

**MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
AUGUST 17, 2022
10:00 AM
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION
5941 HWY 1 BYPASS
NATCHITOCHEs, 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 Michael P. Deville, Commissioner Paul Fleming, Commissioner Randell Fletcher, Commissioner Jacques Goudeau, Commissioner Charles R. Greer, Commissioner David Jones, Commissioner James F. Maxey, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

Absent: Commissioner Ronald Lattier

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. Eric Gilmore - 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

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

By motion of Commissioner Greer, seconded by Commissioner Deville, the revised agenda was unanimously approved. The revised agenda to include item five under Land Management, Legal Affairs & Affirmative Action Committee to read as follows: Consideration of Request for Dredging/Eagle Bend Revetment. Comments from the public were called for, however, none were offered.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

By motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the minutes of the July 20, 2022 meeting were unanimously approved.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

By motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Expenditures, Financial Statements, Investment Reports, & Fund Balance Report for the month of July 2022 were unanimously approved.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Contracts

Consideration of Construction Bids/RRWC Project No. 21-08/Contract No. RRW-799/Grand Ecore

Additional Amenities: By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Maxey, the Commission unanimously approved delaying award of bid and authorizing staff to perform value engineering on the pool and splash pad portion of the project.

Consideration of Change Order No. 1/RRWC Project No. 21-01/Contract No. RRW-794/Comfort

Stations at Red Oak, Bishop Point, and Natchitoches Recreation Areas: By motion of Commissioner Goudeau, seconded by Commissioner Greer, the Commission unanimously approved the project change order providing for an increase in contract cost of \$4,568.38 (which establishes the final contract cost at \$763,968.38) due to the need of additional electrical work in order to re-route an existing electrical line outside the perimeter of the building and an increase in contract time by 21 days due to delay in materials and adverse weather conditions.

Consideration of Approval of Contract No. RRW-816/Basic Matrix, LLC/ IT Services:

By motion of Commissioner Greer, seconded by Commissioner Deville, the Commission unanimously approved the contract with Basic Matrix, LLC for development of Red River Waterway Commission websites and mobile applications at a rate of \$150.00 per hour with services on an "as needed" basis.

b) Land Management, Legal Affairs & Affirmative Action

Consideration of Award of Public Bid Land Lease/Grand Ecore Recreation Area/211 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, the Commission unanimously approved award of 5-year lease to James Philen, Sr. for \$64,882.50 (\$61.50 per acre) for the 5-year term.

Consideration of Award of Public Bid Land Lease/Pool 3 Tract 77 Segment A/61.1 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, the Commission unanimously approved award of 5-year lease to Brandon Strother for \$12,500.00 (\$40.92 per acre) for the 5-year term.

Consideration of Request for License for Dredge Fill Material Removal/Pool 5/Tracts 1-5: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved the following:

1. A 5-year license with \$250.00 per acre license fee for 900.5 acres with royalties of \$1.00 per dry ton of Frac grade sand produced, sold and shipped, and \$0.50 per ton for Industrial grade sand.
2. Option for an additional 5-year term with \$275.00 per acre license fee. Royalties for first additional 5-year term to be negotiated prior to the expiration of the initial 5-year term and is to be based on prevailing market rates.
3. Option for two additional 5-year license terms with per acre license fee and royalties to be negotiated prior to the expiration of the first additional 5-year term and based on prevailing market rates.
4. License fee for the initial 5-year license term and the first additional 5-year term may be paid up in advance or paid in annual installments on the anniversary date of the license.

Consideration of Contract for Mitigation Land Acquisition: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the following:

1. Authorize General Counsel and the Staff to proceed with the execution of a Buy-Sell Agreement with Hall-Williams, LLC with contract language agreed to by General Counsel.
2. Extend Due Diligence and Inspection Period in Buy-Sell Agreement to 120 days.
3. Approve a proposal from Jones Environmental to perform a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment for a cost of \$4,050.00.

Consideration of Request for Dredging/Eagle Bend Revetment: This item failed in committee. Therefore, no action was taken.

c) Recreation

Consideration of Funding Request/Mr. Crappie/KingKat/BassMaster: By motion of Commissioner Greer, seconded by Commissioner Jones, the Commission unanimously approved and authorized staff to include in the 2023 budget funding in the amount of \$88,000.00 for the following 2023 events: KingKat Catfish Mega Event; Mr. Crappie Qualifier; and BassMaster College and High School Combination event.

Recreation Area Status Report - Mr. Marcus Long highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 130,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of July 2022. Updated maintenance items include, but not limited to:

- Ft. Buhlow Disc Golf project underway
- North Caddo Boat Ramp – dredging has been taking place due to low water issues. The ramp is now open for public use

d) Ports

Consideration of Approval of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement/Caddo-Bossier Parishes Port Commission/40,000 square foot Heavy Duty Warehouse: By motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement funding the 40,000 square foot warehouse project at the Port of Caddo-Bossier and a corresponding budget amendment to the 2022 Ports budget in the amount of \$275,000.00 for a total reserve of funding in the amount of \$1,913,929.00 for the project.

Consideration of Approval of Funding Request/Central Louisiana Regional Port/High Water Hardstand and Access Road: By motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, the Commission unanimously approved the Ports \$724,167.00 project funding request with the parameter that the CLRP must first receive their requested funding match through the Port Priority program.

e) Public Awareness & Marketing

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

- Attended the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway Conference in Point Clear, Alabama
- National Waterways Conference, Houston, Texas, in October
- Mr. Crappie tournament in October
- Bass Central Open, Shreveport, Louisiana, in September
- Port Directors are seeing the potential for increased cargo tonnage on the river

f) Personnel - None

g) Revenue, Banking & Budget - None

h) Legislative - None

8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- New Commander of the Vicksburg District, Colonel Christopher Klein
- Dredging: Corps of Engineers is dredging lock approaches. Currently dredging below Lock 1 and will be finishing soon.
- Closure of Lock 1 and Old River Lock begins August 30, 2022
- Lock 1 will re-open during the period of September 29 – October 13, 2022 and close again from October 14 – November 12, 2022

9. STATUS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY/ENGINEERING REPORT - Prepared reports were provided in the meeting packets. Additionally, the following was discussed:

- Discussion with Katy Breaux (Corps of Engineers) regarding cost-share projects. There are approximately 20 projects and staff is currently working on the cost-share requests for 17 of the 20
- Poland Floating Dock project – waiting on the Corps of Engineers permitting
- Grand Ecore Additional Amenities project – update provided
- Alexandria Levee Park Riverfront project – have worked through the amendment to the project agreement. The City of Alexandria is in receipt for review and signatures to then be able to proceed
- Teague Trails Extension project is at substantial completion
- Comfort Stations project is at substantial completion

10. GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT - None

11. CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT - None

12. RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION – Executive Director, Mr. Rich Brontoli, is in Oklahoma for the RRVA Conference

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 Greer, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned.


JAMES F. MAXEY
SECRETARY/TREASURER


TROY ROUSSELL
CHAIR DESIGNEE