

MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
December 19, 2018
10:00 AM
COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS
NATCHITOCHE, LOUISIANA

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Red River Waterway Commission was called to order by Vice Chair, Commissioner Paul Fleming, 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: Commissioner Roy A. Burrell, Commissioner Michael P. Deville, Commissioner Paul Fleming, Commissioner Randell Fletcher, Commissioner Charles R. Greer, Commissioner Ronald Lattier, Commissioner James F. Maxey, Commissioner Larry K. Sayes, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

Absent: Chair Designee, Thomas M. Clark, Commissioner David L. Crutchfield, II, and Commissioner David Jones.

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 AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD PERSUANT TO LRS 42:14**

Others Present: Mr. Richard Brontoli of the Red River Valley Association and Mr. John Barr of Senator Kennedy's office, Shreveport.

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

By motion of Commissioner Fletcher, seconded by Commissioner Greer, the minutes of the November 14, 2018 meeting were unanimously approved.

6. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Greer, the Expenditures, Financial Statements, Investment Reports, & Fund Balance Report for the month of November 2018 were unanimously approved.

7. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) **Contracts**

Consideration of Authority to Award Design Contract/Coushatta Recreation Area-Dock Construction/Project No. 19-01/Contract No. RRW 748: By motion of Commissioner Maxey, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved award of contract to Cothren, Graff, Smoak Engineering, Inc. for design and administration of the project.

Consideration of Approval of General Maintenance Contractor Proposals: By motion of Commissioner Maxey, seconded by Commissioner Greer, the Commission unanimously agreed to award the general maintenance contract to Blount Brothers Construction and further award a secondary contract to Testament, LLC.

Consideration of Approval of Spud Barge/Excavator Proposals: By motion of Commissioner Maxey, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously agreed to award the spud barge excavator contract to Blount Brothers Construction and further award a secondary contract to Testament, LLC.

Consideration of Approval of Dredging proposals: By motion of Commissioner Maxey, seconded by Commissioner Greer, the Commission unanimously agreed to award the dredging contract to Testament, LLC and further award a secondary contract to Blount Brothers Construction.

Consideration of Approval of Boat Aquatic Vegetation Proposals Opened December 18, 2018: By motion of Commissioner Maxey, seconded by Commissioner Deville, the Commission unanimously agreed to award the boat aquatic vegetation contract to Edko, LLC of Dixie, Louisiana, and further award a secondary contract to DBI Services of Ball, Louisiana.

Consideration of Approval to Purchase Skid Steer Loader through State Contract Purchasing/2019 Budget item: No action was taken on this item. A request for further research into purchase options was made.

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

Consideration of Approval of Sale of Surplus Property/Lock & Dam 5 Tract 4/10.35 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Sayes, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved the sale of the surplus property via two (2) acts of sale to the owners of the right of first refusal as follows: Jimmy Martin 14/18th, Kelly Barnes Frank 2/18th, Cheryl Crosslin Thibodeaux 1/18th and Deborah Lynn Crosslin Bailey 1/18th. At their expense, the owners of the right of first refusal had a survey performed to divide the property. Mr. Jimmy Martin will receive 7.91 acres and the other three individuals will have an undivided interest in 2.4 acres, for a total of 10.35 acres sold.

Consideration of Award of Public Bid Lease/Hadden Ft. DeRussy Realignment/235 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Sayes, seconded by Commissioner Burrell, the Commission unanimously agreed upon rejecting the singular unresponsive bid and authorizing staff to re-advertise the property for public bid lease with a minimum bid of \$15.00 per acre.

Consideration of Award of Public Bid Lease/Lower Gin Lake Realignment/120 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Sayes, seconded by Commissioner Deville, the Commission unanimously approved award of lease to Mr. Michael Charrier in the amount of \$12,000.00 (\$20.00 per acre) for a 5-year lease term, January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2023.

Consideration of Award of Land Lease Extension/Hampton Lake Island/108 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Sayes, seconded by Commissioner Greer, the Commission unanimously approved the 5-year lease extension to Angler's Paradise with a ten percent (10%) increase in the lease premium, for a total lease amount of \$19,800.00 (\$36.67/acre) for the 5-year lease term.

Consideration of Authority to Re-Advertise Public Bid Leases Expiring in 2019: By motion of Commissioner Sayes, seconded by Commissioner Burrell, the Commission unanimously approved granting authority to the staff to re-advertise the seven (7) applicable properties for public bid lease.

