

MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
AUGUST 19, 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 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. Ryan Ingles - Staff Engineer, Mr. Warren Byrd - Assistant Operations & Maintenance Director, Mr. Greg Upton - Legal Counsel.

Others Present: Jessica Broadway, Bob Munson, Robin Cosenza, Arlena Acree

3. **APPROVAL OF REVISED AGENDA**

By motion of Commissioner Owens, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, 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 Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, the minutes of the July 15, 2015 meeting were unanimously approved.

5. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

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

6. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) **Contracts**

Consideration of 2015 CEA/Shreveport-Bossier Sports Commission - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Brown, the Commission unanimously approved the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement document with the Shreveport-Bossier Sports Commission for funding assistance in the amount of \$30,000 to be used for promoting a variety of specific sporting events on the Red River in Caddo & Bossier Parishes.

Consideration of Award of the Ft. Buhlow/Boyce Asphalt Rehabilitation Project - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved award of the Ft. Buhlow/Boyce Asphalt Rehabilitation Project to Progressive Construction in the amount of \$446,013.41 which includes the base bid with all three alternates.

Consideration of Award of Office Parking Lot Renovation Project - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Jones, the Commission unanimously approved award of the Office Parking Renovation Project to Regional Construction, LLC, in the amount of \$96,448.00 which includes the bid plus alternate Number 2.

Ratification of Change Order No. 1/Office Addition Work Contract RRW-684 - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, unanimously approved, the Commission ratified Change Order No. 1 of the Office Addition Work Contract RRW-684 with Petron, LLC, in the amount of \$3,450 for additional requirements in that project.

Request for Authority to Advertise Aquatic Research Center Construction & Amend Budget Accordingly - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, and unanimously approved, staff was authorized to increase the budgeted amount from \$400,000 to \$600,000 for the Aquatic Research Center Construction project at Grand Ecore and to advertise for bids for the project.

Consideration of Change Order #4/Grand Ecore RV Park - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Jones, the Commission unanimously approved Change Order No. 4 for the Grand Ecore RV Park project for an additional 80 days to be added to the contract time due to weather and flood related delays.

Consideration of Approval of Increase to Blount Brothers Contract and Amend Budget Accordingly - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Brown, the Commission unanimously approved an increase in the Blount Brothers Construction contract amount from \$100,000 to \$250,000 to allow for additional dredging related to flooding issues on the Red River.

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

Consideration of Option for Land Lease Renewal/Hadden-Ft. DeRusey, Tracts 45, 46, & 47 - By motion of Commissioner Sayes, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, the Commission unanimously approved the renewal of the lease at Hadden/Ft. DeRussy, Tracts 45, 46, & 47 to Mr. Richard Tassin in the amount of

\$35.55 per acre on 235 acres for a total of \$41,775 for a five year term.

Consideration of Leaseback Renewal/Lock & Dam #1, Tract 1 - By motion of Commissioner Sayes, seconded by Commissioner Prestridge, the Commission unanimously approved the renewal of the leaseback to Agri-South \$15.00 per acre on 106.9 acres for a total of \$8,017.50 for a five year term.

Consideration of Request to Cancel Leaseback Agreement/Pool 3, Tract 63 - By motion of Commissioner Sayes, seconded by Commissioner Jones, the Commission unanimously approved the cancellation of the leaseback at Pool 3, Tract 63 to Mr. Joel Braud with the payment of a \$285 penalty payment from Mr. Braud.

Consideration of CEA/Stephen F. Austin University - By motion of Commissioner Sayes, seconded by Commissioner Brown, the Commission unanimously approved the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Stephen F. Austin University to provide a used 2009 Dodge Ram 2500 Crew Cab Truck to be used by the SFA research staff to travel to and from the RRWC Aquatic Research Center and other areas to carry out their research.

c) Recreation

Recreation Area Status Report - Mr. Mike Boydstun highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 66,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of July, 2015. He also gave a brief status report on various operation and maintenance activities within the district.

d) Ports

Consideration of Policy for Ports Funding Requests - By motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the Commission agreed not to adopt the draft Policy for Ports Funding Requests. Commissioner Fleming opposed the motion.

Discussion of Ports Flood Impacts Priorities - Commissioner Jones reported that the Committee had appointed an Ad-Hoc Committee consisting of Commissioners Prestridge, Simpson and Crutchfield to review the varied flood damages reported by the various ports in the district and to draft a plan/agreement on how the Commission should assist in funding to address those issues.

e) Public Awareness & Marketing

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

f) Personnel - No report

g) Revenue, Banking & Budget

Consideration of Contract with Reliant Investment Management Services - By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Owens, and unanimously approved, staff was instructed to work with Reliant Investment Management Services to develop a contract to establish policy and guidelines for the investment management of \$15 million in RRWC funds for a one year period, and present the contract to the Commission for approval.

h) Legislative - Mr. Bob Munson of the Munson Group presented a prepared report of his activities tracking various legislative issues and their potential impacts to the Red River Waterway Commission. He reported specifically that he had the Commission included as an entity of interest in the transfer of property at the Ft. Buhlow Recreation Area from the Central Louisiana State Hospital in Pineville, Louisiana, to the Pineville Downtown Development District. He explained that he was instrumental in having language inserted into this instrument that allows greater discussion regarding the property that surrounds Ft. Buhlow, which is operated by the Red River Waterway Commission. That instrument is still awaiting signature.

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Aquatic Plant Management Society Conference/Mobile, Alabama/September 14-16, 2015 - By motion Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, the Commission unanimously approved the reimbursement of travel expenses for Mrs. Allie Cozad to attend the Aquatic Plant Management Society Conference in Mobile, Alabama, September 14-16, 2015.

Mr. Guidry also took this opportunity to remind the Commissioners of the National Waterways Conference to be held in Little Rock, Arkansas, September 16-18, 2015 and urged any who wished to attend to contact Mrs. Cathy Rushing in the office to make the necessary arrangements.

Mr. Guidry also informed the Commissioners that, due to the recent flooding, many of the operations and maintenance staff and park rangers have been working a lot of overtime hours, engaged in clean-up operations. As a result, there will be some instances where the Commission will have to issue checks for any employee who exceeds the 240 hour threshold of overtime hours as opposed to receiving compensation time off for those hours. He anticipates that until the parks are totally returned to their previous state prior to the flood, many of these employees will continue to put in excess hours. Mr. Guidry also commended the staff for their efforts during this time and noted that they have been doing an excellent job of getting the parks back into shape.

At this time, Mr. Guidry commented on the Project Pleasant Update and stated that the staff would continue to work with the staff of the Caddo-Bossier Port in identification possible funding needs for that proposed project.

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

9. GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT - No report

10. CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT - No report

11. RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION - A prepared report was provided.

12. OTHER BUSINESS - None

13. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - None

14. 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