

MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
MAY 16, 2012
10:00 AM
COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS
NATCHITOCHES, LOUISIANA

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Red River Waterway Commission was called to order by Interim Acting Chair, Larry Ardoin, in the Board Room of the Red River Waterway Commission Office located at 5941 Highway 1 By-Pass in Natchitoches, Louisiana.

2. **ROLL CALL, INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS, AND CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Roll was called and a quorum was present. Others in attendance were asked to identify themselves and offered any comments they may have regarding the agenda. However, no comments were offered.

Present: Interim Acting Chair, Larry Ardoin, Commissioner Doug Brown, Commissioner Wayne Davis, Commissioner Marc Dupuy, Jr., Commissioner David L. Crutchfield, II, Commissioner Paul Fleming, Commissioner Randell Fletcher, Commissioner Andrew J. Hodges, III, Commissioner Alvin Owens, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

Absent: Commissioner James F. Maxey, Commissioner Rogers M. Prestridge

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. Luke Pearson - Real Estate Manager, Mr. Greg Upton - Legal Counsel.

Others Present: Mr. Murphy LeDoux, Jr., Mr. Jonathan Lachney, Mr. Bob Munson, Mrs. Robin Cosenza, Mr. Eddie Blanchard, Mrs. Bonita Blanchard, Mrs. Charles Chatelain, Mrs. Jessica Chatelaine, Mrs. Brooke Teddlie, Mr. Rich Brontoli

3. **APPROVAL OF REVISED AGENDA**

By motion of Commissioner Dupuy, 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 Fletcher, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the minutes of the April 18, 2012 meeting were unanimously approved.

5. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, the Expenditures, Financial Statements & Investment Reports for the month of April, 2012 were unanimously approved.

6. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) **Contracts**

Approval of Office Building Painting Contract - By motion of Commissioner Dupuy, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved award of the office Building re-painting project to David Patterson for a bid amount of \$2,940 under an Independent Contractor Agreement prepared by legal counsel.

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

Authority to Award Public Bid Lease, Pool 1/Wilson Point Realignment - By motion of Commissioner Dupuy, seconded Commissioner Brown, the Commission unanimously approved award of a public lease bid of property in Pool 1 at the Wilson Point Realignment, to Jeffrey LaCombe for a bid amount of \$2700.88 per year on 69.7 acres for a total of \$13,504 for a five year term.

Authority to Award Leaseback/Pool 3, Tracts 80 & 81 - By motion of Commissioner Dupuy, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved award of leaseback for property in Pool 3, Tracts 80 and 81 to Darla Dunn Barker for an appraised value of \$18 per acre on 14 acres for \$252 per year or \$1260 for a five year term.

Authority to Award Leaseback/Pool 4, Tract 4, Segments "B" & "C"/Carroll Realignment - By motion of Commissioner Dupuy, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the Commission unanimously approved award of a leaseback of property in Pool 4, Tract 4, Segments "B" & "C" at Carroll Realignment to Jackie Huckabay, Jr. For an appraised value of \$6 per acre for 336 acres for a total of \$2,016 per year or \$10,080 for a five year term.

Authority to Award Leaseback/Lock & Dam No. 1, Tract A - By motion of Commissioner Dupuy, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, the Commission unanimously approved award of leaseback property at Lock and Dam #1, Tract A to Delta Ridge Ranch for an appraised value of \$25 per acre on 640 acres for a total of \$16,000 per year or \$80,000 per a five year term.

Request for Letter of No Objection/Rapides Parish Police Jury - By motion of Commissioner Owens, seconded by Commissioner Dupuy, the Commission unanimously approved the request by the Rapides Parish Police Jury for a Letter of No Objection for required utility relocations necessary for levee certification on property adjacent to the Ft. Randolph access road owned by the RRWC.

