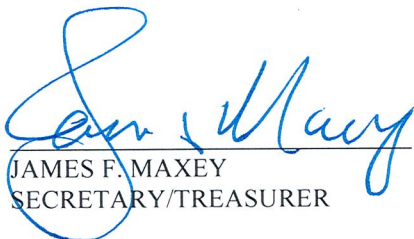
By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Clark and unanimously approved, the Commission entered into Executive Session to discuss the following matters of litigation:

Discussion of Attorney-Client Privilege Matters

Immediately following Executive Session, by motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield and unanimously approved, the Commission entered into Regular Session.

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to conduct at this time, by motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Greer, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned.


JAMES F. MAXEY
SECRETARY/TREASURER


TROY ROUSSELL
CHAIR DESIGNEE