

**MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
NOVEMBER 17, 2021
10:00 AM
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION
5941 HWY 1 BYPASS
NATCHITOCHE, LOUISIANA**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Red River Waterway Commission was called to order by Chair Designee, Troy Roussel, 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 Roussel, Commissioner Versa Clark, Commissioner David L. Crutchfield, II, Commissioner Paul Fleming, Commissioner Randell Fletcher, Commissioner Jacques Goudeau, Commissioner Ronald Lattier, Commissioner James F. Maxey.

Absent: Commissioner Michael P. Deville, Commissioner Charles R. Greer, Commissioner David Jones, and Commissioner Michael Simpson.

RRWC Staff Members Present: Mr. Colin Brown - Executive 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 PURSUANT TO LRS 42:14

Others Present: Mr. Rich Brontoli, Executive Director of the Red River Valley Association.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the agenda was unanimously approved. Comments from the public were called for, however, none were offered.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

By motion of Commissioner Fletcher, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the minutes of the October 20, 2021 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 October 2021 were unanimously approved.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Contracts

Consideration of 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 award of bid to Womack and Sons Construction Group, LLC in the amount of \$759,400.00 for all three comfort stations and a corresponding budget amendment of up to \$900,000.00.

Consideration of Janitorial Contract Proposals/Colfax RV Park and Boyce Recreation Areas: By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, the Commission unanimously approved award of contract to G3 Ventures, LLC in the amount of \$1,444.00 per month for a three (3) year term beginning January 2022 and ending December 2024.

b) Land Management, Legal Affairs & Affirmative Action

Consideration of Award of Public Bid Land Lease:

a. Pool 3/Tract 85/50 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved award of land lease to Mr. Billy D. Gorham for \$12,525.00 (\$50.10 per acre) for the 5-year lease term.

b. Pool 3/Tract 77/75 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved the staff's request to remove 13.9 acres of inaccessible, unusable wooded acreage from the 75 acre tract and re-advertising the tract of land (Pool 3, Tract 77) with a revised acreage of 61.1 acres for public bid lease with a minimum bid of \$25.00 per acre to create interest in bid submission.

c. Hadden Ft. DeRussy/18.7 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved award of land lease to Mr. Brady Gauthier for \$4,675.00 (\$50.00 per acre) for the 5-year lease term.

Consideration of Renewal of Leaseback Agreements:

a. Lock & Dam 2/Tracts 4 & 9/32.5 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved award of leaseback to current and eligible lessee Mr. Barry Ryland for \$3,412.50 (\$21.00 per acre) for the 5-year leaseback term.

b. Pool 3/Tract 36/9 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved award of leaseback to current and eligible lessee Dr. Randolph Williams for \$360.00 (\$8.00 per acre) for the 5-year leaseback term.

Consideration of Renewal of Vehicular Right-of-Way Agreement/Alexandria Levee Park: By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved the renewal of the 20-year vehicular right-of-way agreement with Rapides Regional Medical Center for \$827.00 annually.

Consideration of Approval of Right-of-Way Clearing/Bishop Point Recreation Area Access Road: By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved granting staff the authority to hire Sawyer Cason (Fairview Trucking) to clear the right-of-way along the Bishop Point Area Access Road for an approximate cost of \$6,500.00.

c) Recreation

Recreation Area Status Report – Provided in the meeting packet and which noted there had been 105,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of October 2021.

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:

- Recap of the Mr. Crappie, King Kat, and Kayak Bass Fishing tournaments
- In discussion with the North Louisiana Kayak Bass Fishing representative regarding a tournament in Natchitoches

f) **Personnel** - None

g) **Revenue, Banking & Budget** – Committee will meet Monday, November 29, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. at Commission Headquarters.

h) **Legislative** - None

8. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- Reminder to Commissioners of annual training requirements
- Corps of Engineers has completed channel dredging. Corps used a good portion of the contributed funds provided by the Red River Waterway Commission in order to complete dredging needs. A final accounting will be provided to the Commission.
- Caddo-Bossier Port thank you correspondence read aloud
- Mike Boydston thank you correspondence read aloud

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

- Alexandria Levee Park – foundation work underway
- Teague Trails Extension – pouring concrete and/or gravel/asphalt to trail surface. Anticipate completion for first part of 2022
- Grand Ecore Additional Amenities – progressing with the engineer on the pool and splash pad and in communication with the Corps of Engineers as is necessary and directed

10. **GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** - None

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

12. **RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION** – Mr. Rich Brontoli updated the Commission on the following:

- Lock 2 lower dredging completed
- 2022 dredging contract to be reviewed
- Appropriations continuing resolution December 03, 2021 deadline
- Appropriations instituted line item for “Community Projects”
- Awaiting final approval for \$2,200,000.00 funding of Alexandria dikes
- 2022 – suggest submitting to delegation “Community Project” requests
- Infrastructure bill – delegation being sent a prioritized list
- Arkansas expansion study – finalizing the Memorandum of Agreement

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 Clark, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned.


JAMES F. MAXEY
SECRETARY/TREASURER


TROY ROUSSELL
CHAIR DESIGNEE