

PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREATER NEW ORLEANS EXPRESSWAY COMMISSION, WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2020, 10:00 A.M., VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE.

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; Georgie Bagnetto; Craig Watson, Blue Williams; Liz Lambert and Chris LeMieux, Riess LeMieux; Cary Bourgeois and Johnny Bradberry, GEC; Jim Martin and John Hartgreve, DEI Engineering; Jan Evans and Hossein Ghara, Volkert and Associates; Bob Schmidt, Huval & Associates; Babak Naghavi and Fred Wetekamm, Hardesty and Hanover; Christi Manshack, ECM Consultants; Cullen Ledet, Modjeski & Masters, Inc.; General John P. Basilica, HNTB Inc.; Patrick Duffy

The Chairman called the meeting to order.

On the motion by Ms. Zainey, seconded by Mr. Sharp, the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 11, 2020 were accepted as written. Mr. Fitzmorris, Mrs. Zainey, Mr. Sharp, Mr. Thompson, and Mrs. Theriot voted in favor of the motion.

Mr. Dufrechou gave a status update regarding Covid-19 and GNOEC employees. He stated, out of the 100 employees, there have been no positive cases. Mr. Dufrechou stated the only positive Covid-19 case was a Police Officer's wife who is a nurse. The Officer tested negative for the virus.

Mr. Dufrechou reported in March the Drawbridge operations included 5 vessel openings, 2 test openings and 1 incident.

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Mr. Dufrechou reported, since the last GNOEC meeting, there was 1 day of fog operations on March 15th.

Mr. Dufrechou reported there were 239 breakdown responses in March on the Causeway Bridge. He stated 136 of those breakdowns were due to mechanical problems and 103 were caused by debris on the Causeway Bridge. Mr. Dufrechou reported 21 breakdowns on the Huey P. Long Bridge. He stated 13 of those breakdowns were due to mechanical problems and 8 were caused by debris on the Huey P. Long Bridge. Mr. Dufrechou reported a total of 260 breakdown responses for both bridges in March.

Mr. Dufrechou reported in the month of March there were a total of 10 accidents on the Causeway Bridge. He stated 2 occurred Northbound, 6 Southbound, and 2 in Crossovers. Mr. Dufrechou stated 4 were as the results of breakdowns. He reported there were 10 accidents that occurred on the Huey P. Long Bridge in March. Mr. Dufrechou stated 5 Eastbound, 5 Westbound and none were caused by breakdown or debris in the roadway.

Mr. Dufrechou reported in April the Drawbridge operations included 5 vessel openings, 1 test openings and 0 incidents.

Mr. Dufrechou reported there were 212 breakdown responses in April on the Causeway Bridge. He stated 97 of those breakdowns were due to mechanical problems and 115 were caused by debris on the Causeway Bridge. Mr. Dufrechou reported 26 breakdowns on the Huey P. Long Bridge. He stated 17 of those breakdowns were due

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to mechanical problems and 9 were caused by debris on the Huey P. Long Bridge. Mr. Dufrechou reported a total of 238 breakdown responses for both bridges in April.

Mr. Dufrechou reported in the month of April there were a total of 6 accidents on the Causeway Bridge. He stated 3 occurred Northbound and 3 in Crossovers. Mr. Dufrechou stated 1 was as the results of a breakdown. He reported there were 4 accidents that occurred on the Huey P. Long Bridge in April. Mr. Dufrechou stated 1 Eastbound, 3 Westbound and none were caused by breakdown or debris in the roadway.

Mr. Dufrechou reported on March 20th, the Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission initiated mission critical operations. On March 23rd, Cash tolls were suspended.

On April 27th, Mr. Dufrechou stated both spans of the Causeway Bridge were closed, from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm, to rescue a driver from the vehicle going overboard. Both spans were closed from 10:00 am to 10:46 am on April 28th to recover the vehicle from Lake Pontchartrain.

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

On the Maintenance Facility Canopy Addition and Repairs, Mr. Dufrechou recommended approval to accept the project. **On motion by Mrs. Theriot, seconded by Mr. Thompson, based upon the recommendation of the Staff and its project Architect, the Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission accepts the project titled Maintenance Facility Canopy Addition and Repairs. The Greater New**

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Orleans Expressway Commission authorizes General Manager to execute any documents associated with the acceptance of this project on behalf of the Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission. 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 emergency pavement repairs on the Northbound roadway at the North Toll Plaza, Mr. Dufrechou recommended approval to ratify the executed contract with Boh Bros. Construction. On motion by Ms. Theriot, seconded by Mr. Sharp, on April 1, 2020, the GNOEC discovered a PPC pavement panel cracked over a drain line on the northbound roadway at the North Toll Plaza necessitating the emergency procurement of repairs due to the imminent threat to the public health, welfare, safety, and/or public property. On April 1, 2020, the GNOEC contacted two firms for quotes to possibly undertake the work. After review and discussion, on April 7, 2020, Boh Bros. Construction Co., L.L.C.'s pricing was determined to be the lower quote, reasonable and the best value to the GNOEC and therefore selected to perform the emergency repairs. Accordingly, selection of Boh Bros. Construction Co., L.L.C. to perform Emergency Pavement Repairs Northbound at the North Toll Plaza in the amount of \$66,000.00 is hereby ratified. Additionally, the contract executed on April 14, 2020 with Boh Bros. Construction Co., L.L.C. for Emergency Pavement Repairs Northbound at the North Toll Plaza in the amount of \$66,000.00 is hereby ratified. Mr. Fitzmorris asked the audience if

