

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE
AMITE RIVER BASIN DRAINAGE & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

3535 S. Sherwood Forest Boulevard, Suite 135, Baton Rouge, LA

February 18, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT DURING ROLL CALL: Don Thompson, Terry Louque, Ben Babin, John Brass, Russell Cornette, David Hoover, William “Carey” Jenkins, Willie George Lee, Anthony “Tony” Rouchon, Jerry Thibeau, Kenneth Wade Welborn

MEMBERS ABSENT: Larry Thomas

NOTE: Vacant Seat (Livingston Parish)

ALSO PRESENT: Executive Secretary Toni Guitrau, ARBC Legal Counsel: Larry Bankston, BKI: Matthew Weakley, DOTD: Chris Knotts

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Don Thompson.
2. Public Comments on Agenda Items: None
3. Minutes
 - The Board unanimously approved a motion by Rouchon, second by Cornette to approve the January 21, 2014 regular meeting minutes as presented.
4. Financial Statement Report:
 - Rouchon presented to the Board the January 2014 General Fund and CRDC Fund financial statements. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Babin, second by Brass to approve the January 2014 General Fund and CRDC Fund financial statements.
5. RFP – Committee Report
 - Request for Proposals – Engineers: The Committee recommended to the Board that Mr. Rietschier create a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) document which will be reviewed by the Board at the March 2014 meeting. The Committee will meet prior to presenting the RFQ to the Board for a vote. After approval of the RFQ document by the Board, the RFQ will be made available to the public. The intent is to receive RFQ(s) from several engineering firms that would then allow the ARBC to generate a working ‘list’ of engineering firms to choose from as needed per job or task.
 - GCR Contract Amendment: On recommendation of the Committee, the Board unanimously approved a motion by Rouchon, second by Babin, to an extension of the GCR Contract to June 30, 2014 and to include an additional \$50,000.
6. Report by Executive Director
 - Rietschier reported on the status of Profit Island, Brooks Lake Closure, and the Munson property.
 - Reviewed with the Board a Graphical Presentation as prepared by Rietschier.
 - DOTD, Christopher Knotts Report:
 - Corps confirmed they will issue final right of way take lines, and the request to acquire, without construction funds available once they reach 95% on any designs.
 - Confirmed with the Corps that we are only required to mitigate by construction unit.
 - Profit Island/Nature Conservancy: Another option that may be considered is to advertise for private mitigation lands that would satisfy the 2012 EA. The advertisement would include a requirement that they draft a mitigation plan, and once accepted by the Corps, the Corps would perform the mitigation and then turn it over for O&M. The bid advertisement would include O&M, thereby fulfilling the request of EBR.
 - The DOTD Secretary, Ms. LeBas, is sending a letter to the Corps to request that purchases from Mitigation Banks be a LERRDS and not a federal project cost.
 - Ms. LeBas plans to send a letter requesting a change in cost share from 75/25 to 65/35.
 - DOTD may soon bring to the ARBC a revision to the CEA to modify/change roles in respect to Environmental and Real Estate.
7. Report by ARBC Legal Counsel:
 - The Board unanimously approved a motion by Thibeau, second by Babin to enter into Executive Session at 6:46 p.m. to discuss Campbell v. ARBC, et al litigation for no more than 15 minutes.
 - The Board returned to regular session at 7 p.m.
8. Old Business: None
9. New Business

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- The Board unanimously approved a motion by Thibeau, second by Babin to authorize Don Thompson to sign Right of Entry for BR Drop Structure upon delays required by notice to property owners.

10. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Cornette, second by Hoover to adjourn the meeting.

APPROVED:

/s/ Don Thompson

Don Thompson, ARBC President

Date: March 18, 2014

/s/ Toni B. Guitrau

Toni B. Guitrau, Executive Secretary