Approval of LADOTD ROW Request/Pool 3, Tracts 22 & 23/Alexandria Levee Park/Jackson St. Bridge - By motion of Commissioner Owens, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved the request from LADOTD to acquire 0.025 acres and for a temporary construction servitude of 0.083 acres from the Commission that is necessary to construct improvements on the Jackson Street Bridge, including the construction of a handicapped accessible ramp on the Alexandria side of the river at the appraised values of \$3,267.00 for the 0.025 acres to be acquired and \$4,339.00 for the 0.083 acres for the temporary servitude,

along with damages of \$8,795.00 for a total offer of \$16,401.00.

COE Request/Red River Basin Watershed Study Sponsorship - By motion of Commissioner Dupuy, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission authorized the Executive Director to issue a letter to the USACE stating that should federal funds become available to the COE to conduct Red River Basin Watershed Study, the Commission would be consider being the local sponsor. Commissioner Fleming opposed this motion.

Hall Ponderosa v. Louisiana State Land Office Litigation - By motion of Commissioner Dupuy, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, and unanimously approved, legal counsel was instructed to intervene in the Hall Ponderosa v. the Louisiana State Land Office lawsuit in order to protect the property rights of the Red River Waterway Commission in the Coushatta Oxbow Lake.

c) Recreation

Recreation Area Status Report - A prepared report was provided in the meeting packet. Mr. Mike Boydston noted that there had been 217,000 visitors to the District recreational facilities. He also gave a brief update regarding current maintenance projects on-going including ramp clearing, minor dredging and dock repairs. He also reported that the Stoner Avenue north ramp was still closed due to the existence of large sandbar just off the entrance to the ramp, preventing boaters from launching from that ramp. However, the south ramp at Stoner as well as both ramps across the river at the Teague facility are open. Mr. Boydston also reported that the Dragon Boat Races event in Alexandria was a huge success this year.

As a final note, Commissioner Crutchfield noted that the Committee would meet in June to discuss recreation are priorities for 2013 and encouraged the Commissioners to contact the staff by June 8, 2012 with any projects they would like to see on the list for consideration, so that this information may be provided to the Commissioners in the June meeting packet.

d) Ports

Funding Request from Caddo-Bossier Port Commission - By motion of Commissioner Fleming, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, the Commission unanimously approved the funding request from the Caddo-Bossier Port Commission for \$2.5 million for the Ronpak project in exchange for the Port agreeing to expend designated funds per year on maritime activities for the purpose of increasing tonnage on the river. Legal counsel was instructed to draft a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the specific terms and conditions to be consider by the Commission at the June 20, 2012 Commission meeting.

e) Public Awareness & Marketing

Marketing Update - A prepared report was provided.

f) Personnel - No report

g) Revenue, Banking & Budget

Approval of 2011 Audit Report - By motion of Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the Commission unanimously approved the 2011 Audit Report.

h) Legislative - No report

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Authority to Attend NRPA/GRPA Playground Safety Course - By motion of Commissioner Fletcher, seconded by Commissioner Fleming, the Commission unanimously approved travel expenses and registration fees for Mr. DeWitt Daigre to travel to Covington, Georgia to attend a NRPA/GRPA Playground Safety Course, September 24-26, 2012.

8. STATUS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY/ENGINEERING REPORT - Prepared reports were provided and Mr. Colin Brown gave a brief update regarding active projects.

9. GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT - Mr. Greg Upton reported that the Bossier District Judge had dismissed the lawsuit brought to court by the two families of drowning victims on Red River in Shreveport/Bossier area the spring of 2011.

10. CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT - None

11. RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION - Mr. Rich Brontoli gave a brief update on legislative budgetary activities. He noted that his next trip to Washington, D.C. to meet with congressional members and/or their staff will be during the first week in October, 2012.

12. OTHER BUSINESS - None

13. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - None

14. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct at this time, by motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned.

JAMES F. MAXEY
SECRETARY/TREASURER

LARRY ARDOIN
INTERIM ACTING CHAIR