

MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
FEBRUARY 19, 2014
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 Chair, Mr. Murphy J. LeDoux, Jr., 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 offer any comments they may have regarding the agenda. However, no comments were offered.

Present: Acting Chair, Mr. Murphy J. LeDoux, Jr., Commissioner Doug Brown, Commissioner Paul Fleming, Commissioner Randell Fletcher, Commissioner Andrew J. Hodges, III, Commissioner David Jones, Commissioner James F. Maxey, Commissioner Alvin Owens, Commissioner Rogers M. Prestridge, Commissioner Larry K. Sayes, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

Absent: Commissioner David L. Crutchfield, II

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

Others Present: Sharon Balfour, Robin Cosenza, Jessica Broadway, Kathryn Carlson, Bob Munson

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 Fletcher, seconded by Commissioner Brown, the minutes of the January 22, 2014 meeting were unanimously approved.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

By motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, Financial Statement and Fund Balance Report for December, 2013 and the Expenditures, Financial Statements, Investment Reports, & Fund Balance Report for the month of January, 2014 were unanimously approved.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Contracts

Consideration of Mowing Bids for Ben Routh, Boyce and Lock & Dam # 2 - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Owens, the Commission unanimously approved award of a three-year mowing contract for the Ben Routh, Brouillette, and Lock & Dam #2 recreation areas to Green's Mowing Service for a bid amount of \$1,225.00 per mowing cycle

b) Land Management, Legal Affairs & Affirmative Action

Authority to Re-Appraise Leasebacks expiring in 2014 - By motion of Commissioner Hodges, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and unanimously approved, staff was authorized to proceed with the re-appraisal process for leasebacks expiring in 2014.

Consideration of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Stephen F. Austin University - By motion of Commissioner Hodges, seconded by Commissioner Prestridge, the Commission unanimously approved the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas, regarding their Giant Salvinia research program.

Reclassification of Dredgefill Lease Properties - By motion of Commissioner Hodges, seconded by Commissioner Sayes, the Commission unanimously approved the reclassification of two bid lease properties into the newly created classification of Dredge Fill with a minimum bid amount requirement of \$12.00 per acre and instructed staff to re-advertise for the lease of those properties. These two properties are 77.8 acres at Hadden-Ft. DeRussy, Tracts 4A, B, C & D and 117 acres at Wilkerson Point Realignment.

Consideration of Rio Rojo, LLC Bridge Structure at St. Maurice Lake - By motion of Commissioner Hodges, seconded by Commissioner Prestridge, and approved, staff was instructed to request that the law firm of McCoy, Roberts & Begnaud, LLC, issue a demand letter to Rio Rojo, LLC, requiring that they totally remove the entire bridge structure at St. Maurice Lake within ninety (90) days or the Commission will have it removed at the expense of Rio Rojo, LLC. Commissioners Owens and Fletcher abstained.

c) Recreation

By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, and with no comments from the audience when called for, the Commission unanimously approved an amendment to the agenda to add the following item:

Consideration of Night Disc Golf Tournament at Ft. Buhlow Recreational Area - By motion of Commissioner Owens, seconded by Commissioner Prestridge, the Commission unanimously approved authorization for the staff to approve night-time disc golf tournaments as may be requested to be held at the Ft. Buhlow Recreational Facility, which is currently classified as a day-use only facility.

Recreation Area Status Report - Mr. Mike Boydston highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 66,000 visitors in the District recreation areas during the month of January, 2014. He also reported that the weevil program for the control of Giant Salvinia is progressing with some

success in having weevils able to survive the colder temperatures, thus enabling the continuation of the vegetation control measures through the winter months.

d) **Ports** - No report

e) **Public Awareness & Marketing**

Marketing Update - A prepared report was provided in the meeting packet. Mr. Ken Guidry reported that he has interview several candidates for the position of Marketing Director and hopes to reach a final decision to make a job offer within the following weeks.

f) **Personnel** -No report

g) **Revenue, Banking & Budget** - No report

h) **Legislative** - No report

7. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** - Mr. Guidry took this opportunity to remind any Commissioner wishing to participate in the Congressional visitation trip to Washington, D.C., March 24-28, 2014, to please contact the Commission office in order to have the appropriate travel arrangements taken care of. He also reported that the COE has approved the appropriate permits for the transferring of water from Red River into Cane River.

8. **STATUS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY/ENGINEERING REPORT** - Prepared reports were provided in the meeting packets. Mr. Colin Brown gave a brief status report on active projects.

9. **GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** - No report

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

11. **RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION** - No report

12. **OTHER BUSINESS** - None report

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

14. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

By motion of Commissioner Fleming, seconded by Commissioner Hodges and unanimously approved, the Commission entered into Executive Session to discuss the following matters of litigation:

Hall Ponderosa v. State of Louisiana

Docket No. 35585 - 39th Judicial District Court

Red River Parish

Immediately following Executive Session, by motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Jones and unanimously approved, the Commission entered into Regular Session.

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

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
CHAIR

MURPHY J. LeDOUX, JR.
ACTING