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**MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
MAY 20, 2015
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, 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 David L. Crutchfield, II, Commissioner Paul Fleming, Commissioner Randell Fletcher, Commissioner Andrew J. Hodges, III, Commissioner David Jones, Commissioner James F. Maxey, Commissioner Rogers M. Prestridge, Commissioner Larry K. Sayes, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

Absent: Commissioner Alvin Owens

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. Ryan Ingles - Staff Engineer, Mr. Warren Byrd - Assistant Operations & Maintenance Director, Mr. Greg Upton - Legal Counsel.

Others Present: Ms. Robin Cosenza, Mr. Rich Brontoli, Mr. Xingwen Chen, Mr. David Fett Ms. Chelsea Glaspie, Ms. Arlena Acree, Ms. Lisa Willard, Mr. Adam Willard, Mr. George Gehung, Mr. Matthew Kinn, Ms. Jessica Broadway

3. APPROVAL OF REVISED AGENDA

By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and unanimously approved, the agenda was revised. By motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Hodges the revised agenda was approved. Comments from the public were called for, however, none were offered.

Red River Clean-up Presentation - Mr. Adam Willard, along with other members of the Red River Clean-up organization gave a brief presentation regarding their annual event to encourage citizens to participate in picking up debris in and along the banks and tributaries of the Red River in Caddo and Bossier Parishes. Citizens use their private boats, as well as those who walk along the banks, picking up debris and returning it to an established drop location for the event where the debris is sorted for recycling and disposal.

Mr. Matthew Linn of the Caddo Commission also addressed this Commission with a request for funding assistance with this project for outreach efforts to engage others to participate.

There was no action on this matter at this time.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

By motion of Commissioner Fletcher, seconded by Commissioner Prestridge, the minutes of the April 15, 2015 meeting were unanimously approved.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

By motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Brown, the Expenditures, Financial Statements, Investment Reports, & Fund Balance Report for the month of April, 2015 were unanimously approved.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Contracts

Consideration of Playground Surfacing Material Proposals - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved acceptance of the proposal submitted by Rubber Mulch Products, USA in the amount of \$23,900.00 to replace the existing pea gravel playground surfacing for brown rubber mulch surfacing at the Ft. Buhlow Recreation Park.

Consideration of Security Camera Proposal/Grand Ecore - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Brown, the Commission unanimously approved acceptance of the proposal submitted by Bits Technical Corporation in the amount of \$11,831.50 to furnish and install a security camera/recording system at the Grand Ecore boat launch facility.

Consideration of Road Striping Equipment Proposals - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Sayes, and unanimously approved, staff was authorized to purchase a Trueline T2000 road striping unit in the amount of \$4,016.00 along with the necessary paint and glass beads to re-stripe the parking lots in various District parks in need of such.

Consideration of Office Renovation Proposals - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Jones, the Commission unanimously approved acceptance of the proposal submitted by Petron, Inc., in the amount of \$12,500.00 to construct an additional office space within the existing building of the Commission headquarters.

Consideration of Auctioneer Contract - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved award of a two-year contract to

Bonnette Auction Company to provide auctioneering services for the Commission as needed.

Authority to Advertise for Office Parking Lot Renovations - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, and unanimously approved, staff was authorized to advertise for bids for the rehabilitation of the office lot, and to increase the budget and available funds for construction for that project by \$15,000.00.

Consideration of Change Order No. 2/Grand Ecore RV Park - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Maxey, the Commission unanimously approved Change Order No. 2 for a fourteen (14) day time extension to the contract due to weather delays for the Grand Ecore Recreation Area Phase II project.

Consideration of Change Order No. 3/Grand Ecore RV Park - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Fleming, the Commission unanimously approved Change Order No. 3 to increase the contract amount by \$29,920.00 to allow for the installation of an electrical disconnect unit and additional lighting at the entrance sign and flagpole for the Grand Ecore Phase II/RV Park.

Consideration of Change Order No. 7/Shreveport Riverview Phase II - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Jones, the Commission unanimously approved Change Order No. 7 to extend the contract time by 8 days due to weather delays.

Approval of Settlement and Release Document/ELA vs. RRWC, Suit No. 87,330-B - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Brown, the Commission unanimously approved the Settlement and Release Agreement regarding the ELA vs. RRWC, suite No. 87,330-B, as prepared by legal counsel.

b) Land Management, Legal Affairs & Affirmative Action

Consideration of Timber Proposals/Kateland Realignment, Tracts 1, 3, 5 & 7- By motion of Commissioner Sayes, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, the Commission unanimously approved acceptance of the \$55,000.00 bid from Timber Source Group for timber removal at Kateland Realignment, Tracts 1, 3, 5, & 7.

