

MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
FEBRUARY 19, 2020
10:00 AM
COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS
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 Roy A. Burrell, Commissioner David L. Crutchfield, II, Commissioner Michael P. Deville, Commissioner Paul Fleming, Commissioner Charles R. Greer, Commissioner David Jones, Commissioner Ronald Lattier, Commissioner James F. Maxey, Commissioner Larry K. Sayes, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

Absent: Commissioner Randell Fletcher

RRWC Staff Members Present: Mr. Colin Brown - Executive Director, Mr. Mike Boydston - Operations & Maintenance Director, Ms. Stephanie Bonnette - Executive Assistant, Mr. Luke Pearson - Real Estate Manager, Mr. Ryan Ingles - Engineering Supervisor, Mr. Eric Gilmore - Marketing Director, Mr. Greg Upton - Legal Counsel.

3. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS & PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD PURSUANT TO LRS 42:14**

Others Present: Ms. Katy Breaux with the Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

By motion of Commissioner Deville, 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 Fleming, seconded by Commissioner Deville, the minutes of the January 15, 2020 meeting were unanimously approved.

6. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

By motion of Commissioner Greer, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Financials and Fund Balance Report for December 2019 and Expenditures, Financials, Fund Balance Report & Investment Reports for January 2020 were unanimously approved.

7. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) **Contracts**

1. **Consideration of Change Order No. 2/RRWC Project No. 18-01/Contract No. RRW-739/Brouillette Recreation Area - Ramp Widening Project:**

By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Burrell, the Commission unanimously approved Change Order No. 2 reflecting a decrease in contract cost of \$4,881.83, establishing the final contract price at \$988,001.67, and an increase in the contract time by 296 days due to adverse weather and sustained river flooding.

2. **Consideration of Approval of Purchasing Vehicles on State Contract:** This item was tabled until the March 2020 meeting, as information from the State had not been received at the time of the February 19, 2020 Commission meeting.

3. **Consideration of Fence Construction Proposals/Ft. Buhlow Recreation Area:** By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Deville, the Commission unanimously approved award of contract to Spytech in the amount of \$4,860.00.

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

1. **Consideration of Request for Right of Entry to Perform Survey for Proposed Pipeline Right-of-Way/Pool 5/Tracts 8, 54B & 55:** By motion of Commissioner Sayes, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the Commission unanimously approved the Right of Entry request from Aethon Energy to perform surveys.

c) **Recreation**

1. **Recreation Area Status Report**

Mr. Mike Boydston highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 59,199 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of January 2020. Updated maintenance items include, but not limited to:

- Pool 5 launches are closed
- North Caddo and Bishop Point should reopen soon
- Coushatta recreation area boat launch is closed due to ongoing construction
- Pool 3 launches are open
- Pool 1, Ben Routh recreation area boat launch is closed

d) **Ports** - None

e) **Public Awareness & Marketing**

1. **Marketing Update**

A prepared report was provided in the meeting packet. In addition, Marketing Director, Eric Gilmore discussed:

- Provided 2019 Tonnage numbers and various tonnage reports
- March 2020 – Bassmaster Classic in Birmingham, Alabama
- Furthering marketing endeavors for attracting tournaments to the Red River
- The 2020 Louisiana High School Athletic Association (LHSAA) event will take place in Shreveport
- March 05, 2020 – Caddo/Bossier Port Night
- April 1 & 2, 2020 – Ports Association of Louisiana annual meeting in Shreveport
- Producing recreation site spotlight/feature videos for the Commission's web application

f) **Personnel** - None

g) **Revenue, Banking & Budget** - None

h) **Legislative**

The Transportation Subcommittee is currently touring the state with stops and speaking engagements

8. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- March 09, 2020 Legislative Session begins
- The Red River Waterway Commission is awaiting updates for the outstanding Commissioner appointments
- February 19 & 20, 2020 – Red River Valley Association meeting in Shreveport
- Seeing a slow fall in river elevations except in the Alexandria area
- The Corps of Engineers has received some dredging funds for 2020
- Work Plan Funding has been received for 2020 with totals to be provided by the Corps of Engineers

9. **STATUS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY/ENGINEERING REPORT**

Prepared reports were provided in the meeting packet. In addition, Engineering Supervisor, Ryan Ingles, discussed the continuation of construction for the Coushatta Recreation Area Boat Dock project and the difficulties incurred with the high water elevations

10. **GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** - None

11. **CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT**

Corps of Engineers' representative, Katy Breaux, of the Vicksburg District updated the Commission on the following:

- Funding has been allocated for Mitigation property and Recreation by way of a cost-share agreement with the Corps
- The Corps is requesting the Red River Waterway Commission produce and provide a listing of potential future projects that would fall within the guidelines of the cost-share funding agreement

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

13. **OTHER BUSINESS** - None

14. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC** - None

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

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


JAMES F. MAXEY
SECRETARY/TREASURER


TROY ROUSSELL
CHAIR DESIGNEE