

MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
APRIL 15, 2009
10:00 AM
COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS
NATCHITOCHE, LOUISIANA

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Red River Waterway Commission was called to order by Vice Chairman, Commissioner Marc Dupuy, Jr., in the Board Room of the Red River Waterway Commission Office located in Natchitoches, Louisiana.

2. **ROLL CALL & INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Roll was called and a quorum was present. Others in attendance were asked to identify themselves.

Present: Commissioner Harmon Belgard, Commissioner Doug Brown, Commissioner Wayne Davis, Commissioner Marc Dupuy, Jr., Commissioner Paul Fleming, Commissioner Randell Fletcher, Commissioner Andrew J. Hodges, III, Commissioner Alvin Owens, Commissioner Rogers M. Prestridge.

Absent: Chairman, Mr. Ed Preau, Commissioner James F. Maxey, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

RRWC Staff Members Present: Mr. Ken Guidry - Executive Director, Mr. Randy Walters - Marketing Director, Mr. Mike Boydstun - Operations & Maintenance Director, Mrs. Cathy Rushing - Executive Assistant, Mr. Colin Brown - Engineer Supervisor, Mr. Garland Brown - Real Estate Manager, Ms. Peggy St. John - Legal Counsel.

Others Present: Mr. Jacob Brister, Mr. Richard Brontoli, Mrs. Jessica Broadway, Mr. Ken Juneau, Mrs. Robin Cosenza, Ms. Mary Ann Tice

3. **APPROVAL OF REVISED AGENDA**

By motion of Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, the agenda was revised and unanimously approved. Comments from the public were called for, however, none were offered.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, the minutes of the March 18, 2009 meeting were unanimously approved.

5. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

By motion of Commissioner Owens, seconded by Commissioner Prestridge, the Expenditures, Financial Statements & Investment Reports for the month of March, 2009 were unanimously approved.

6. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) **Contracts**

Approval of Engineering Services Proposal/Office Improvements & Repairs - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Belgard, the Commission unanimously approved the proposal offered by Cothren, Graff, Smoak Engineering, Inc., for engineering services for \$7,600.00 relative to office improvements and repairs.

Authority to Purchase Utility Vehicle/Colfax Recreation Facility - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, the Commission unanimously approved the purchase of a Cub Cadet utility vehicle at a cost of \$10,337.00 from Weeks Tractor.

Authority to Purchase Three Vehicles Under State Contract - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Brown, the Commission unanimously approved the purchase of three vehicles, all under Louisiana State Contract, as follows:

1 Dodge 3/4 Ton Pick-up truck	\$19,086.00
1 Ford F-150 Extended Cab Pick-up Truck	\$18,717.00
1 Ford Quad Cab Pick-up Truck	\$20,866.00

Ratification of Supplemental Agreement No. 1/Contract No. RRW-524/Southwest Museum Services - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Owens, the Commission unanimously approved ratification of Supplemental Agreement No 1 to contract No. RRW-524 with Southwest Museum Services with a time extension of 60 days. This Supplemental Agreement No. 1 was originally approved in March, 2009 for up to \$249,350.00 for enhancements to the interpretive exhibits and subject to approval by Facility Planning and Control. Upon their review and adjustments, the final net increase to the interpretive enhancements for the project through this Supplemental Agreement is \$177,350.00.

Approval of Change Order No. 7/Ft. Randolph - By motion of Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Belgard, the Commission unanimously approved Change Order No. 7 for the Forts Randolph & Buhlow State Historic Site project, to substitute spruce plank ceiling for the suspended acoustical ceiling in the original plans, as recommended by the Office of State Parks, resulting in a net cost increase of \$22,728.00 to the project with the RRWC's 8.86% portion being \$2,013.70.

Approval of Change Order No. 8/Ft. Randolph - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Owens, the Commission unanimously approved Change Order No. 8 for the Forts Randolph & Buhlow State Historic Site project, which included multiple items; 1) changes in Video Room at Visitor's Center; 2) Changes in Display Room at Visitor's Center; 3) Deletion of miscellaneous items at Main Street; 4) Additional drainage work at Bailey's Dam Overlook; and 5) No-Cost change of Euclid Street gate. The total cost of the resulted in a increase of \$125.00 to the project with the RRWC's 8.86% cost-share portion being \$10.75.

