

MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
AUGUST 18, 2010
10:00 AM
NATCHITOCHEES EVENTS CENTER - ROOM 3
750 SECOND STREET
NATCHITOCHEES, LOUISIANA

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Red River Waterway Commission was called to order by Acting Chairman, Nick Verret, in Meeting Room No. 3 of the Natchitoches Events Center, located at 750 Second Street 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 Paul Fleming, Commissioner Randell Fletcher, Commissioner Andrew J. Hodges, III, Commissioner Alvin Owens, Commissioner Rogers M. Prestridge, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

Absent: Commissioner David L. Crutchfield, II, Commissioner James F. Maxey

RRWC Staff Members Present: Mr. Ken Guidry - Executive Director, Mr. Randy Walters - Marketing Director, Mr. Mike Boydston - Operations & Maintenance Director, 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. Lu Cutrera, Mr. John Marzullo, Mr. Eric England, Mr. Rich Brontoli, Capt. Thomas F. Murphy, Mr. George Darfus, Mr. Mike Sibley

3. **APPROVAL OF REVISED AGENDA**

By motion of Commissioner Simpson, 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 Owens, the minutes of the July 21, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved.

5. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

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

6. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) **Contracts**

Approval of Cooperative Agreement with NRCS/Red Bayou Irrigation Project - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Davis, the Commission unanimously approved the Cooperative Agreement with Caddo Soil & Water Conservation District regarding the Red Bayou Irrigation Project.

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

Authority to Release Servitude/Pool 4, Tract 5/Coushatta Realignment - By motion of Commissioner Dupuy, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, the Commission unanimously approved the release of the servitude on Pool 4, Tract 5 of the Coushatta Realignment to Hall's Ponderosa, attorney for the landowner, for \$14,300.00 on 13 acres at \$1,100.00 per acre.

Authority to Award Bid Lease/Pool 2, Tracts 5, 6, 7, & 8/Lock & Dam No. 2 - By motion of Commissioner Dupuy, seconded by Commissioner Brown, the Commission unanimously approved the award of a bid lease of Pool 2, Tracts 5, 6, 7 & 8 at Lock and Dam #2 to Mr. Elzie Bryant of the Big Lake Hunting Club for \$20,475.00 on 195 acres at \$21.00 per acre which is \$4,095.00 per year for a 5 year term.

Authority to Award Bid Lease/Pool 1, Tracts 45, 46, & 47 -By motion of Commissioner Dupuy, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the Commission unanimously approved the award of a bid lease of Pool 1, Tracts 45, 46, & 47 at the Hadden-Ft. DeRussey Realignment to Mr. Richard Tassin for \$37,976.00 on 235.0 acres at \$32.32 per acre per year for a five year term.

c) **Recreation**

Recreation Area Status Report - A prepared report was provided in the meeting packet. Mr. Mike Boydston pointed out that there had been 190,000 visitors to the District parks during the month of July.

d) **Ports**

Approval of Reconnaissance Study - By motion of Commissioner Fleming, seconded by Commissioner Prestridge, the Commission unanimously approved the Reconnaissance Study as prepared and provided by Shaw Environmental & Infrastructure, Inc. Staff was authorized to proceed with the legislative process to secure funding for the COE Reconnaissance Study review and feasibility study for the 12-foot channel project.

Red River Parish Port Request - By motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Brown, the Commission unanimously approved the funding request from the Red River Parish Port for up to \$600,000.00 for the settlement agreement between the Red River Parish Port and Headwaters, Inc., contingent upon the favorable inspection and report of the dolphins by the Red River Parish Port and a complete release of the Red River Waterway Commission by the Red River Parish Port and Headwaters, Inc., regarding this matter.

e) **Public Awareness & Marketing**

Marketing Update - A prepared report was provided in the meeting packet. Mr. Randy Walters reported that

ESPN has sold BASS and that he would be contacting them to determine if there are any changes relative to the BASSMASTERS Classic.

f) **Personnel** - No report

g) **Revenue, Banking & Budget**

Approval of 2010 - 2012 Audit Engagement Request - No action was taken on this matter at this time. This item will be included in the annual contracts review and approval process.

h) **Legislative** - Chairman Nick Verret reported that Louisiana DOTD has recently undergone a restructuring process of that entity. As a result, the Red River Waterway Commission is now classified under the Office of Planning & Programming.

7. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Kenneth Guidry reported on the following items:

- Mr. Guidry will be giving a presentation at the Quachita River Valley Association Conference on August 25, 2010.
- Mr. Mike Boydston will be conducting some cross-training exercises with some of the O & M staff.
- The National Waterways Conference is scheduled for September 23-25, 2010 in Boston, Massachusetts. Mr. Guidry will be attending that conference.
- The Arkansas Governors Conference is scheduled for October 4 - 6, 2010 in Little Rock, Arkansas.

At this time, by motion of Commissioner Owens, seconded by Commissioner Dupuy and with no opposition from the public, the Commission unanimously approved a revision to the agenda to add *National Waterways Conference* to the agenda under Other Business.

At this time, by motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, and with no opposition from the public, the Commission unanimously approved a revision to the agenda to add *Arkansas Governors Conference* to the agenda under Other Business.

8. **STATUS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY/ENGINEERING REPORT** - Prepared reports were provided in the meeting packets. Mr. Colin Brown reported on the following items:

- Construction has resumed on the Poland Recreation Project on Monday, August 17, 2010.
- Southwest Museum Services is proceeding with its work on the video presentation .
- It is anticipated that the contract with Westerchil will close out within the next couple of weeks.
- The Additional Amenities projects are proceeding.

9. **GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** - There was some discussion with regard to the Water Use Permit process. Mr. Greg Upon reported that the state has adopted a permit document which is to be used for all future permits.

10. **CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT** - No report

11. **RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION** - Mr. Rich Brontoli reported that meetings with various legislators have taken place to discuss funding issues. He also noted that the river is in good shape for the most part.

12. **OTHER BUSINESS**

Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway Conference - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Dupuy, the Commission unanimously approved the reimbursement of expenses for Commissioner and staff to attend the Tenn-Tom Conference scheduled for August 24-26, 2010 in Point Clear, Alabama.

National Waterways Conference - By motion of Commissioner Owens, seconded by Commissioner Dupuy, the Commission unanimously approved the reimbursement of expenses for Commissioner and necessary staff to attend the National Waterways Conference scheduled for September 23-25, 2010 in Boston, Massachusetts.

Arkansas Governors Conference -By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, the Commission unanimously approved the reimbursement of expenses for Commissioner and necessary staff to attend the Arkansas Governors Conference scheduled for October 4 - 6, 2010, in Little Rock, Arkansas.

13. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC** - None

14. **RECESS**

At this time, by motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Davis, 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 Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Owens, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned.

JAMES F. MAXEY
SECRETARY/TREASURER

NICHOLAS F. VERRET, JR.
ACTING CHAIRMAN