

MINUTES  
OF THE  
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING  
MAY 21, 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 David L. Crutchfield, II, Commissioner Paul Fleming, Commissioner Randell Fletcher, Commissioner Andrew J. Hodges, III, Commissioner David Jones, Commissioner James F. Maxey, Commissioner Larry K. Sayes, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

**Absent:** Commissioner Doug Brown, Commissioner Alvin Owens, Commissioner Rogers M. Prestridge

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

**Others Present:** Eugene Lively, Barry Sullivan, Skip Martin, Robin Cosenza, Jessica Broadway, Bob Munson, Mike Renacker, Phillip Rogers, Katy Breaux

3. **APPROVAL OF REVISED AGENDA**

By motion of Commissioner Fletcher, seconded by Commissioner Fleming, 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 Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Fleming, the minutes of the April 16, 2014 meeting were unanimously approved.

5. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

By motion of Commissioner Fletcher, seconded by Commissioner Sayes, the Expenditures, Financial Statements, Investment Reports, & Fund Balance Report for April, 2014 were unanimously approved.

6. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) **Contracts**

**Authority to Seek Proposals for Alexandria Levee Park Waterline Project & Amend Budget** - By motion of Acting Chair, Mr. Murphy J, LeDoux, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Hodges, and unanimously approved, the staff was authorized to seek bids for the Alexandria Levee Park Waterline project and bring the proposals back before the Committee/Commission for approval. The budget amendment will be approved next month.

**Consideration of Proposals & Amend Budget/Two Utility Vehicles** - By motion of Acting Chair LeDoux, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, and unanimously approved, the Commission authorized the purchase of a four person UTV with a top, a Polaris Ranger at a cost of \$13,372.97, and a two person UTV, a John Deere Gator at a cost of \$10,191.17, and to amend the budget accordingly.

**Consideration of Bids/Grand Ecore RV Park** - By motion of Acting Chair LeDoux, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission voted unanimously to reject all bids as being over budget and the staff was instructed to meet with interested Commissioners regarding redesign of the project.

**Consideration of Change Order #2/Ben Routh Boat Dock Project** - By motion of Acting Chair LeDoux, seconded by Commissioner Sayes, the Commission unanimously approved Change Order #2 of the Ben Routh Boat Dock Facility for a price decrease of \$8,809.91.

**Approval of CEA/Shreveport-Bossier Sports Commission** - By motion of Acting Chair LeDoux, seconded by Commissioner Jones, the Commission unanimously approved the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Shreveport-Bossier Sports Commission for the funding assistance of \$30,000.00 to be used for promoting sports events on the Red River in Caddo and Bossier Parishes, namely the following events:

1. Bassmaster Central Open/April 24-26, 2014
2. The Bass Federation Regional High School Championship/September/October, 2014
3. Major League Fishing/Fall of 2014
4. Bass Champs/October 8-13, 2014

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

**Authority to Award Bid Lease/Pool 3, Tract 70** - By motion of Commissioner Hodges, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the Commission unanimously approved award of the bid lease of 24.6 acres at Pool 3, Tract 70 to Stephen Cameron for \$42.50 per acre, totaling \$5,227.50 for a five year term.

**Authority to Award Bid Lease/Colfax Revetment, Tract 5** - By motion of Commissioner Hodges, seconded by Commissioner Jones, the Commission unanimously approved award of bid lease of 34.6 acres at the Colfax Revetment, Tract 5, to Steve Tyler for \$26.01 per acre, totaling \$4,500.00 for a five year term.

**Authority to Award Bid Lease/Lock & Dam 2, Tract 3** - By motion of Commissioner Hodges, seconded by Commissioner Sayes, the Commission unanimously approved award of bid lease of 11 acres at Lock & Dam #2,

Tract 3 to the Big Lake Hunting Club for a bid amount of \$21.00 per acre, totaling \$1,155.00 for a five year term.

**Request for Extension of Land Use Permit/Ft. Buhlow Bridge Construction** - By motion of Commissioner Hodges, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved the time extension of a Land Use Permit for the Ft. Buhlow Bridge Construction project to Jensen Construction Company at a cost \$17,355.00 for the additional 26 month period.

**c) Recreation**

**Recreation Area Status Report** - Mr. Mike Boydston highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 178,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during April, 2014.

**d) Ports**

**Consideration of Cool Planet Revisions to Guaranty Agreement** - By motion of Commissioner Fleming, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved the revisions to the Guaranty Agreement with Cool Planet.

**National Maritime Day Resolution** - By motion of Commissioner Fleming, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved the National Maritime Day Resolution (See Attached Resolution), recognizing May 22 each year as National Maritime Day.

**e) Public Awareness & Marketing**

**Marketing Update** - A prepared report was provided in the meeting packet. Mr. Robert Vinet gave a brief update on meetings and conferences he has attended during the past month and noted upcoming events listed on the revised calendar of events provided to the Commissioners.

**f) Personnel** - No report

**g) Revenue, Banking & Budget**

**Adoption of 2014 Tax Millage Assessment Rates** - By motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved the adoption of 1.52 mills tax for capital outlay and .82 mills tax for operations and maintenance for the 2014 tax year with a roll call vote as noted below. Comments were called for from the public, however, none were offered. (See Attached Resolution)

AYES

Chair Murphy J. LeDoux

Commissioner David L. Crutchfield, II

Commissioner A. Paul Fleming

Commissioner Randell A. Fletcher

Commissioner Andrew J. Hodges, III

Commissioner W. David Jones

Commissioner James F. Maxey

Commissioner Michael Simpson

NAYS- None

ABSENT

Commissioner James Douglas Brown

Commissioner W. Alvin Owens

Commissioner Rogers M. Prestridge

ABSTENTIONS - None

**h) Legislative** - No report

7. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** - No report

8. **STATUS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY/ENGINEERING REPORT** - Prepared reports were provided.