Approval of Change Order No. 9/Ft. Randolph - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Belgard, the Commission unanimously approved Change Order No. 9 for the Forts Randolph &

Buhlow State Historic Site project, with the staff to negotiate with the contractor, Pan American Engineers regarding modification to the plans to alleviate drainage issues immediately adjacent to the visitors center where it meets the plaza area, not to exceed \$8,738.00 and not to include the costs of re-design, as this situation is due to a design error. Since it is a design error, Facility Planning and Control has declined to participate in the cost-share of this increase.

Approval of Change Order No. 10/Ft. Randolph - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Owens, the Commission unanimously approved Change Order No. 10 for the staff to negotiate with Facility Planning & Control and the Office of State Parks for additional clearing requested along the access road and the surrounding area at the Forts Randolph & Buhlow State Historic Site project at a cost not to exceed \$50,000.00 in total costs for same, with the Commission's 8.86% share being \$4,443.00.

b) Land Management, Legal Affairs & Affirmative Action

Authority to Award Lease Bid/Red River Environmental Products, LLC - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, the Commission unanimously approved award of the following leases in Pool 4, Tract 12 to Red River Environmental Products, LLC:

- A 25 year permanent right-of-way lease with an option to renew for an additional 25 years, 0.11 acres at \$585.00 per acre for a total of \$1,608.75.
- A 2 year temporary right-of-way lease on 0.19 acres for the construction of a water effluent line to empty into Red River at an appraised value of \$585.00 per acre for a total of \$222.30.

Authority to Award Lease Bid/Pool 1, Tract 4-E/Hadden-Ft. DeRussey - By motion of Commissioner Hodges, seconded by Commissioner Brown, the Commission unanimously approved award of a lease of 5.4 acres in Pool 1, Tract 4E/Hadden-Ft. DeRussy at \$10.35 per acre or \$56.70 per year for five year term to Doyle Loftin.

Authority to Award Lease Bid/Pool1, Tract 4-A through 4-D/Hadden-Ft. DeRussey - By motion of Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, the Commission unanimously approved award of a lease of 77.8 acres in Pool 1, Tracts 4A-4D/Hadden-Fort DeRussy at \$10.35 per acre or \$805.23 per year for a five year term to Mr. Joe Smetak.

Authority to Advertise for Temporary Right-of-Way/Pool 2, L&D No. 3 - By motion of Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, the Commission unanimously approved authority for the staff to advertise for a temporary right-of-way/access road lease for the purpose of hauling timber across Commission owned property. Staff was instructed to bring bid results back before the Commission for approval and award.

Authority to Advertise for Lease Bid/Pool 4, Tract 4, Segment A - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Brown, the Commission unanimously approved authorization for staff to advertise for a lease bid of 0.3629 acres in Pool 4, Tract 4, Segment "A" near the Coushatta boat ramp facility. Staff was instructed to bring the bid results back before the Commission for approval and award.

c) Recreation

Recreation Area Status Report - A prepared report was provided in the meeting packet. Mr. Boydston noted that there had been 158,000 visitors in the various Red River District recreation areas.

d) Ports

Red River Parish Port Commission Request/Funding for Headwaters/ISG CEA - By motion of Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Prestridge, the Commission unanimously agreed to reject the request from Red River Parish Port to transfer to the Red River Parish Port, \$2,321,350.00 in accordance with the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the Commission and the Red River Parish Port for the Headwaters Resources, Inc. , project.

Red River Parish Port Commission Funding Request/Legal Fees - By motion of Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, the Commission approved the funding request from the Red River Parish Port Commission for up to \$50,000.00 in legal fees relative to the Headwaters Resources, Inc., (ISG) litigation matter, through the execution of a Cooperative Agreement. Commissioner Prestridge opposed the motion.

