

MINUTES  
OF THE  
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING  
MAY 19, 2010  
10:00 AM  
COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS  
NATCHITOCHEs, LOUISIANA

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Red River Waterway Commission was called to order by Acting Chairman, Mr. Nicholas F. Verret, 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:** Acting Chairman Nicholas Verret, Commissioner Doug Brown, Commissioner Wayne Davis, Commissioner Marc Dupuy, Jr., Commissioner David L. Crutchfield, II, Commissioner Paul Fleming, Commissioner Andrew J. Hodges, III, Commissioner James F. Maxey, Commissioner Alvin Owens, Commissioner Rogers M. Prestridge

**Absent:** Commissioner Randell Fletcher, Commissioner Michael Simpson

**RRWC Staff Members Present:** Mr. Ken Guidry - Executive Director, Mr. Randy Walters - Marketing 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. Robert Breedlove, Mrs. Robin Cosenza, Mrs. Jessica Broadway, Mr. Eric England, Mr. Gary Walker, Mr. Lu Cutrera, Ms. Sharon Balfour, Mr. Rich Brontoli, Mr. Ken Juneau, Mr. Gary Ethridge

3. **APPROVAL OF REVISED AGENDA**

By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, 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 Hodges, the minutes of the April 21, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved with one minor correction.

5. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

By motion of Commissioner Fleming, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Expenditures, Financial Statements & Investment Reports for the month of April, 2010 were unanimously approved.

6. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) **Contracts**

**Approval of Engineering Contract/Additional Amenities-North** - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Brown, the Commission unanimously approved award of the Engineering Contract/Additional Amenities-North to Aillet, Fenner, Jolley, & McClelland for the design and administration of this project.

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

**Approval of Release of Servitude/Pool 3, Tract 39/USS Eastport** - By motion of Commissioner Dupuy, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, the Commission unanimously approved the release of a servitude on 5.6 acres in Pool 3, Tract 39, the site of the U. S. S. Eastport at a cost of \$1,000.00 to the landowner.

**Request for Release of Servitude/Pool 4, Tract 3/Coushatta Realignment** - By motion of Commissioner Dupuy, seconded by Commissioner Fleming, the Commission unanimously approved the request for the release of a servitude of 13 acres in Pool 4, Tract 3 of the Coushatta Realignment. Staff was authorized to proceed to acquire the appraisal on the 13 acres being released.

**Approval of AG Revisions to CEA/Questar** - By motion of Commissioner Dupuy, seconded by Commissioner Davis, the Commission approved the revisions to the water use agreement with Questar with regard to Lake Bistineau and authorized the Executive Director to execute same. Commissioner Maxey opposed the motion.

c) **Recreation**

**Consideration of O&M Proposal/Ft. Randolph** - By motion of Commissioner Owens, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved funding assistance to the Louisiana Department of Parks and Recreation for the operation and maintenance of the Ft. Randolph/Buhlow State Historic Site at a total cost of 269,396.00 for a two-year period with the stipulation that the Commission would not exceed the two-year time frame for this endeavor.

**Recreation Area Status Report** - Mr. Boydston provided a Vandalism Report for the first quarter of 2010 as he highlighted the prepared Recreation Area Status Report provided in the meeting packet:

- There were approximately 190,000 visitors to the District recreation facilities during April, 2010
- The FLW fishing tournament was held at the Grand Ecore Recreational Facility May 15-16, 2010.
- The Alexandria Levee Park Boat Ramp remains closed due to high siltation issues.
- Dredging surveys on the river are 76% complete
- The 3rd aquatic vegetation survey for 2010 will be conducted the week of May 17-21, 2010.
- The Mary Magdalene Cemetery and Levee Repairs project is proceeding on schedule.

d) **Ports**

**Approval of Port Cooperative Endeavor Agreement/Caddo-Bossier Port Commission** - By motion of Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner Prestridge, the Commission unanimously approved the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Caddo-Bossier Port Commission for \$1,000,000.00 for additional land purchase.

**Approval of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement/Red River Parish Port Commission** - By motion of Commissioner Maxey, seconded by Commissioner Prestridge, the Commission unanimously approved the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Red River Parish Port Commission for \$125,000.00 for a new truck scale and dock repairs.

**Approval of O & M Matching Funds/Natchitoches Parish Port Commission** - By motion of Commissioner Maxey, seconded by Commissioner Davis, the Commission unanimously approved the \$40,000.00 matching funding assistance for operations and maintenance for this, the final year, with the Natchitoches Parish Port Commission.

**Approval of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement/Natchitoches Parish Port Commission** - By motion of Commissioner Fleming, seconded by Commissioner Maxey, the Commission unanimously approved the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Natchitoches Parish Port Commission for \$90,000.00 for dock repairs.

**Approval of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement/Alexandria Regional Port Authority** - By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Owens, the Commission unanimously approved the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Alexandria Regional Port Authority for \$107,750.00 for deck rehabilitation.