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

10. **CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT**

Mr. Skip Martin gave a brief update regarding dredging funding. He noted that the survey crew continues its inspection of the river and that dredging activities should begin next week at Lock & Dam No. 2. Mr. Colin Brown informed the COE members present that several complaints have been received regarding siltation at the opening to the Poland Oxbow, impeding access to that location. Mr. Martin also reported that the COE has received requests for the construction of boat docks on the river for which the COE is in the process of assessing the impact of those boat docks to commercial navigation.

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

12. **OTHER BUSINESS** - None

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

14. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

By motion of Commissioner Fleming, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, 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 - 39<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court**  
**Red River Parish**

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

Immediately following Executive Session, by motion of Commissioner Hodges, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield 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 Fleming, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned.

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JAMES F. MAXEY

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MURPHY J. LeDOUX, JR.

SECRETARY/TREASURER

ACTING CHAIR

**RESOLUTION**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by motion of W. David Jones, seconded by David L. Crutchfield, II, that the following millage(s) are hereby levied on the 2014 tax roll on all property subject to taxation by the Red River Waterway Commission:

**MILLAGE**

**TAX FOR CAPITAL OUTLAY** **1.52 mills**

**TAX FOR OPERATION & MAINTENANCE** **0.82 mills**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the proper administrative officials of the Parishes of Avoyelles, Bossier, Caddo, Grant, Natchitoches, Rapides, and Red River, State of Louisiana, be and they are hereby empowered, authorized, and directed to spread said taxes, as hereinabove set forth, upon the assessment roll of said Parishes for the year 2014, and to make the collection of the taxes imposed for and on behalf of the taxing authority, according to law, and that the taxes herein levied shall become a permanent lien and privilege on all property subject to taxation as herein set forth, and collection thereof shall be enforceable in the manner provided by law.

The foregoing resolution was read in full, the roll was called on the adoption thereof, and the resolution was adopted by the following votes:

**YEAS:**

- Commissioner David L. Crutchfield, II**
- Commissioner A. Paul Fleming**
- Commissioner Randell A. Fletcher**
- Commissioner Andrew J. Hodges, III.**
- Commissioner William David Jones**
- Commissioner James F. Maxey**
- Commissioner Larry K. Sayes**
- Commissioner Michael Simpson**

**NAYS: -0-**

**ABSTAINED: -0-**

**ABSENT:**

- Commissioner James Douglas Brown**
- Commissioner W. Alvin Owens**
- Commissioner Rogers M. Prestridge**

**CERTIFICATE**

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of the resolution adopted at the board meeting held on May 21, 2014, at which meeting a quorum was present and voting.

Natchitoches, Louisiana, this 27<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2014.

\_\_\_\_\_  
James F. Maxey, Secretary/Treasurer



**NATIONAL MARITIME DAY  
RESOLUTION**

**BY MOTION** of A. Paul Fleming, seconded by David L. Crutchfield, II, and unanimously approved that;

**WHEREAS**, on May 22, 1819, the steamship *The Savannah* set sail from Savannah, Georgia on the first successful transoceanic voyage under steam propulsion, thus making a material contribution to the advancement of ocean transportation, and

**WHEREAS**, on May 20, 1933, the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled and approved that May 22 of each year shall be designated and known as National Maritime Day, and

**WHEREAS**, during WW II in what became the world's largest sealift operation, more than 250,000 members of the American Merchant Marine served their country, with more than 6,700 giving their lives, hundreds being detained as prisoners of war and more than 800 ships being sunk or damaged, and

**WHEREAS**, waterways have enabled much of the commerce that has expanded America's economy, sprouted cities near waterways and facilitated vast domestic and international commerce crucial to our economy today, and

**WHEREAS**, merchant mariners have served America with distinction throughout our history, but especially at critical moments of war and natural disaster, and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Merchant Marine and thousands of other workers in our Nation's maritime industry continue to make immeasurable contributions to our economic strength and our ongoing efforts to build a more peaceful world, and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Merchant Marine also shepherds the safe passage of American goods, move exports to customers around the world, support the flow of domestic commerce on our maritime highways, strengthen our Nation's economy, bolster job creation and, along with the transportation industry, employ Americans on ships and tugs, and in ports, along the Red River, and

**WHEREAS**, it is the desire of the Red River Waterway Commission to increase the awareness of the maritime industry within its boundaries of seven (7) Northwest and Central Louisiana parishes: Caddo, Bossier, Red River, Natchitoches, Grant, Rapides and Avoyelles, as well as, throughout the State of Louisiana and Nation.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Red River Waterway Commission, joins the President of the United States of America in proclaiming May 22, 2014 as National Maritime Day and calls upon the citizens of Caddo, Bossier, Red River, Natchitoches, Grant, Rapides and Avoyelles to celebrate this observance, meeting in Natchitoches, Louisiana, on May 21, 2014, does hereby unanimously adopt this Resolution, and;

**CERTIFICATE**

I, James F. Maxey, Secretary/Treasurer of the Red River Waterway Commission, do hereby declare that the above Resolution was adopted at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission on \_\_\_\_\_, at Natchitoches, Louisiana, at which meeting a quorum was present and voting.

Natchitoches, Louisiana, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

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JAMES F. MAXEY  
SECRETARY/TREASURER