

**MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
October 16, 2019
10:00 AM
COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS
NATCHITOCHEES, LOUISIANA**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Red River Waterway Commission was called to order by Chair Designee, Troy Roussell, 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: Chair Designee, Troy Roussell, Commissioner Roy A. Burrell, Commissioner David L. Crutchfield, II, Commissioner Michael P. Deville, Commissioner Paul Fleming, Commissioner Randell Fletcher, Commissioner David Jones, Commissioner Ronald Lattier, Commissioner Larry K. Sayes, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

Absent: Commissioner Charles R. Greer and Commissioner James F. Maxey

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 PURSUANT TO LRS 42:14

Others Present: Mr. John Barr with U.S. Senator John Kennedy's office, Shreveport, Louisiana

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

By motion of Commissioner Fleming, 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 Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Jones, the minutes of the September 18, 2019 meeting were unanimously approved.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Expenditures, Financial Statements, Investment Reports, & Fund Balance Report for the month of September 2019 were unanimously approved.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Contracts

Consideration of Approval of GIS Consultant Contract/NTB Associates, Inc.: By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the Commission unanimously approved the GIS consultant contract with NTB Associates, Inc.

Consideration of Approval of 2020 Contracts List: By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Burrell, the Commission unanimously approved the Red River Waterway Commission's 2020 Contracts list as presented with one (1) amendment, the deletion of Merrick Construction (Contract No. RRW-418).

Consideration of Ratification of Change Order No. 1/Office Building Rehabilitation/RRWC Project No. 19-11/Contract No. RRW-772: By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$950.00 for material costs to replace rotten boards on exterior of building.

b) Land Management, Legal Affairs & Affirmative Action

Consideration of Award of Leaseback Renewal/Pool 5/Tract 7/85.3 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Sayes, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved award of 5-year leaseback renewal to Magnolia Lands, LLC, represented by Mr. Robert Smitherman for \$4,275.00 (a blended rate of \$10.02 per acre) for the 5-year term.

c) Recreation

Recreation Area Status Report - Mr. Mike Boydston highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 149,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of September 2019. Updated maintenance items include, but not limited to:

- Dredging: Pool 2 is completed; Pool 1 actively dredging; Pools 3 & 5 – majority completed; Pool 4 – actively dredging oxbow

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:

- 2019 Economic Impact Report: Bound copies distributed to Commissioners; Ad summarizing the report has been placed in parish newspapers
- Ports Association of Louisiana November meeting to be held in Natchitoches, November 13th and 14th
- Mississippi Valley Flood Control Association/Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana meetings to be held December 4 – 7, 2019 in New Orleans, Louisiana
- Tour dates for Red River Waterway Commission's recreational facilities were presented to Commissioners
- Caddo-Bossier Port Warehouse project broke ground last week

f) Personnel - None

g) **Revenue, Banking & Budget**

Consideration of Budget Amendment/Red River Parish Port Dock Construction: By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the Commission unanimously approved a budget amendment in the amount of \$141,720.37 fulfilling the cooperative endeavor agreement entered into in 2018 for the purchase of a material handler and construction of a dock at the Port facility.

Consideration of Budget Amendment/Dredging: By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Deville, the Commission unanimously approved a line item budget amendment of \$500,000.00 to dredging. Bringing the total 2019 budget for dredging to \$6,500,000.00.

Consideration of Stoner Barge Use: By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, the Commission unanimously approved authorizing the City of Shreveport to market the Stoner Barge for sale. The sale is to include the condition that the barge will be moved from its current location by the purchaser.

h) **Legislative - None**

8. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- Crosby Dredging has completed their operations and authorized to leave Red River
- A dredge has been moved to Lock & Dam 2
- Dewatering of Lock & Dam 2 should be completed November 3rd
- Reminder to Commissioners of annual State requirements
- Discussion of Levee Board and Mississippi Valley Flood Control meetings December 4-7 in New Orleans
- 2020 Proposed budget will be presented at the November 2019 monthly meeting

9. **STATUS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY/ENGINEERING REPORT** - Prepared reports were provided in the meeting packets. In addition, Engineering Supervisor, Ryan Ingles discussed the following:

- Poland Access Road Rehabilitation project - complete
- Boyce Recreation Area and Dock Construction project - substantial work has been done. The dock is in position and remains to be secured
- Brouillette Ramp Widening project - Additional rip rap has been placed along the bank and dead trees removed
- Tauzin Island Road project - Have begun reestablishing ditches in the area where patch work and overlay work will occur
- Coushatta Recreation Area project – Project mobilization began this week with construction to begin in approximately two weeks

10. **GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** - None

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

12. **RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION** – Documents/reports were provided to the Commission. Materials contained, but were not limited to the following:

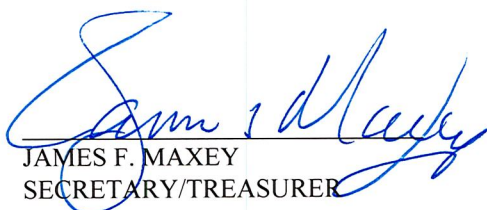
- FY 2020 Appropriations – Comparison of FY 2019 enacted and FY 2020 President's Budget. FY 2020 President's Budget: \$4.872 billion. The House approved FY 2020 funding of \$7.36 billion for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works Program. The Senate passed a Civil Works bill totaling \$7.75 billion. The House and the Senate did not conference a bill to send to the President by October 1 and therefore the Corps is under a Continuing Resolution (CR) until November 21
- Navigation FY 2019 & FY 2020 Operations and Maintenance – President's FY 2020 budget has no funds allocated for dredging
- River status – Navigation updates are forthcoming
- Navigation into Arkansas Feasibility Study – Corps has agreed to resume and complete the feasibility study. The Arkansas Red River Commission is considering completing the feasibility study by Section 203
- Index, Arkansas to Denison Dam Navigation – North Central Texas Council of Governments is willing to fund \$500,000.00 to conduct a study to determine if navigation is possible from an engineering perspective

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 Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned.


JAMES F. MAXEY
SECRETARY/TREASURER


TROY ROUSSELL
CHAIR DESIGNEE