

MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
MARCH 16, 2016
10:00 AM
COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS
NATCHITOCHES, LOUISIANA

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Red River Waterway Commission was called to order by Chair Designee, 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: Chair Designee, 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

Absent: Commissioner Alvin Owens, Commissioner Michael Simpson

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

Others Present: Rich Brontoli, Liz McCain, Jessica Broadway, Robin Cosenza, Gloria Thompson, Robert Breedlove

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, the agenda was unanimously approved. Comments from the public were called for, however, none were offered.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

By motion of Commissioner Fletcher, seconded by Commissioner Brown, the minutes of the February 17, 2016 meeting were unanimously approved.

5. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

By motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Expenditures, Financial Statements, Investment Reports, & Fund Balance Report for the month of February, 2016 were unanimously approved.

6. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) **Contracts**

Consideration of Approval of Cooperative Agreement/Shreveport-Bossier Sports Commission/2016 - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Jones, the Commission unanimously approved the Cooperative Agreement with the Shreveport-Bossier Sports Commission for up to \$100,000 and amended the Marketing Budget from \$150,000 to \$220,000 for 2016.

Consideration of Proposal for Bank Stabilization Repairs/Lock & Dam No. 2 Boat Launch - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Brown and unanimously approved, action on this matter was delayed until the April 20, 2016 meeting.

Consideration of Change Order No. 8/Grand Ecore RV Park/Sewer Modifications & Contract Time - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved Change Order No. 8/Grand Ecore RV Park for sewer system modifications and a ten (10) day extension in the contract time resulting in an increase of \$1,449.65 to the contract total.

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

Authority to Revise Acreage and Sell Surplus Property/Pool 3, Tract 75 - By motion of Commissioner Sayes, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, the Commission unanimously approved revision to the surplus property acreage of Pool 3, Tract 75 from 16.6 acres to 12.6 acres and approved the offer of Right of First Refusal and the Act of Sale of 12.6 acres to Roger Byone and Katherine Byone for the appraised value of \$20,160, with a Grant of Servitude on .60 acres of Pool 3, Tract 75.

Authority to Revise Leaseback Acreage/Pool 3, Tract 75 - By motion of Commissioner Sayes, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved the revision to the Leaseback Acreage of Pool 3, Tract 75 from 23.3 acres to 10.5 acres with an appraised value of \$20.50 per acre on the remaining 10.5 acres for a total of \$215.25 annually.

Consideration of Including Red River in the Statewide Public Lake System Alligator Harvest - By motion of Commissioner Sayes, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved including Pools 3, 4, & 5 of J. Bennett Johnston Waterway into the Statewide Public Lake System Alligator Harvest. Staff was further instructed to send correspondence to the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries requesting that Pools 1 & 2 also be included in that program, although the water bottoms of Pools 1 & 2 are state owned.

Consideration of Approval of Consent Form for Aerial Imagery of the Aquatic Research Center - By motion of Commissioner Sayes, seconded by Commissioner Jones, the Commission unanimously approved the Consent Form from Louisiana State University to permit Aerial Imagery of the Aquatic Research Center located in Lena, Louisiana to the U.S. Government.

c) **Recreation**

Natchitoches Parish Funding Request/Hampton Road - By motion of Commissioner Hodges, seconded

by Commissioner Maxey, the Commission approved a Natchitoches Parish funding request of \$1,349,648 for asphaltting the approximate three mile portion of Hampton Road as it provides access to the Natchitoches Recreation Facility owned by the Red River Waterway Commission and instructed staff and general counsel to prepare a Cooperative Endeavor with Natchitoches Parish regarding this matter. Commissioner Fleming and Commissioner Prestridge opposed the motion.

Recreation Area Status Report - Mr. Mike Boydston highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 95,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of February, 2016. He also announced that, while some of the District parks with amenities other than boat ramps are open, all of the RRWC boat ramps on Red River are currently closed due to high river conditions and flooding issues. With the recent heavy rainfall and resulting flooding, additional silting deposition at many of those facilities is anticipated.

d) Ports

Red River Parish Port Update/Funding Request - By motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Brown, the Commission unanimously approved the Red River Parish Port funding request for \$4 million for the purchase of an additional materials handler and a second dock facility at that location and instructed the staff to prepare a Cooperative Agreement with the Red River Parish Port.

e) Public Awareness & Marketing

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

f) Personnel - No report

g) Revenue, Banking & Budget - No report

h) Legislative - Mr. LeDoux had no report. However, Commissioner Sayes commented on House Bill 853 being introduced which would change the way appointments are made to the board of the Avoyelles Parish Port Commission.

7. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** - Mr. Ken Guidry reported that he has begun receiving resume's and conducting interviews for the position of Marketing Director.
8. **STATUS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY/ENGINEERING REPORT** - Prepared reports were provided in the meeting packets. Mr. Colin Brown gave a brief status update of the active projects which are basically currently shut down due to flood conditions. However, the large pavilion at the Ben Routh Recreation Area is substantially complete with Commissioner Sayes expressing favorable comments regarding that facility.
9. **GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** - No report
10. **CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT** - No report
11. **RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION** - Mr. Rich Brontoli commented on various high water and flooding issues, noting that Locks and Dams 2, 3, 4 & 5 are still closed due to high river conditions.
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 Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned.

JAMES F. MAXEY
SECRETARY/TREASURER

MURPHY J. LeDOUX, JR.
CHAIR DESIGNEE