

**MINUTES  
OF THE  
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING  
March 18, 2026  
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 William R. Altimus, Commissioner Versa Clark, Commissioner David L. Crutchfield, II, Commissioner John F. Earles, Commissioner Charles R. Greer, Commissioner Ronald Lattier, Commissioner James F. Maxey, Commissioner Kenneth Richardson, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

**Absent:** Commissioner Michael P. Deville and Commissioner Paul Fleming.

**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:** Mr. Robert Vinet with KSA Engineers.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD PURSUANT TO LRS 42:14**

**5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

By motion of Commissioner Altimus, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the minutes of the February 18, 2026, 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 February 2026 were unanimously approved.

**8. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**a) Contracts**

**Consideration of Approval of Change Order No. 1/Fort Buhlow Recreation Area Additional Amenities 2023/RRWC Project No. 23-01/Contract No. RRW-819:** Documents were not available for review. No action was taken.

**Consideration of Approval of Change Order No. 3 (Final Recap)/North Adventure Trails/Phase 1D/Multi-Use Trails/RRWC Project No. 24-06/Contract No. RRW-843:** By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved the change order which provided a decrease of \$3,000.00 zeroing out quantities and bringing the project to final cost of \$1,227,988.60.

**Consideration of Design Options/North Adventure Trails/Phase 1C/Lake Improvements/RRWC Project No. 24-06/Contract No. RRW-840:** By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Altimus, the Commission unanimously approved giving staff the authority to advertise the project using a combination of the following options: A. Reducing the 27 acre lake to 22 acres and disposing of spoil off-site; B. Reducing the 27 acre lake to 22 acres and disposing of spoil on-site; C. Maintaining the 27 acre lake disposing of spoil off-site.

**b) Land Management & Legal Affairs**

**Consideration of Award of Public Bid Land Lease/Powhatan Realignment/Tract 2/281 Acres:** By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved award of bid to Mr. Billy Thompson at the minimum bid rate of \$16.00 per acre for a total of \$22,480.00 for the 5-year term.

**Consideration of Award of Public Bid Land Lease/St. Maurice Realignment/Tract 4.151.5 Acres:** By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved award of bid to Mr. Royce McManus at the minimum bid rate of \$16.00 per acre for a total of \$12,120.00 for the 5-year term.

**Consideration of Renewal of Leaseback/Pool 4/Tract 1/44 Acres:** By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Greer, the Commission unanimously approved award of the leaseback to Mr. Ronald Wicker at an appraised value of \$15.00 per acre for a total of \$3,300.00 for the 5-year term.

**Consideration of Renewal of Leaseback/Saline Revetment/Tracts 7A and 8A/40 Acres:** By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved award of the leaseback to Dupuy Land Company at an appraised value of \$15.00 per acre for a total of \$3,000.00 for the 5-year term.

**Consideration of Dredging Request/Caddo Soil and Water Conservation District/Red Bayou Irrigation Project:** No Action was taken.

c) **Recreation**

**Recreation Area Status Report** – Mr. Marcus Long highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 85,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of February 2026. Updated maintenance items include, but not limited to:

- Mowing and herbicide spraying have begun at the various parks
- Sunken boat at Colfax boat launch will be raised and moved at the end of March
- Bassmaster Classic Outdoors Expo in Knoxville, Tennessee was March 13-15, 2026
- Upcoming events: Red Oak Rumble – April 11, 2026 and State Trooper Association Day - May 30, 2026

d) **Ports** - None

e) **Public Awareness & Marketing** - None

f) **Personnel** - None

g) **Revenue, Banking & Budget**

Announcement of the up-coming 2026 Tax Millage Adoption at the April 15, 2026, Commission meeting.

h) **Legislative** – In session.

9. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- Announcement to Commissioners of the Tier 2.1 Financial Disclosure requirement due by May 15, 2026
- Currently the Coordinated Use of Resource for Recreation, Economy, Navigation, and Transportation Authority (Authority) is giving notice to those who will be serving. An Executive Director has not been named at this time.
- Reminder to Commissioners Altimus and Earles that they will need to be confirmed during this legislative session
- An overview of the Mississippi River Commission testimony was provided

10. **STATUS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY/ENGINEERING REPORT** - Prepared reports were provided in the meeting packets and a video presentation of 1North adventure Trails multi-use trail and construction progress at the Fort Buhlow recreation area was provided.

11. **GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** - None

12. **CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT** - None

13. **RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION** - Stated upcoming Congressional visits in Washington, D.C.

14. **OTHER BUSINESS** - None

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

16. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

  
JAMES F. MAXEY  
SECRETARY/TREASURER

  
TROY ROUSSELL  
CHAIR DESIGNEE