Caddo-Bossier Parishes Port Commission Request for Mitigation Covenant - By motion of Commissioner Fleming, seconded by Commissioner Davis, the Commission unanimously approved the Caddo-Bossier Port Commission request for the execution of a Mitigation Covenant as presented relative to the Port.

e) Public Awareness & Marketing

Marketing Update - A prepared Client Activity report was provided in the meeting packets along with a list of up-coming events. Mr. Walters reported that the quarterly report has been submitted to Louisiana Economic Development to update them regarding the recent grant received by the Commission and how those funds are being used relative to economic development.

f) Personnel -No report

g) Revenue, Banking & Budget - No report

h) Legislative - Mr. Guidry reported that he awaiting draft legislation relative to SR-20 and the recommendations of the findings of the Strategic Plan. He also noted that he is currently making appointments to meet with members of the Commission's legislative delegation to discuss the proposal to adjust the disbursement allocation of the tax millage monies collected by the Commission and will keep the Commissioners informed.

7. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** - Mr. Guidry stated that he would continue to monitor the water usage laws relative to the Red River. To that extent, Mr. Jim Pratt of the Sabine River Authority has agreed to meet with the Land Management, Legal Affairs and Affirmative Action Committee in May, 2009 to discuss this topic. Mr. Guidry pointed out that the usage laws governing lakes are different from those governing rivers.
8. **STATUS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY/ENGINEERING REPORT** - Prepared reports were provided in the meeting packet.
9. **GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** - No report. Ms. Peggy St. John took a moment to thank the Commission for the opportunity to participate in this meeting.

10. **CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT** - Mr. Jacob Brister reported on the following items:
- The design of the Lake St. Agnus Revetment project is complete with advertisement anticipated within the next ten days. Placement of the rock for that project should begin in mid-summer.
 - The design of the Bois D'Arc Revetment Project is scheduled for completion May 1, 2009 with advertisement anticipated May 7, 2009. Placement of rock for that project is anticipate in mid-summer, as well.
 - The gravel re-surfacing project on the Natchitoches levees is near completion. The C.O.E. is working to keep the costs to a minimum on that project. Any remaining funds will be re-directed to other projects.
11. **RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION** - Mr. Rich Brontoli reported on the following items:
- The next meeting of the Red River Compact is scheduled to take place on April 28, 2009 at 8:30 AM in the J. Bennett Johnston Visitors Center in downtown Shreveport, Louisiana.
 - The Red River Valley Association of Texarkana will hold its annual conference on May 28, 2009 at the LaCrosse Hotel in Texarkana, Arkansas.
 - The House had requested its member letters for budget requests be submitted in March. At this time, there is no information on the Senate website regarding this matter.
 - The river levels through this spring season has been favorable for navigation and farmers with no real issues.
12. **OTHER BUSINESS**
- Mary Ann Tice- Ms. Tice address the Commissioners and thanked the Commission for its support of the BASSMASTERS Classic tournament hosted out of the Shreveport-Bossier City area in February, 2009. She commented on its success and presented the Commission with several items of memorabilia from that event.
- Assignment of Committee Appointment/Commissioner Andrew J. Hodges, III - By motion of Commissioner Owens, seconded by Commissioner Belgard, the Commission unanimously approved the appointment of Commissioner Andrew J. Hodges, III, to serve on all committees of the Commission.
- Resolution of Appreciation/Charles E. Britton - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Fleming, and unanimously approved, staff was authorized to prepare a Resolution of Appreciation to be presented to former Commissioner Charles E. Britton.
13. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**
- At this time, Mr. Ken Juneau reported that all of the abandoned houseboats which were moored at the downtown Alexandria Levee Park Riverfront area have been removed.
14. **RECESS**
- At this time, by motion of Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Owens, and unanimously approved, the meeting recessed for lunch and the Secretary/Treasurer was authorized to pay for the meals of the Commissioners and their guests out of the funds of the District.
15. **ADJOURNMENT**
- The meeting reconvened immediately following lunch, however, there being no further business to conduct at this time, by motion of Commissioner Fletcher, seconded by Commissioner Fleming, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned.

JAMES F. MAXEY
SECRETARY/TREASURER

EDMOND J. PREAU, JR., P.E.
CHAIRMAN