

MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
AUGUST 18, 2021
10:00 AM
GRAND ECORE RV PARK ACTIVITY CENTER
1071 TAUZIN ISLAND ROAD
NATCHITOCHE, LOUISIANA

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Red River Waterway Commission was called to order by Chair Designee, Troy Roussell, in the Activity Center of the Red River Waterway Commission Grand Ecore RV Park located at 1071 Tauzin Island Road 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 Ronald Lattier, Commissioner James F. Maxey, Commissioner Michael Simpson. In accordance with Louisiana R.S.42.17.1 (Act 302) Commissioner David Jones participated virtually.

Absent:

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. 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. John Barr with Senator John Kennedy's office attended in person. Mr. Ben Russo, Executive Director of the Central Louisiana Regional Port and Mr. Rich Brontoli, Executive Director of the Red River Valley Association both participated virtually.

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Deville, the revised agenda was unanimously approved by roll call vote. The revised agenda to include item three under Land Management, Legal Affairs & Affirmative Action Committee to read as follows: Consideration of Request for Right of Entry to Perform Survey for Proposed Pipeline Right-of-Way at Lock & Dam 4 Tracts 4A and 5A and Pool 4 Tract 2. Comments from the public were called for, however, none were offered.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

By motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Deville, the minutes of the July 21, 2021 meeting were unanimously approved by roll call vote.

6. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Expenditures, Financial Statements, Investment Reports, and Fund Balance Report for the month of July 2021 were unanimously approved by roll call vote.

7. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) **Contracts**

Consideration of Authority to Advertise for Construction Bids/RRWC Project No. 21-01/Contract No. RRW-794/Bishop Point, Red Oak, Natchitoches Recreation Areas – Comfort Stations: By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved, by roll call vote, authorizing staff to advertise for constructions bids to be presented to the Commission for consideration.

Consideration of Funding Request/Grant Parish Sheriff's Office: By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, the Commission unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the request to amend the current cooperative endeavor agreement with the Grant Parish Sheriff's office to reflect construction of additional bays to the emergency equipment storage building located at the Colfax Recreation area and financial commitment of \$170,000.00 by the Red River Waterway Commission for cost of construction.

Consideration of Amendment No. 1 to the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement/Alexandria Riverfront Development: By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved, by roll call vote, Amendment No. 1 to the cooperative endeavor agreement with the City of Alexandria for the Alexandria Riverfront Development. Amendment No. 1 allows for an increase in funding proportional to the original 80/20 percent allocation based on the actual award of the Phase 1 bandshell portion of the project. Thus allowing an additional \$323,600.00 to be allocated to Phase 1 bandshell and reduces the commitment to either provide 80% of actual construction costs of Phase II or up to the balance of the original financial agreement by the RRWC. No additional funds were committed.

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

Consideration of Request for Leaseback/Pool 3/Tract 42/12 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved, by roll call vote, award of 5-year leaseback to IKKR, LLC for \$720.00 for the 5-year term.

Consideration of Cancellation of Leaseback and Authority to Advertise for Public Bid Lease/Pool 3/Tract 77/80.9 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the request to cancel leaseback with Dr. Gregory Brian of Waltco, Inc. and authorized staff to advertise the property for Public Bid Lease at a minimum bid price of \$25 per acre.

Consideration of Request for Right of Entry to Perform Survey for Proposed Pipeline Right-of-Way at Lock & Dam 4 Tracts 4A and 5A and Pool 4 Tract 2: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield and one abstention by Commissioner Simpson, the Commission approved, by roll call vote, the right of entry request from DT Midstream to perform surveys.

c) **Recreation**

Recreation Area Status Report - Mr. Mike Boydston highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 228,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of July 2021. Updated maintenance items include, but not limited to:

- Dredging currently at Red River South Marina
- Dredging taking place in the following areas: Red River Parish; Natchitoches Parish; Rapides Parish; Avoyelles Parish and then dredge will return upstream to clear areas of less traffic
- Cutterhead dredge working in the following areas: Clarence Oxbow; Powhatan Oxbow and site below Lock & Dam 4

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:

- August conferences: Gulf Intracoastal Canal Association Seminar held in New Orleans and Tennessee Tombigbee Waterway Conference held in Point Clear, Alabama
- Upcoming events: Mr. Crappie Expo; Kayak Bass Fishing Tournament; King Kat Tournament

f) **Personnel** - None

g) **Revenue, Banking & Budget** - None

h) **Legislative** - None

8. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- Monthly Commission meetings will return to the Grand Ecore Activity Center due to the current increase in COVID-19 cases
- Commission received response letter to the Wildlife Management Mitigation property
- Contributed funds have been received by the Corps of Engineers and obligated to dredging contract
- Monthly meeting packets will be sent to Commissioners via email in pdf format following the termination of BoardBook contract

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

- Pre-Construction conference for Teague Trails Extension project occurred August 17th. Should have Notice to Proceed September 7th.
- Texas Street Bridge Lighting project – contract awarded to Feazel. Should have Notice to Proceed in a week or two
- Comfort Stations project will proceed to bid process upon receipt of final permits
- Additional amenities project at Grand Ecore RV Park – Topographic survey completed, design process to begin

10. **GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** - None

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

12. **RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION** – Richard Brontoli, Executive Director of the RRVA provided the Commission with the following update:

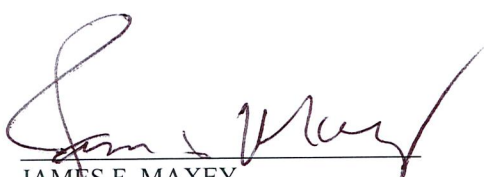
- Appropriations budget of approximately \$27,764,000.00: \$3,500,000.00 for Lock 1 inspection; \$12,600,000.00 to replace gates at Lock 1 and \$3,400,000.00 in dredging funds
- Locks 1 through 4 have been cleared. Clearing area between Locks 4 and 5 to assist in river traffic for Caddo-Bossier Port
- Arkansas Governor has approved \$1,500,000.00 Navigation study. Memorandums of agreement in progress

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