

MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
APRIL 16, 2014
10:00 AM
COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS
NATCHITOCHE, LA

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, 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

Absent: Commissioner David L. Crutchfield, II, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

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. Robert Vinet - Marketing Director, Mr. Greg Upton - Legal Counsel.

Others Present: Robin Cosenza, Rich Brontoli, Jennifer Hawkins, Johnny Martin, Neil Martin, Ben Bethard, Bob Munson

3. **APPROVAL OF REVISED AGENDA**

By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Jones, 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 Hodges, the minutes of the March 19, 2014, meeting were unanimously approved.

5. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

By motion of Commissioner Hodges, seconded by Commissioner Jones, the Expenditures, Financial Statements, Investment Reports, & Fund Balance Report for the month of March, 2014 were unanimously approved.

6. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) **Contracts**

Consideration of Change Order #1-Ben Routh Boat Dock Project - By motion of Commissioner Fletcher, seconded by Commissioner Maxey, the Commission unanimously approved Change Order #1 of the Ben Routh Boat Dock Project, thereby extending the length of the contract by 21 days due to adverse weather conditions.

Approval of Change Order #2/Ft. Buhlow & Montgomery Dock Facilities - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Brown, the Commission unanimously approved Change Order #2 of the Ft. Buhlow & Montgomery Dock Facilities Project resulting in a 28 day extension due to adverse weather conditions, as well as a decrease of \$21,770.00 in the contract based on final measured quantities and stipulated damages.

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

Authority to Award Leaseback at Hadden/Ft. DeRussy, Tract 4E - By motion of Commissioner Hodges, seconded by Commissioner Sayes, the Commission unanimously approved award of a leaseback for 5.4 acres at Hadden/Ft. DeRussy, Tract 4E to Mr. Doyle Loftin for a total of \$486 for a five year term.

Authority to Award Bid Lease at Hadden/Ft. DeRussy, Tracts 4A, B, C, & D - By motion of Commissioner Hodges, seconded by Commissioner Sayes, the Commission unanimously approved award of a bid lease for 77.8 acres at Hadden/Ft. DeRussy, Tracts 4 A, B, C, & D to Mr. Joe Smetak, Jr., for a total bid amount of \$4,862.50 for a five year term.

Authority to Award Bid Lease at Wilson Point Realignment - By motion of Commissioner Hodges, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, the Commission unanimously approved award of a bid lease for 117 acres at Wilson Point Realignment to Mr. John Todd for a total bid amount of \$7,020.00 for a five year term.

Authority to Award Leaseback/Grappe Cutoff, Tracts 2 & 3 and Pool 3, Tract 7 - By motion of Commissioner Hodges, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, the Commission unanimously approved award of a leaseback of 51 acres at Grappe Cutoff, Tracts 2 & 3 and Pool 3, Tract 7 to Dr. Robert Craig for a total of \$3,825.00 for a five year term.

Approval of Wildlife Development & Management Proposal - By motion of Commissioner Hodges, seconded by Commissioner Jones, the Commission unanimously approved the Wildlife Development & Management Proposal for the Little River and Dewey Wills Mitigation Projects as required by the USACOE.

c) **Recreation**

Recreation Area Status Report - Mr. Mike Boydston highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 161,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of March, 2014.

d) Ports

Approval of CEA with Alexandria Regional Port Authority/Cool Planet - By motion of Commissioner Fleming, seconded by Commissioner Owens, the Commission unanimously approved the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Alexandria Regional Port Authority regarding Cool Planet with the addition of language stipulating the intent of Cool Planet to utilize barge traffic on the Red River and contingent upon the approval of the Guaranty Agreement by Cool Planet.

Approval of Guaranty Agreement/Cool Planet - By motion of Commissioner Fleming, seconded by Commissioner Owens, the Commission unanimously approved the Guaranty Agreement with Cool Planet requiring operational status by December 31, 2015 and the production of 250,000 gallons of bio-mass fuels.

e) Public Awareness & Marketing

Marketing Update - A prepared report was provided in the meeting packet. Mr. Robert Vinet highlighted recent activities in Washington, D.C. and past conferences attended, as well as up-coming events.

f) Personnel - No report

g) Revenue, Banking & Budget

Announcement: 2014 Tax Millage Adoption is Scheduled for May 21, 2014 - Acting Chair, Mr. Murphy J. LeDoux, Jr., announced that the Red River Waterway Commission will adopt the 2014 Tax Millage Assessment rates during the May 21, 2014 Commission meeting to be held beginning at 10:00 AM at the Commission Headquarters located at 5941 Highway 1 Bypass in Natchitoches, Louisiana.

Approval of Audit Compliance Questionnaire - By motion of Commissioner Fletcher, seconded by Commissioner Sayes, the Commission unanimously approved the 2013 Audit Compliance Questionnaire and authorized the Executive Director and Secretary/Treasurer to execute same.

h) Legislative - No report

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Arkansas & Red Rivers Workshop/Tulsa, Oklahoma/May 14-15, 2014 - By motion of Commissioner Fleming, seconded by Commissioner Owens, the Commission unanimously approved reimbursement of expenses for the Commissioners and staff to attend the Arkansas & Red River Workshop in Tulsa, Oklahoma, May 14-15, 2014.

RRVA Texarkana Conference/Texarkana, Texas/June 4, 2014 - By motion of Commissioner Owens, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, the Commission unanimously approved reimbursement of expenses for Commissioners and staff to attend the RRVA Texarkana Conference in Texarkana, Texas, June 3-4, 2014.

8. STATUS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY/ENGINEERING REPORT - Prepared reports were provided in the meeting packets. Mr. Colin Brown gave a brief update regarding active projects. At this time, Commissioner Prestridge, asked the staff to arrange a tour of the recreational facilities for the Commissioners.

9. GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT - No report

10. CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT - No report

11. RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION - Mr. Rich Brontoli highlighted up-coming events and gave a brief update regarding congressional activities relative to Red River funding issues.

12. OTHER BUSINESS - None

13. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - No comments

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

a) Hall Ponderosa v. State of Louisiana
Docket No. 35585 - 39th Judicial District Court
Red River Parish

b) Morgan's Landing, Inc.
10th Judicial District Court
Suit # 77390-B
Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana

Immediately following Executive Session, by motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Brown and unanimously approved, the Commission entered into Regular Session. No action was taken at this time as a result of the Executive Session.

15. ADJOURNMENT

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

JAMES F. MAXEY
SECRETARY/TREASURER

MURPHY J. LeDOUX, JR.
ACTING CHAIR