

PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREATER NEW ORLEANS EXPRESSWAY COMMISSION, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2020, 10:00 A.M., TPN CONFERENCE ROOM, 100 NORTH CAUSEWAY BLVD, SUITE 400, MANDEVILLE, LA 70443.

PRESENT: Patrick W. Fitzmorris, Chair; Joy Zainey, Vice Chair; Donald Sharp, Secretary; Wanda Theriot, Member; Red Thompson, Member

OTHERS: Carlton Dufrechou; Melissa M. Phillpott; Robert Graham; Commander Curt Franz; Lt. Mike Kelly; Lt. Thea Andras; Stacie Heffker; Eileen Barthe; Crystal Scott; Mark Brewster; Craig Watson, Blue Williams; Liz Lambert, Riess LeMieux; Cary Bourgeois and Johnny Bradberry, GEC; Jim Martin and John Hartgreve, DEI Engineering; Jan Evans, Hossein Ghara, and Llyof Ostendorf, Volkert and Associates; Bob Schmidt, Huval & Associates; Babak Naghavi and Fred Wetekamm, Hardesty and Hanover; Gavin Gillen and Tim Bourn, All South; David Stein; Shelby LaSalle

The Chairman called the meeting to order.

**On the motion by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mrs. Zainey, the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 5, 2020 were accepted as written. Mr. Fitzmorris, Mrs. Zainey, Mr. Sharp, and Mr. Thompson voted in favor of the motion. Due to the timing of her appointment to the GNOEC, Mrs. Theriot abstained from this vote.**

Mr. Fitzmorris welcomed Mrs. Wanda Theriot and Mr. Red Thompson to the GNOEC. He looks forward to working with both Commissioners in the future.

Mr. Fitzmorris presented a memorial plaque recognizing St. Tammany Parish President Patricia P. Brister who served on the Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission,

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from 2009 through 2011, as Chair. He stated her dedication, wisdom, and sincerity were a model and we are better because Pat walked with us. Mr. Fitzmorris stated there is grateful appreciation of past and present Board and staff of the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway, the World's Longest Bridge. He gave the plaque to Mr. LaSalle who stated it will be an honor to deliver to President Brister's family.

Mr. Dufrechou reported in February the Drawbridge operations included 5 vessel openings, 1 test opening and 1 incident.

Mr. Dufrechou reported, since the last GNOEC meeting, there were 0 fog operations.

Mr. Dufrechou reported there were 259 breakdown responses in February on the Causeway Bridge. He stated 171 of those breakdowns were due to mechanical problems and 88 were caused by debris on the Causeway Bridge. Mr. Dufrechou reported 28 breakdowns on the Huey P. Long Bridge. He stated 21 of those breakdowns were due to mechanical problems and 7 were caused by debris on the Huey P. Long Bridge. Mr. Dufrechou reported a total of 287 breakdown responses for both bridges in February.

Mr. Dufrechou reported in the month of February there were a total of 20 accidents on the Causeway Bridge. He stated 8 occurred Northbound and 12 Southbound. He also there were 11 accidents that occurred on the Huey P. Long Bridge in February. He reported 8 Eastbound and 3 Westbound and 1 was caused by debris in the roadway..

Mr. Dufrechou presented a PowerPoint updating significant events since the last Commission meeting.

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On the Overlay the West Causeway Approach Road at Chinchuba Bayou, Mr. Dufrechou recommended approval for the Consulting Engineers to begin development of plans and specifications for advertisement. **On motion by Mrs. Zainey, seconded by Mr. Thompson, based on the recommendation of the GNOEC Staff, the General Manager is hereby authorized to execute the Project Memorandum for the project titled Overlay the West Causeway Approach Road at Chinchuba Bayou and the Consulting Engineers are authorized to begin development of plans and specifications and advertise the project. Mr. Fitzmorris asked the audience if anyone had comments or questions for the Commission regarding this resolution. There were no comments or questions from the audience. Mr. Fitzmorris, Mrs. Zainey, Mr. Sharp, Mrs. Theriot, and Mr. Thompson voted in favor of the motion.**

On the Segmented Shoulder Improvements project, Mr. Dufrechou recommended approval for Plan Change 25. Plan Change No. 25 provides for testing of neoprene bearing pads removed from the northbound bridge to obtain non-hazardous materials certification prior to disposal. The cost will be \$9,024.34. No time will be added to the contract. Based upon the recommendations of Staff and the Engineers, the GNOEC approves the execution of Plan Change No. 25. **Mr. Fitzmorris asked the audience if anyone had comments or questions for the Commission regarding this resolution. There were no comments or questions from the audience. Mr. Fitzmorris, Mrs. Zainey, Mr. Sharp, Mrs. Theriot, and Mr. Thompson voted in favor of the motion.**

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On the Segmented Shoulder Improvements project, Mr. Dufrechou recommended approval for Plan Change 23. On motion by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Sharp, Plan Change No. 26 provides for the following as a part of the Partial Acceptance process for Safety Bay 6 adds 6 Excessive Adverse Weather Days from November 27, 2019 through February 9, 2020 to the contract completion date, recognizes the Partial Acceptance of Safety Bay 6, and provides for \$37,500 stipulated damages accrued in favor of GNOEC for late completion of Safety Bay 6. Based upon the recommendations of Staff and the Engineers, the GNOEC approves the execution of Plan Change No. 26. Mr. Fitzmorris asked the audience if anyone had comments or questions for the Commission regarding this resolution. There were no comments or questions from the audience. Mr. Fitzmorris, Mrs. Zainey, Mr. Sharp, Mrs. Theriot, and Mr. Thompson voted in favor of the motion.

On the financial agent services, Mr. Dufrechou recommended to advertise for requests for proposals. On motion by Mrs. Theriot, seconded by Mrs. Zainey, the GNOEC desires to procure a qualified financial institution to provide financial agent services to the GNOEC, in accordance with La. R.S. 39:1211 through 39:1245. The GNOEC hereby authorizes the General Manager to issue and advertise a Request for Proposals, RFP No. 2020-100A, to provide for financial agent services. Mr. Fitzmorris asked the audience if anyone had comments or questions for the Commission regarding this resolution. There were no comments or questions from the audience. Mr. Fitzmorris, Mrs. Zainey, Mr. Sharp, Mrs. Theriot, and Mr. Thompson voted in favor of the motion.

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Mr. Fitzmorris reminded everyone the next meeting is tentatively scheduled on ~~Wednesday, April 1, 2020~~ (the meeting date was changed to May 13, 2020) at 10:00 a.m. at the ~~VOA building on the South Shore~~ (the meeting location was changed to a webinar). There being no further business, the meeting was be adjourned.

  
for Patrick Fitzmorris  
Chair

  
for Joy H. Zainey  
Vice Chair