

**MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
October 15, 2025
10:00 AM
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION
5941 HWY 1 BYPASS
NATCHITOCHES, LOUISIANA**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Red River Waterway Commission was called to order by Chair Designee, Troy Roussell, in the Board Room of the Red River Waterway Commission Office located at 5941 Highway 1 By-Pass 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 Roussell, Commissioner Versa Clark, Commissioner David L. Crutchfield, II, Commissioner John F. Earles, Commissioner Ronald Lattier, Commissioner James F. Maxey, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

Absent: Commissioner Michael P. Deville, Commissioner Paul Fleming, Commissioner Charles R. Greer, and Commissioner Kenneth Richardson.

RRWC Staff Members Present: Mr. Colin Brown - Executive Director, Mr. Marcus Long - Operations & Maintenance Director, Ms. Stephanie Bonnette - Executive Assistant, Mr. Luke Pearson - Real Estate Manager, Mr. Kyle Smith - Engineering Supervisor, Mr. Brian Cespiva – Staff Engineer, Mr. Greg Upton - Legal Counsel.

3. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Others Present: Rich Brontoli with the Red River Valley Association and Katy Breaux and Camryn Willoughby with the US Army Corp of Engineers.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD PURSUANT TO LRS 42:14

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

By motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the minutes of the September 17, 2025, meeting were unanimously approved.

7. TREASURER'S REPORT

By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Expenditures, Financial Statements, Investment Reports, & Fund Balance Report for the month of September 2025 were unanimously approved.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Contracts

Consideration of Approval of Change Order No. 1/RRWC Project No. 24-07/Contract No. RRW-843/1North Adventure Trails/Phase 1D/Multi-Use Trails: By motion of Commissioner Clark seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved change order number 1 providing for a decrease in contract cost in the amount of \$81,171.48, bringing the total construction cost to \$1,267,013.52.

Consideration of Approval of 2026 Contracts List: By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved the 2026 contracts list as presented.

b) Land Management & Legal Affairs

Consideration of Award of Public Bid Land Lease/Kateland Realignment/Parts of Tracts 1, 3, 5 & 7/100 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved award of bid to KISS Property Management, LLC for \$10,500.00 for the 5-year term.

Consideration of Approval of Land Lease Extension/St. Maurice Realignment/Part of Tract 2/23.6 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the request from JH Global Interests, LLC for a 5-year lease extension of the above described property for \$3,245.00 for the 5-year lease extension term.

Consideration of Approval of Offer to Purchase Land/1North Adventure Trails Mitigation Property/1.8 Acre Access Road: By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved submitting an offer to purchase the Hall-Williams, LLC ownership in the 1.82 acre road for a total price of \$38,000.00, and an offer to purchase the Key Exploration, Ltd ownership in the 0.82 acre portion for \$17,500.00, a corresponding budget amendment in the amount of \$56,000.00, and authorizing Executive Director, Colin Brown, to execute the Buy Sell Agreement and Deed documents upon acceptance of the Commission's offers.

c) Recreation

Recreation Area Status Report - Mr. Marcus Long highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 130,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of September 2025. Updated maintenance items include, but not limited to:

- Dredging: two hydraulic dredges are working oxbow areas and a spud barge is headed northward
- Aquatic sprayers have returned to the river to combat the vegetation

d) Ports

Consideration of Funding Request/Central Louisiana Regional Port/Beaver Lake Renewable Energy: By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved the request to fund up to \$3,750,000.00 for the development of a general cargo dock, liquid dock, heavy haul access road, and associated utilities for the Beaver Lake Renewable Energy project. The Cooperative Endeavor Agreement to be presented at the November Commission meeting.

e) Public Awareness & Marketing - None

f) Personnel - None

g) Revenue, Banking & Budget - None

h) Legislative – None

9. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Announced the recent hire of Wendy Hinds in an Administrative Assistant position
- River navigation is back open. To this point the Corps of Engineers has had funding for dredging
- First draft of the 2026 Budget will be presented at the November Commission Meeting
- Government shutdown is ongoing
- Notified Commissioners that there will be a group training for the annually required training on Preventing Sexual Harassment prior to the November meeting
- Smaller/private fishing tournaments have been taking place on Red River
- Shreveport-Bossier Sports Commission will be hosting the F1 Power boat racing championship in 2026

10. STATUS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY/ENGINEERING REPORT - Prepared reports were provided in the meeting packets.

- Twelver Mile Bayou Boat Ramp project – sidewalk to be completed
- Construction of trails at INorth Adventure Trails are approximately 75% complete
- Fort Buhlow Additional Amenities project – Playground equipment install on Monday

11. GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT - None

12. CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT

- USACE Vicksburg District is not a part of the government shutdown and currently working. However, some reimbursements are on hold
- 12' Channel Study – Next week a working draft will be available for public review for thirty (30) days
- President's Budget 2026 – Funding request to LA DOTD for the continuation of the 12' Channel Study. Request for deviation at Lock and Dam 2 due to the lock itself
- End of February 2026 will be a Command Visit to the Shreveport-Bossier area in regards to the 12' Channel project. Red River Waterway Commissioners are welcome to attend
- Lock 2 approach – project has been awarded and hope to begin in November. Will take approximately 30 days to complete

13. RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION

- New Director is Josh McClintock. He will begin November 1 with Rich Brontoli working alongside for the first year
- DC congressional trip scheduled for the end of October

14. OTHER BUSINESS - None

15. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - None

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Clark, and unanimously approved, the Commission entered into Executive Session to discuss the following matters of litigation:

a) Discuss Privileged Matters Pursuant to Louisiana Code of Evidence Article 506

Immediately following Executive Session, by motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, and unanimously approved, the Commission entered into Regular Session.

17. ADJOURNMENT

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


JAMES F. MAXEY
SECRETARY/TREASURER


TROY ROUSSELL
CHAIR DESIGNEE