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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 professional Engineering services for Bridge Inspections, Mr. Dufrechou recommended approval to reject the submitted proposals and re-advertise the RFQ. On motion by Ms. Zainey, seconded by, Mr. Thompson, on March 11, 2020 the GNOEC received 7 proposals for RFQ No. 2020-101 from firms to perform professional engineering services for the annual inspection of the bridges, toll plazas, and access roadways on either side of the bridges and associated overpasses in accordance with the American Association of Highway and Transportation Officials Recommended Bridge Inspection Standards of Practice, on an as needed basis. After review of the proposals, none of the firms provided the requisite documentation required by the RFQ. Accordingly, all proposals received on March 11, 2020 are hereby rejected. The GNOEC hereby authorizes the General Manager to re-advertise the issuance of a RFQ for professional engineering services for bridge inspections. Additionally, the GNOEC requests that the 7 firms, who previously submitted, resubmit proposals for professional engineering services for bridge inspections. 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 professional Consulting Engineering services, Mr. Dufrechou recommended approval to reject All South's submitted proposal. On motion by Mrs. Zainey, seconded by Mrs. Theriot, on March 25, 2020 the GNOEC received 6 proposals for RFQ 2020-001C from firms to provide professional engineering services, including but not limited to consulting engineering, construction management, and resident inspections on bridge and road projects for the Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission, on an as needed basis. After review of the proposals, it was determined that All South does not meet the minimum insurance requirements as they failed to notate that they carry statutory workers compensation insurance. Accordingly, All South's proposal received on March 25, 2020 is hereby rejected. 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 27. On motion by Mr. Sharp, seconded by Mr. Thompson, Plan Change No. 27 provides for the following as a part of the Partial Acceptance process for Segmented Shoulder 12, adds 1 Excessive Adverse Weather Days from February 9, 2020 through March 8, 2020 to the contract completion date, recognizes the Partial Acceptance of Segmented Shoulder 12, and provides for \$42,000 stipulated damages accrued in favor of GNOEC for late completion of Segmented Shoulder 12. Based upon the recommendations of Staff and the Engineers, the GNOEC approves the execution of Plan Change No. 27. Mr.

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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 29. On motion by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mrs. Zainey, Plan Change No. 29 provides for the following as a part of the Partial Acceptance process for Segmented Shoulder 10, recognizes the Partial Acceptance of Segmented Shoulder 10, and provides for \$3,000 stipulated damages accrued in favor of GNOEC for late completion of Segmented Shoulder 10. Based upon the recommendations of Staff and the Engineers, the GNOEC approves the execution of Plan Change No. 29. 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 30. On motion by Mr. Fitzmorris, seconded by Mr. Thompson, Plan Change No. 30 provides for the following as a part of the Partial Acceptance process for Segmented Shoulder 8, adds 1 Excessive Adverse Weather Days from March 12, 2020 through April 14, 2020 to the contract completion date, recognizes the Partial Acceptance of Segmented Shoulder 8, and provides for \$19,500 stipulated damages accrued in favor of GNOEC for late

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completion of Segmented Shoulder 8. Based upon the recommendations of Staff and the Engineers, the GNOEC approves the execution of Plan Change No. 30. 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 31. On motion by Mr. Sharp, seconded by Mr. Thompson, Plan Change No. 31 provides for installation of rubber speed bumps at each of the six northbound Segmented Shoulders to protect ITS controllers from potential inadvertent contact with backing vehicles. Cost for installation is \$26,035.45. 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. 31. 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 32. On motion by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Sharp, Plan Change No. 32 provides for the following as a part of the Partial Acceptance process for Segmented Shoulder 4, adds 2 Excessive Adverse Weather Days from April 14, 2020 through April 22, 2020 to the contract completion date, recognizes the Partial Acceptance of Segmented Shoulder 4, and provides for

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\$3,000 incentive payment to the contractor for early completion of Segmented Shoulder 4. Based upon the recommendations of Staff and the Engineers, the GNOEC approves the execution of Plan Change No. 32. 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.

Mr. Fitzmorris thanked the GNOEC staff for meeting and exceeding the challenges presented due to the Pandemic and Social Distancing. Mrs. Zainey, Mr. Sharp, Mr. Thompson, and Mrs. Theriot echoed the appreciation for adapting to the situation.

Mr. Fitzmorris reminded everyone the next meeting is tentatively scheduled on Wednesday, June 24, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. via Video Conferencing. There being no further business, the meeting was be adjourned.



Patrick Fitzmorris
Chair



Joy H. Zainey
Vice Chair