



**MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
JUNE 18, 2014
10:00 AM
COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS
NATCHITOCHEES, LOUISIANA**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Red River Waterway Commission was called to order by Commission Chair, Mr. Murphy J. LeDoux, Jr., in the Board Room of the Red River Waterway Commission Office located at 5941 Highway 1 Bypass 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. Mr. Greg Hall of Hal Ponderosa, LLC, upon introducing himself, offered comments regarding a matter of litigation and requested that he be allowed to negotiate a settlement with the Commission regarding that matter. Chair LeDoux informed Mr. Hall that the Commission would discuss the matter during Executive Session, and not during the open meeting, and that the Commission would relay any settlement discussions and/or offers through their legal counsel, Mr. Greg Upton and the Executive Director, Mr. Ken Guidry. Mr. Tommy Wright also addressed the Commission at this time with a question regarding this matter, and Mr. LeDoux informed Mr. Wright that this period was a period of comments from the public and that the matter would be discussed during Executive Session. At this point, Mr. Ben Bethard, attorney for Hall Ponderosa, LLC, addressed the Commission and requested that he be allowed to address the Commission in an effort to negotiate a settlement to the lawsuit. Once again, Mr. LeDoux informed Mr. Bethard that the Commission would discuss the matter during Executive Session and that any further discussions would be relayed through Mr. Upton and/or Mr. Guidry.

Present: Acting Chair, Murphuy J. LeDoux, Jr., Commissioner Doug Brown, Commissioner David L. Crutchfield, II, 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: None

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: Rich Brontoli, Katy Breaux, Tommy Wright, Greg Hall, Ben Bethard, Linda Brown, Jessica Broadway, Robin Cosenza, Bob Munson

3. APPROVAL OF REVISED AGENDA

By motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, 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 Crutchfield, the minutes of the May 21, 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 May, 2014 were unanimously approved.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Contracts

Approval of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with City of Alexandria/ALP Comfort Station - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Owens, the Commission approved the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the City of Alexandria regarding funding up to \$550,000 for the Alexandria Levee Park Comfort Station. Commissioner Crutchfield abstained from voting.

Authority to Advertise/Shreveport Riverview Phase II - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and unanimously approved, staff was authorized to advertise for construction bids for the Shreveport Riverview Phase II project.

b) Land Management, Legal Affairs & Affirmative Action

Authority to Award Leaseback/Pool 5, Tract 67 - By motion of Commissioner Hodges, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved award of a leaseback of 40 acres at Pool 5, Tract 67 to Mr. Fred Ratzburg for \$2,920.00 for a five year term.

Authority to Award Leaseback/Pool 3, Tract 75 - By motion of Commissioner Hodges, seconded by Commissioner Brown, the Commission unanimously approved award of the leaseback of 23.3 acres at Pool 3, Tract 75 to Mr. Roger Byone for \$2,392.50 for a five year term.

c) Recreation

Recreation Area Status Report - Mr. Mike Boydston highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 169,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of May, 2014. He noted that the recent fishing tournaments held at Grand Ecore and Colfax were well attended.

d) Ports

Approval of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Avoyelles Parish Port Commission/EDA Funding Match

- By motion of Commissioner Fleming, seconded by Commissioner Sayes, the Commission unanimously approved the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Avoyelles Parish Port Commission to provide \$1 million of non-federal matching grant funds for roadway, water, and sewer infrastructure improvements.

Approval of the Cool Planet, Inc., Cooperative Endeavor Agreement - By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Owens, the Commission unanimously approved the Cool Planet, Inc., Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with one correction, changing the Operational/Production Date being April 30, 2016.

e) Public Awareness & Marketing

Marketing Update - A prepared report was provided in the meeting packet.

f) Personnel - No report

g) Revenue, Banking & Budget

Approval of 2013 Audit Report - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved the 2013 Audit Report.

h) Legislative - No report

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT - Mr. Guidry announced that the Land Management, Legal Affairs and Affirmative Action Committee would meet next month on July 15, 2014 at 5:00 pm to discuss Commission property issues. He also reported that he is still actively seeking applications for a staff engineer position.

8. STATUS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY/ENGINEERING REPORT - Prepared reports were provided in the meeting packets.

9. GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT - No report

10. CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT - No report

11. RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION - Mr. Rich Brontoli gave a brief update on the following issues:

➤ Met with COE members and Port directors to discuss budget issues, dredging needs and reduced lock service schedules.

➤ Change of Command at Vicksburg COE

➤ House and Senate working on mark-ups for appropriations.

➤ Up-coming visits with congressional members being planned.

12. OTHER BUSINESS - None

13. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - At this time, Mr. Bethard requested that he and his client be allowed to remain in the meeting during the Executive Session to negotiate a settlement with the Commission, or at least, not be excused. Chair LeDoux informed Mr. Bethard that the Executive Session would be a closed session and that he and his client would not be invited to participate in those discussions, that any further discussion with him with regard to settlement issues would be through legal counsel, Mr. Greg Upton, and/or Mr. Ken Guidry.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION

By motion of Commissioner Fleming, seconded by Commissioner Jones 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 Fleming, 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.

JAMES F. MAXEY
SECRETARY/TREASURER

MURPHY J. LeDOUX, JR.
ACTING CHAIR