**e) Public Awareness & Marketing**

**Central Louisiana Economic Development Association Funding Request** - By motion of Commissioner Owens, seconded by Commissioner Prestridge, the Commission unanimously approved the funding assistance request of \$5,000.00 to the Central Louisiana Economic Development Association for one year, only.

**Marketing Update** - A prepared report was provided in the meeting packet. Commissioner Owens noted that the Legislative Reception hosted annually by the Central Louisiana Chamber of Commerce is scheduled for Wednesday, May 26, 2010 at the Camelot Club in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Mr. Randy Walters urged those Commissioners planning to attend contact him regarding any required accommodations. He also added that a Public Awareness and Marketing Committee will be held prior to the June 16, 2010 Commission meeting.

**f) Personnel** - No report

**g) Revenue, Banking & Budget**

**Adoption of 2010 Tax Millage Assessment Rates** - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Fleming, the Commission unanimously approved the Resolution (SEE ATTACHED) for the 2010 tax millage assessments for 1.52 mills for capitol outlay and .82 mills for operation and maintenance, a total of 2.34 mills.

**Approval of Surplus Equipment/Boat** - By motion of Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved the declaration of surplus and the authority to dispose of through public auction, a 1995 Alumaweld Boat, 2000 Mercury 90 horsepower outboard motor, and 20' Dixiecraft Trailer at a total estimated value of \$9,345.00.

**h) Legislative**

**7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**Government Fleet Expo & Conference/Mike Boydston** - By motion of Commissioner Fleming, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, and unanimously approved, the Commission authorized of the reimbursement of travel expenses for Mr. Mike Boydston to attend a Government Fleet Expo and Conference scheduled for June 21, 2010 in Austin, Texas.

**Freight Forwarders Annual Conference** - By motion of Commissioner Hodges, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, and unanimously approved, the Commission authorized the reimbursement of travel expenses for those Commissioners and necessary staff to attend the Freight Forwarders Annual Conference scheduled for June 3 - 5, 2010 in Point Clear, Alabama.

**Engineering Societies of LA & MS Conference/Colin Brown** - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Owens, and unanimously approved, the Commission authorized the reimbursement of travel expenses for Colin Brown to attend the Engineering Societies of Louisiana & Mississippi Conference scheduled for June 6 - 9, 2010 in Point Clear, Alabama.

**8. STATUS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY/ENGINEERING REPORT** - Prepared reports were provided in the meeting packet. Mr. Colin Brown added the following comments:

- The contractors are currently addressing the punch list on this project and installing the exhibits. Final completion is anticipated some time in July, 2010.
- The access road and parking lot asphalt job for the Poland Recreation Facility are 40% complete.
- The Additional Amenities-South contract was awarded to Ballard, CLC, as authorized last month and the contract is proceeding with that project.
- the ribbon cutting ceremonies for the Ft. Randolph/Buhlow State Historic Site will be scheduled for sometime after the end of the current legislative session.

**9. GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** - Mr. Greg Upton reported that the Court of Appeals ruled favorably for the Commission with regard to the Fry litigation matter and charged the Fry family with the added responsibility of paying court costs in this matter. It is anticipated that the attorney for the Fry family will seek writs to the Supreme Court on this case.

**10. CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT** - Mr. Gary Walker reported on the following items:

- The COE will be proceeding with the Socot Revetment Reinforcement project during this year.
- The Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Association has made an offer to settle their litigation issue against the COE with regard to Black Lake for \$5,000.00.

**11. RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION** - Mr. Rich Brontoli reported on the following items:

- The Navigation Committee is currently working on initiatives to improve areas of addressing post high water situations and issues.
- The Project Development Team will meet June 17, 2010 at the Red River Waterway Commission Headquarters to address FY2011 Budget issues.
- Mr. Brontoli will be meeting with Congressional members and COE District, Division, and Headquarters personnel to discuss the 2010 funding cuts.
- There is a \$5 million feasibility study underway to extend the waterway into Arkansas.
- The River Awareness trips scheduled for October, 2010, are cancelled due to budget constraints.

**12. OTHER BUSINESS** - Mr. Guidry reported that he and Commissioner Alvin Owens had attended the Rapides Parish Police Jury meeting this month and presented former Commissioner Harmon Belgard with a plaque

containing a Resolution of Appreciation as previously passed by the Commission. Mrs. Robin Cosenza was also on hand to document the presentation.

13. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC** - Mr. Eric England of the Caddo-Bossier Port Commission took this opportunity to once again, thank the Commission for its continued support of the Port and its endeavors.

14. **RECESS**

At this time, by motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Fleming, 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.

17. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting reconvened immediately following lunch, however, there being no further business to conduct at this time, by motion of Commissioner Maxey, seconded by Commissioner Owens, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned.

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JAMES F. MAXEY  
SECRETARY/TREASURER

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NICHOLAS F. VERRET, JR.  
ACTING CHAIRMAN