



**MINUTES  
OF THE  
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING  
AUGUST 20, 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 Commission 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. Murphuy J. LeDoux, Jr., Commissioner Doug Brown, Commissioner Paul Fleming, Commissioner Randell Fletcher, Commissioner Andrew J. Hodges, III, Commissioner David Jones, Commissioner Rogers M. Prestridge, Commissioner Larry K. Sayes, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

**Absent:** Commissioner David L. Crutchfield, II, Commissioner James F. Maxey, Commissioner Alvin Owens,

**RRWC Staff Members Present:** Mr. Ken Guidry - Executive Director, Mr. Mike Boydstun - 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:** Mr. Rich Brontoli, Mr. Lanny Buck, Mr. Buddy Stroud, Ms. Brooke Teddlie, Ms. Robin Cosenza

**3. APPROVAL OF REVISED AGENDA**

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

**5. TREASURER'S REPORT**

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

**6. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) **Contracts** - No report

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

**Authority to Award Timber Contract/Lock & Dam 4, Tracts 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6/Pool 4, Tract 2** - By motion of Commissioner Hodges, seconded by Commissioner Prestridge, and unanimously approved, the Commission rejected all bids and instructed staff to revise the bid package and re-advertise allowing for 30 months to complete harvesting of the timber at Lock and Dam #4, Tracts 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 and Pool 4, Tract 2.

**Authority to Award Timber Contract/Kateland Realignment, Tracts 1, 3, 5 & 7** - By motion of Commissioner Hodges, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, and unanimously approved, the Commission rejected all bids and instructed staff to revise and the bid package and re-advertise allowing for 30 months to complete harvesting of the timber at Kateland Realignment, Tracts 1, 3, 5 & 7.

c) **Recreation**

**Recreation Area Status Report** - Mr. Mike Boydstun highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 238,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of July, 2014.

d) **Ports** - No report

e) **Public Awareness & Marketing**

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

**Consideration of Resolution Regarding LA 3132 Inner Loop Expressway Extension** - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Fleming, the Commission unanimously approved a resolution (SEE ATTACHED) supporting the Highway 3132 extension in the interest of safety and the control of traffic in and out of the Caddo-Bossier Port facility.

f) **Personnel** - No report

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

h) **Legislative** \_ nor report

**7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**Consideration of Continuing Education Request** - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Fleming, the Commission unanimously approved the Continuing Education request submitted by Ms. Lauren A. Cozad, noting that the Commission would pay for tuition, books and mileage expenses for Ms. Cozad to travel to and from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge to attend classes required in obtaining her Masters Degree in the field of biology, in exchange for five (5) years of continued service to the Red River Waterway Commission in implementing the Giant Salvinia control weevil

program.

**Texas Water Conservation Association/San Antonio, TX/October 15-17, 2014** -By motion of Commissioner Fleming, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, the Commission unanimously approved travel expenses associated with Ms. Lauren A. Cozad plus one other employee attending the Texas Water Conservation Association Conference scheduled for October 15-17, 2014 in San Antonio, Texas.

**NRPA Playground Safety Institute Re-certification Test/The Woodlands, TX/October 27-29, 2014** - By motion of Commissioner Fletcher, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, the Commission unanimously approved travel expenses for Mr. Louis DeWitt Daigre to attend the NRPA Playground Safety Institute Re-Certification Test program scheduled for October 27-29, 2014 at The Woodlands, Texas.

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

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

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

11. **RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION**

Mr. Rich Brontoli reported on the following issues:

- The USACE has begun dredging operations on Red River.
- Periodic closures of the locks and dam will be scheduled during the coming months for general maintenance activities of the lock structures.
- He will schedule meetings with various congressional members and/or staff members in the coming months.
- Change of Command ceremonies are scheduled for the last week in August, 2014, for the Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District office.

12. **OTHER BUSINESS** - Mr. Ken Guidry reminded those present that due to the excessive heat, the attire is very casual for the Giant Salvinia Control Field Day activities to be held at the Aquatic Research Station located in Lena, Louisiana, on Tuesday, August 26, 2014.

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

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: (Commissioner Michael Simpson excused himself from the meeting room during the discussion of Executive Session items.)

**Hall Ponderosa v. State of Louisiana**

**Docket No. 35585 - 39<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court**

**Red River Parish**

**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 Jones, seconded by Commissioner Hodges and unanimously approved, the Commission entered into Regular Session. By motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Hodges and approved, the agenda was revised to allow for the following action: (Commissioner Michael Simpson abstained.)

**Consideration of Execution of Consent Judgement** - By motion of Commissioner Sayes, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, staff was authorized to execute a Consent Judgement Settlement at some point, to be determined by staff and legal counsel to be in the best interest of the Commission, and prior to the hearing regarding the Hall Ponderosa v. The State of Louisiana litigation matter. Commissioner Michael Simpson abstained.

There was no action taken with regard to the *Morgan's Landing, Inc.*, matter at this time.

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

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JAMES F. MAXEY  
SECRETARY/TREASURER

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MURPHY J. LeDOUX, JR.  
ACTING CHAIR