



**MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
MARCH 17, 2010
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: Vice Chairman, Commissioner Marc Dupuy, Jr., Commissioner Doug Brown, Commissioner Wayne Davis, II, Commissioner Paul Fleming,, Commissioner Andrew J. Hodges, III, Commissioner Alvin Owens, Commissioner Rogers M. Prestridge, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

Absent: Chairwoman, Sherri LeBas, P.E., Commissioner David L. Crutchfield, Commissioner Randell Fletcher, Commissioner James F. Maxey,

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, Mr. Greg Upton - Legal Counsel.

Others Present: Mr. Gary Ethridge, Mr. Matt Bailey, Mr. Rich Brontoli, Mrs. Jessica Broadway, Mrs. Robin Cosenza, Mr. William Grant, Ms. Sharon Balfour, Mr. Charles Hinton

3. APPROVAL OF REVISED AGENDA

By motion of Commissioner Hodges, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, 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 Owens, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, the minutes of the February 17, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

By motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, the Expenditures, Financial Statements & Investment Reports for the month of February, 2010 were unanimously approved.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Contracts

Authority to Award Aerial Spraying Contract - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Brown, the Commission unanimously approved award of the aerial spraying contract to Red River Specialties at a total annual bid amount of \$104,250.00, based on actual acreage sprayed at the per acre prices in the bid for three different chemicals.

Authority to Award Office Renovations Contract - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Fleming, the Commission unanimously agreed to reject the single bid received for the office renovations with an alternate additive for carpet replacement as it exceeded the engineers cost estimate. Further, the staff was instructed to re-advertise for the carpet replacement as a separate project and to re-advertise the office renovations construction project following a unit pricing format.

Approval of Change Order #3/Poland Recreation Area - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, the Commission unanimously approved Change Order #3 on the Poland Recreation Area, adding an additional 44 days to the contract time.

Cooperative Agreement with Questar - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Davis, the Commission unanimously approved the revised contract with Questar, as present by legal counsel, instructing legal counsel to transmit the contract to the Attorney General for approval. General counsel was further instructed to request a meeting for members of the Red River Waterway Commission with the Attorney General and to request that the Attorney General render an opinion as expeditiously as possible with regard to regulating water usage on Red River.

St. Maurice Mowing Contract - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, and unanimously approved, the Commission rescinded the award of the St. Maurice mowing contract with Vaughn Construction of Campiti, at the request of Vaughn Construction, and awarded the bid to the second lowest bidder, R. W. Rogers Maintenance in the amount of \$190.00 per mowing cycle.

b) Land Management, Legal Affairs & Affirmative Action

Request for Release of Perpetual Servitude /U.S.S. Eastport - By motion of Commissioner Owens, seconded by Commissioner Davis, the Commission unanimously approved the release of the perpetual servitude on 5.6 acres, which contains the wreckage of the Civil War era gunboat, the U.S.S. Eastport, with all associated costs with regard to the release, such as appraisals, recording fees, etc.

Approval of Revised Land Lease Policy - By motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, the Commission unanimously approved the revisions to the Land Lease Policy raising the minimum bids required as follows:

- ◆ \$30.00 per acre for pasture lands with access
- ◆ \$25.00 per acre for pasture lands without access

- ◆ \$20.00 for wooded lands with access
- ◆ \$15.00 per acre for wooded lands without access
- ◆ All leases for a five year term with a one-time five year option to renew with a 10% increase per acre over the original bid amount for the second five year term.

Authority to Advertise for Bid Lease/Pool 3, Tract 85 - By motion of Commissioner Owens, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, and approved, staff was authorized to advertise for bids for the lease of Tract 85 in Pool 3, a 50 acre tract just downstream of the Red Bayou boat ramp located in Natchitoches Parish. Commissioner A. Paul Fleming opposed the motion.

c) Recreation

Recreation Area Status Report - Mr. Mike Boydston highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting the following:

- There had been 143,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of February, 2010.
- The boat ramps in Caddo and Bossier parishes remained closed throughout the month of February due to high water with the only the southern ramps being opened late in the month, with the exception of the ramp at the Ben Routh Recreation Area.
- A fishing tournament will be held at the Grand Ecore Recreation Area this upcoming weekend.
- The Queing on the Red barbeque festival is scheduled for this upcoming weekend in Alexandria.

d) Ports - No report

e) Public Awareness & Marketing

Marketing Update - A prepare report was provided along with a schedule of up-coming events.

f) Personnel - No report

g) Revenue, Banking & Budget - No report

h) Legislative - No report

7. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** - Mr. Guidry encouraged those Commissioners wishing to participate in the meeting with the Attorney General in Baton Rouge to contact the Commission office.
8. **STATUS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY/ENGINEERING REPORT** - Prepared reports were provided in the meeting packet. Mr. Colin Brown noted that the contractor is presently working on the punch list for the Ft. Randolph project. They anticipate laying the flooring in the very near future. Also, the Poland project is once again active.
9. **GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** - Mr. Greg Upton reported that there still has been no word on the outcome of the recent proceedings regarding either the ISG or Fry litigation issues.
10. **CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT** - Mr. Gary Walker introduced Mr. Rich Feibelman, who will be working with Mr. Walker on the Red River Project. Also, Ms. Holly Parker will be working on the Red River project, with eventual plans of appointing her as the Project Manager. Mr. Walker also introduced Ms. Brandi Bradford from Texas, the newly appointed Lead Ranger for the Red River and stationed at the Grand Ecore Visitors Center. Ms. Bradford pointed out that there are three individuals appointed the Red River, the other two being Ms. Suzanne Odom and Ms. Lakeesha Self.
Mr. Walker also reported that the COE will be proceeding with the Socot Revetment project and possibly the Curtis Revetment project.
11. **RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION** - Mr. Rich Brontoli reported on the following items.
 - According to an NBC documentary, *The Fleecing of America*, FEMA is currently undergoing oppositions to the new flood maps published resulting in increase flood insurance requirements. The State of California has been successful in having those requirement reversed.
 - Representative Rodney Alexandria is working toward reform to extend the deadlines imposed by FEMA with regard to levee modifications.
 - Mr. Brontoli, Commissioner Mickey Prestridge, Commissioner Marc Dupuy, Jr., and Mr. Ken Guidry visited with congressmen and/or their aides in Washington, D.C. March 8 - 12, 2010 to discuss funding issues.
 - No WRDA Bill is anticipated this year.
 - The Red River Compact will be meeting in Hot Springs, Arkansas, April 26-27, 2010. (*Correction to located later noted as being Texarkana, Arkansas*).
 - The river levels are receding and dredging operations are underway. The Coast Guard is currently resetting the bouys on Red River this week.
12. **OTHER BUSINESS** - Mr. Guidry noted that Ms. Sherri LeBas, P.E. has been appointed as the Chairwoman of the Red River Waterway Commission. Mr. Guidry introduced Ms. Sharon Balfour, the LAD.O.T.D. liaison with the Red River Waterway Commission.
13. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC** - None
14. **RECESS**
At this time, by motion of Commissioner Simpson, 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 Dupuy, seconded by Commissioner Owens, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned.

JAMES F. MAXEY

SHERRI LEBAS, P.E.

SECRETARY/TREASURER

CHAIRWOMAN