Consideration of Authority to Re-Appraise Leasebacks Expiring in 2019: By motion of Commissioner Sayes, seconded by Commissioner Burrell, the Commission unanimously approved granting authority to the staff to re-appraise six (6) leasebacks prior to their expiration dates.

c) Recreation

Recreation Area Status Report - Mr. Mike Boydston highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 78,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of November, 2018. Status updates included, but not limited to:

- Grand Ecore RV Park has reservations for each weekend in December, 2019
- All boat ramps are currently closed

d) Ports - None

e) Public Awareness & Marketing

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

- Barge tonnage data from northern ports are reflecting a decrease due to decrease in frac sand
- Continued marketing for additional/future businesses of river usage
- Red River Waterway Commission website includes boat launch openings and closures. Posting of land leases is being added to the website this year
- June, 2019, Jaycee's Annual BBQ Cook off to be held at Grand Ecore RV Park

f) Personnel - None

g) Revenue, Banking & Budget

Consideration of Authority to Undesignate-Unreserve Remaining Project Funds: By motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Greer, the Commission unanimously approved undesignating-unreserving \$1,057,761.06 due to projects either already completed or cancelled.

Consideration of 2018 Surplus Equipment List: By motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Deville, the Commission unanimously approved declaration of all items listed as surplus equipment and further authorized the staff to dispose of in proper fashion.

Consideration of Audit Engagement Proposals: By motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously accepted the 3 year proposal from the firm of Payne, Moore & Harrington CPA's, with annual engagements.

Consideration of Approval of 2019 Budget: By motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Greer, the Commission unanimously approved the Red River Waterway Commission 2019 proposed budget and the Resolution for Adoption of the 2019 Budget for the Red River Waterway Commission. Executive Director, Colin Brown, read the resolution aloud as follows:

WHEREAS, the Red River Waterway Commission has appointed Executive Director, Colin Brown, to prepare and submit a proposed budget to said governing body; and

WHEREAS, Executive Director, Colin Brown, has submitted a proposed budget for the Fiscal Year 2019, beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2019, to this governing body on December 19, 2018, for its consideration, and;

WHEREAS, upon due and proper notice, published and posted in accordance with the law, said proposed budget was open for inspection by the public at a designated place, a public hearing was held on December 19, 2018, and interested taxpayers were given the opportunity to inspect and comment as to said proposed budget, and;

WHEREAS, the budget remains in balance, as required by law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Red River Waterway Commission of the State of Louisiana:

Section 1. That the budget as submitted, amended, and summarized by fund, hereby is approved and adopted as the budget of the Red River Waterway Commission for the year stated above.

Section 2. That the budget hereby approved and adopted shall be signed by the Secretary/Treasurer and Executive director.

ADOPTED, this 19th day of December, 2018 after vote of the Red River Waterway Commission.

h) Legislative - None

8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Words of appreciation to staff and Commissioners during the process of preparing the 2019 proposed budget.
- Gave notice of the Red River Waterway Commission's office closures during the holidays
- Holiday message given

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

- Stoner Avenue location clean up in progress
- Teague Parkway has little left remaining for completion however the high water is creating delays
- Brouillette ramp widening project: 70'x20' concrete slab in place; high water delays
- Boyce recreation area/dock construction project: Some playground equipment installed; guide poles for floating dock; high water delays
- Pineville bank caving: The immediate area caving and beginning to encroach the trail has been repaired. Rock embankment completion following the holidays
- Coushatta picnic shelter: Project is underway
- Poland access road project: 2019 project; contracting with the Corps of engineers for a 1-year construction time; Corps will retain control of the access road

- Natchitoches Port dock repair: Project is not progressing due to elements associated with high water even with the Corps placement of rock to raise the dike height in 2018; Red River Waterway Commission is assisting in the funds match with FEMA on behalf of the Natchitoches Port

10. **GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** – In the lawsuit initiated by the Louisiana State Attorney General, the preliminary hearing was held early December. Attorney's representing the Red River Waterway Commission, Commissioner Deville and Commissioner Lattier were present. A formal request for the Red River Waterway to be dismissed from the suit was made.

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

12. **RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION**

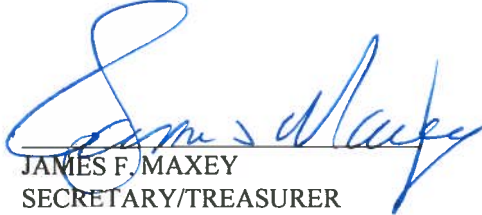
- The Corps and their projects are not impacted by the Government shutdown
- River levels are high
- Dredge is going to Lock 5, however if current to swift, the dredge will move to Lock 1
- Rock work has been completed in specific areas
- Lock 2 closure for 30 days, up to as much as 60 days, begins July 2019
- 12' Channel Study has been authorized
- Red River Valley Association Conference, February, 2019, Bossier City, Horseshoe Casino

13. **OTHER BUSINESS** - None

14. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC** – John Barr with Senator Kennedy's office, Shreveport made a brief introduction.

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

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


JAMES F. MAXEY
SECRETARY/TREASURER

THOMAS M. CLARK
CHAIR DESIGNEE