Consideration to Cancel Two Bid Leases/Authority to Re-Advertise/Kateland Real., Tracts 1, 3, 5 & 7 - By motion of Commissioner Sayes, seconded by Commissioner Prestridge, the Commission unanimously approved cancellation of the two existing leases at Kateland Realignment, Tracts 1, 3, 5, & 7 and authorized staff to re-advertise all four tracts as one single lease bid package.

c) Recreation

Recreation Area Status Report - Mr. Mike Boydston highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 173,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of April, 2015. He also reported the following:

- Staff is currently dealing with high river level issues as the river continues to rise. All district boat ramps are currently closed and will remain so until the river falls back to normal elevations and the maintenance staff has been able to clear the ramps of resulting debris and make necessary repairs.
- Design of the Aquatic Research Center to be located at Grand Ecore is progressing.
- The installation of the air condition/heating system in the Colfax RV park washhouse is complete.
- The additional lighting project at the Montgomery Recreation facility is complete.
- Several fishing tournaments which were scheduled to take place on the Red River in the near future are being re-adjusted/re-scheduled due to the current high river level issues.

d) Ports

Consideration of Amendment No. 1 to CEA for Fendering System/CBPC - By motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, the Commission unanimously approved Amendment No. 1 to the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement, increasing the budget for that project by \$398,900 to \$780,000 as the Commission's portion of the total funding for the fendering re-habilitation system at the Caddo-Bossier Port.

Consideration of National Maritime Day Resolution - By motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved the National Maritime Day Resolution. (See Attached Resolution).

e) Public Awareness & Marketing

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

f) Personnel - No report

g) Revenue, Banking & Budget

Adoption of 2015 Tax Millage Rates - By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Simpson and unanimously approved by roll call vote, the Commission adopted its 2015 Tax Millage rates of 1.52 mills for capital outlay and .82 mills for operations and maintenance, for a total of 2.34 mills. (See Attached Resolution)

Approval to Surplus and Dispose of Office Equipment - By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Prestridge, the Commission unanimously approved the Surplus Equipment list as submitted by staff and authorized staff to dispose of the articles in accordance with Commission policy and procedure.

h) Legislative - Mr. Murphy J. LeDoux, Jr., reported that the state legislation has approved authority for the state to donate 425 acres of state owned property from the Department of Health and Hospitals to the City of Pineville for downtown development. It was noted that the DHH needs to be reminded that the Red River Waterway Commission has a servitude over a portion of property in the area for the Ft. Buhlow Recreation Facility, and ensure that the servitude is not affected by the donation.

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT - Mr. Guidry informed the Commissioners that the governor has declared Monday, May 25, 2015, as a state holiday in observance of Memorial Day; thus, the RRWC office will be closed that day.

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

- 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 congressional funding issues and river conditions. He also noted that there will be a Navigation Committee meeting held at the RRWC Headquarters on Tuesday, June 23, 2015, the time to be announced at a later date.

- 12. **OTHER BUSINESS** - None
- 13. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC** - None
- 14. **Executive Session**

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

There was no action taken on this matter at this time.

- 15. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

JAMES F. MAXEY
SECRETARY/TREASURER

MURPHY J. LeDOUX, JR.
ACTING CHAIR

NATIONAL MARITIME DAY
RESOLUTION

BY MOTION of _____, seconded by _____ 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, 2015 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 _____, 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 _____, 2015.

JAMES F. MAXEY
SECRETARY/TREASURER

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, by motion of David L. Crutchfield, II, seconded by Michael Simpson, with comments called for from the public and none offered, that the following millage(s) are hereby levied on the 2015 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 2015, 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: James Douglas Brown
David L. Crutchfield, II
A. Paul Fleming
Randell A. Fletcher
Andrew J. Hodges, III
W. David Jones
James F. Maxey
Rogers M. Prestridge
Larry K. Sayes
Michael Simpson

NAYS: -0-

ABSTAINED: -0-

ABSENT: W. Alvin Owens

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of the resolution adopted at the board meeting held on May 20, 2015, at which meeting a quorum was present and voting.

Natchitoches, Louisiana, this ____ day of _____, 2015.

James F. Maxey, Secretary/Treasurer

