

MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
FEBRUARY 17, 2010
10:00 AM
DIAMOND JACKS HOTEL AND CASINO RESORT
BOSSIER CITY, 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 Garnet Salon of the Diamond Jacks Hotel and Casino Resort located at 77 Isle of Capri Blvd. in Bossier City, Louisiana.

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

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

Present: Vice Chairman, Commissioner Marv Dupuy, Jr., Commissioner Doug Brown, Commissioner Wayne Davis, Commissioner Paul Fleming, Commissioner Randell Fletcher, Commissioner Andrew J. Hodges, III, Commissioner James F. Maxey, Commissioner Alvin Owens, Commissioner Rogers M. Prestridge.

Absent: Chairman, William D. Ankner, Ph.D., Commissioner David L. Crutchfield, II, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

RRWC Staff Members Present: Mr. Ken Guidry - Executive Director, Mr. Mike Boydston - Operations & Maintenance Director, Mrs. Cathy Rushing - Executive Assistant, Mr. Colin Brown - Engineer Supervisor, Mr. Garland Brown - Real Estate Manager, Mr. Greg Upton - Legal Counsel.

Others Present: Mr. Kevin Byram, Mr. Jacob Brister, Mr. Gary Hanson, Mr. Gary D. Walker, Mr. John Kinnebrew, Mr. Robert Gordon, Mr. Richard Brontoli, Mr. Johnny Martin, Mr. Bob Munson, Mrs. Robin Cosenza

3. **APPROVAL OF REVISED AGENDA**

By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Brown, 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 Fletcher, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, the minutes of the January 20, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved.

5. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

By motion of Commissioner Maxey, seconded by Commissioner Owens, the Financial Statement for the month of December, 2009, and the Expenditures, Financial Statements & Investment Reports for the month of January, 2010 were unanimously approved.

6. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) **Contracts**

Authority to Award Mowing Contracts By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Maxey, the Commission unanimously approved the award of the following mowing contracts:

Colfax Recreation Area - Jeff's Lawn Service at \$665.00 per mowing cycle

Ft. Buhlow Recreational Area - Green's Park Service at \$2,950.00 per mowing cycle.

Natchitoches Recreational Area - R. W. Rogers at \$190.00 per mowing cycle

Montgomery Recreational Area - R. W. Rogers at \$125.00 per mowing cycle.

St. Maurice Recreational Area - Vaugh Construction at \$187.00 per mowing cycle.

Coushatta Recreational Area - R. W. Rogers at \$190.00 per mowing cycle.

Approval of Auctioneer Contract/Kevin Kelley - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Davis, the Commission unanimously approved award of the auctioneer contract to Kevin Kelly Auctioneers for the disposal of surplus items. Also included in the motion was the approval of the surplus items list as presented by staff.

Authority to Purchase Two Vehicles Under State Contract - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Owens, and unanimously approved the staff was authorized to purchase two Ford F-150 extended cab pick-up trucks under State Contract at a cost of \$37,192 plus license and registration.

Authority to Advertise Levee/Cemetery Repairs/Pool 5 - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, and unanimously approved, the staff was authorized to advertise for needed repairs to levee surrounding the Mary Magdelene Cemetery located in Pool 5.

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

Cooperative Agreement with Questar - By motion of Commissioner Owens, seconded by Commissioner Davis, the Commission authorized General Counsel to request that the Attorney General to opine as to the method of regulating surface water in the Red River Valley, as outlined in the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement requested by Questar.

c) **Recreation**

Recreation Area Status Report - Mr. Mike Boydston highlighted his prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 78,000 visitors at the various Red River Waterway recreation facilities on Red River during the month of January, 2010. He added that this figure is down over last year due to the extended period of high water levels on the river.

d) **Ports** - No report.

e) **Public Awareness & Marketing**

Marketing Update - A prepare report was included in the meeting packet.

f) **Personnel** - No report.

- g) **Revenue, Banking & Budget** - No report
- h) **Legislative** - Mr. Kenneth P. Guidry reported that William D. Ankner, Ph. D., has resigned from his position with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and therefore, is no longer Chairman of the Red River Waterway Commission. Ms. Sherry LaBass is currently serving as Interim Secretary of LADOTD.
7. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT** - Mr. Kenneth P. Guidry reported that the Mineral Board of the State of Louisiana awarded the sale of a mineral lease on property owned by the Red River Waterway Commission to Matador Resources Company for a total price of \$3,920,118.00 in proceeds with 25% future royalties to the Commission.
- Mr. Guidry also reported that Northwestern State University is attempting to secure funding through the appropriations process for giant salvinia research. He urged the Red River Valley Association, as well as the Commissioners of the Red River Waterway Commission to speak out in support of this request to their legislators as opportunities may be presented.
8. **STATUS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY/ENGINEERING REPORT** - Prepared reports were provided in the meeting packets. Mr. Colin Brown added the following comments:
- The Poland Recreation Area project is currently shut down due to continued high river levels impeding any further construction activities.
 - Staff is working toward encouraging and arranging for the local legislative delegation to tour the Forts Randolph & Buhlow State Historic Site.
9. **GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** - Mr. Greg Upton reported that oral arguments were heard last month on the Fry litigation. There has been no word yet as to the results of those proceedings.
10. **CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT** - Mr. Gary Walker reported on the following items:
- The St. Agnes Revetment project is complete
 - The COE expects to award the contract for the Socot Revetment project in September, 2010.
 - The levee upgrade project at the Lindy Boggs Lock and Dam is still on-going.
 - No mitigation land purchases have been made from the Red River Waterway Commission in several years due to funding shortfalls. That matter is up for review in the summer of 2010.
11. **RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION** - Mr. Rich Brontoli reported on the schedule of various meetings and events of the Red River Valley Association Annual Convention kicking off this afternoon at the Diamond Jacks Hotel and Casino Resort in Bossier City, Louisiana. He also noted that he will be traveling to Washington, D.C. to meet with congressional members and/or their staff members regarding funding issues. Mr. Kenneth P. Guidry and Commissioner Marc Dupuy, Jr., will also be making that trip to D.C.
12. **OTHER BUSINESS** - Mr. Gary Hanson of the Watershed Institute at Louisiana State University, gave a brief presentation regarding the significance Haynesville Shale project in north Louisiana.
13. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC** - None
14. **ADJOURNMENT**
- The meeting reconvened immediately following lunch, however, there being no further business to conduct at this time, by motion of Commissioner Owens, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned.

JAMES F. MAXEY
SECRETARY/TREASURER

WILLIAM D. ANKNER, PH. D.
CHAIRMAN