

**MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
NOVEMBER 18, 2020
10:00 AM
GRAND ECORE RV PARK ACTIVITY CENTER
1071 TAUZIN ISLAND ROAD
NATCHITOCHES, LOUISIANA 71457**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Red River Waterway Commission was called to order by Chair Designee, Troy Roussel, in the Activity Center of the Red River Waterway Commission Grand Ecore RV Park located at 1071 Tauzin Island Road in Natchitoches, Louisiana.

2. ROLL CALL

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, Troy Roussel, Commissioner Versa Clark, Commissioner David Crutchfield, II, Commissioner Michael Deville, Commissioner Paul Fleming, Commissioner Randell Fletcher, Commissioner David Jones, Commissioner Ronald Lattier, Commissioner Michael Simpson. In accordance with Louisiana R.S.42.17.1 (Act 302) Commissioner Jacques Goudeau, Commissioner Charles Greer, and Commissioner James Maxey participated virtually.

Absent:

RRWC Staff Members Present: Mr. Colin Brown - Executive Director, Mr. Mike Boydston - Operations & Maintenance Director, Stephanie Bonnette - Executive Assistant, Mr. Luke Pearson - Real Estate Manager, Mr. Ryan Ingles - Engineering Supervisor, Mr. Eric Gilmore - Marketing Director, participating virtually, and Mr. Greg Upton - Legal Counsel.

3. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS & PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD PURSUANT TO LRS 42:14

Others Present: Mr. Richard Brontoli of the Red River Valley Association – participating virtually

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

By motion of Commissioner Fletcher, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the minutes of the October 21, 2020 meeting were unanimously approved by roll call vote.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

By motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Jones, the Expenditures, Financial Statements, Investment Reports, & Fund Balance Report for the month of October 2020 were unanimously approved by roll call vote.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) **Contracts**

1. **Consideration of Approval of Proposals for Dock Repairs at St. Maurice and Natchitoches Recreation Areas/Bid Opens November 16, 2020:** By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved by roll call vote award of bid to Martin Metal Construction in the amount of \$36,417.00.
2. **Consideration of Approval of Proposals for Dock Repairs at Grand Ecore and Colfax Recreation Areas/Bid Opens November 16, 2020:** By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Jones, the Commission unanimously approved by roll call vote award of bid to Skip Converse, Inc. in the amount of \$93,400.00 (base bid plus alternates 1 and 2).

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

1. **Consideration of Authority to Advertise for Public Bid Lease/Lock & Dam 4/Parts of Tracts 1, 8 & 9/30 Acres:** By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved by roll call vote authorizing staff to advertise for public bid lease the currently unleased property that is described as Lock and Dam 4, parts of tracts 1, 8 and 9, consisting of 30 acres at a minimum bid of \$20.00 per acre. The lease will also stipulate that hunting on leased property will be limited to archery only.
2. **Consideration of Approval of Extension of Telecommunication Right-of-Way Agreement/Stoner Recreation Area:** By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved by roll call vote a 20-year extension that becomes eligible at the end of the original 20-year term expiring January 31, 2021 to CenturyLink Communications, LLC. The US Bureau of Labor Statistics was used to calculate the 20-year extension price to be \$22,500.00 for the 20-year extension term.
3. **Consideration of Request for Natural Gas Pipeline Right-of-Way/Pool 5/Tracts 16 & 55:** By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved by roll call vote the request by Exploration Land Services, LLC on behalf of Ibex Midstream Services, LLC at the offered price of \$800.00 per rod for 224.95 rods. A total payment of \$179,960.00 for a 30-inch natural gas pipeline right-of-way.

c) **Recreation**

1. **Consideration of Funding Request/Bossier Parish Police Jury/Teague Trails Extension:** By motion of Commissioner Greer, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved by roll call vote the funding request by the Bossier Parish Police Jury to extend the Teague Trails' pedestrian walkway to Parkway High School at a projected budget of \$1,800,000.00. Staff was instructed to prepare the necessary cooperative endeavor agreements for approval by the Commission.
2. **Recreation Area Status Report**
Mr. Mike Boydston highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 86,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of October 2020.

d) **Ports**

1. **Consideration of Approval Amendment No. 1 Cooperative Endeavor Agreement/Caddo-Bossier Port Commission/100,000 sq foot Warehouse:** By motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved by roll call vote Amendment No. 1 to the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Caddo-Bossier Port. The amendment is a request by the Port to reallocate \$600,000.00 of the already allocated project funds from engineering and related soft costs to construction costs.

e) **Public Awareness & Marketing**

1. **Consideration of Public Memorial Request:** By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Jones, the Commission unanimously approved by roll call vote a policy that the Commission does not allow memorials on Red River Waterway Commission property.

2. **Marketing Update**

A prepared report was provided in the meeting packet. In addition, Marketing Director, Mr. Eric Gilmore discussed:

- Crappie Expo October 2021
- KingKat National Championship in Natchitoches, Louisiana, October 2020
- Shreveport-Bossier Sports Commission working on events for 2021 such as a Bass fishing tournament in March and Kayak Bass fishing in November
- Grand Ecore RV Park has 965 nights booked for the month of November and to date, 721 booked nights in December
- Preparing the 2021 travel calendar for review

f) **Personnel** - None

g) **Revenue, Banking & Budget** - None

h) **Legislative** - None

8. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- Revenue, Banking & Budget Committee to meet November 30, 2021 at 6:00pm at the Grand Ecore RV Park Activity Center
- The 2021 proposed budget will be presented for approval at the Commission's December 16, 2020 monthly meeting
- Reminder to Commissioners that there are three annual training requirements and all must be completed by December 31, 2020

9. **STATUS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY/ENGINEERING REPORT**

Prepared reports were provided in the meeting packet. In addition, Engineering Supervisor, Mr. Ryan Ingles discussed the following:

- There is a request by the Grant Parish Sheriffs' Department to build an additional 25 foot bay to the current facility with four bays. The original Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Grant Parish Sheriffs' Department will be amended to now include the additional 25 foot bay
- The Coushatta Recreation Area Dock Project is now at substantial completion. The final change order for this project will be presented to the Commission at the December regular monthly meeting

10. **GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** - None

11. **CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT** - The Red River Waterway Commission is working with the Vicksburg Corps of Engineers with mitigation property and associated items

12. **RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION** - Mr. Rich Brontoli of the Red River Valley Association, participating virtually, updated the Commission on the following:

- Currently there are no navigational issues on the Red River
- Congress was unable to pass appropriations by November 11, 2020
- Red River Valley Association will host its convention February 2021 at the Horseshoe Riverdome
- The extension of navigation into Arkansas is still moving forward with Section 203 into 2021

13. **OTHER BUSINESS** - None

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

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to conduct at this time, by motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Deville, and unanimously approved by roll call vote, the meeting was adjourned.

JAMES F. MAXEY
SECRETARY/TREASURER

TROY ROUSSELL
CHAIR DESIGNEE