

MINUTES  
OF THE  
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING  
APRIL 15, 2026  
10:00 AM  
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION  
5941 HWY 1 BYPASS  
NATCHITOCHE, 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 Michael P. Deville, Commissioner John F. Earles, Commissioner Ronald Lattier, Commissioner James F. Maxey, Commissioner Kenneth Richardson, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

**Absent:** Commissioner David L. Crutchfield, II, Commissioner Paul Fleming, and Commissioner Charles R. Greer.

**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:** Katy Breaux with the US Army Corps of Engineers.

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

5. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

By motion of Commissioner Richardson, seconded by Commissioner Earles, 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 Deville, the minutes of the March 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 March 2026 were unanimously approved.

8. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) **Contracts**

**Consideration of Approval of Change Order No. 1/Fort Buhlow Additional Amenities/RRWC Project No. 23-01/Contract No. RRW-819:** By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved the change order to reflect an additional sixty (60) days due to weather delays and a \$46,362.85 decrease in price bringing the contract end date to April 4, 2026, and contract amount to \$4,418,637.15.

**Consideration of Approval of Change Order No. 2/North Phase 1D/Multi-Use Trail Improvements/RRWC Project No. 24-07/Contract No. RRW-843:** By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Richardson, the Commission unanimously approved the change order recapping the contract installed quantities as constructed in the field up to the December 16, 2025, date and reflecting a decrease in the contract amount by \$32,929.00.

b) **Land Management & Legal Affairs**

**Consideration of Assignment of Land Lease/Lock and Dam 4/Parts of Tracts 1, 8 & 9/30 Acres:** By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the assignment of the 5-year land lease from Christy Petty Turner, widow of Christopher Turner, to Tarril Poston and Jennifer Davlin.

**Consideration of Assignment of Land Lease/Lock and Dam 4/Tracts 2, 3 and Part of Tract 8/65 Acres:** By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Richardson, the Commission unanimously approved the assignment of the remaining portion of the 5-year land lease from Christy Petty Turner, widow of Christopher Turner, to Tarril Poston and Jennifer Davlin.

c) **Recreation**

**Consideration of Rates/Grand Ecore RV Park:** The item was tabled in committee. No action was taken.

**Recreation Area Status Report** - Mr. Marcus Long highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 135,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of March 2026. Updated maintenance items include, but not limited to:

- The sunken boat at the Colfax boat dock has been raised and removed
- The approved contractor for roofing the Headquarters building will begin in 3 to 4 weeks
- Routine maintenance is being performed along with aquatic spraying
- Several fishing tournaments on the Red River were reported to the Commission

d) **Ports** - None

e) **Public Awareness & Marketing**

**Marketing Update** -

- Reminder of the upcoming F1 Powerboat Nationals
- Red Crest Expo at the end of the week through the weekend
- Washington, D.C. delegation visits next week

f) **Personnel** - None

**g) Revenue, Banking & Budget**

**Adoption of 2026 Tax Millage by Resolution:** By motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Deville, and reflecting a complete vote count, the Commission adopted its 2026 Tax Millage Rates of 1.45 mills for capital outlay and 0.78 mills for operations and maintenance for a total of 2.23 mills. Following is the 2026 Tax Millage Resolution read aloud by Executive Director Colin Brown: BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proper administrative officials of the Parishes of Avoyelles, Bossier, Caddo, Grant, Natchitoches, Rapides, and Red River, State of Louisiana, be and they are hereby empowered, authorized, and directed to spread said taxes, as hereinabove set forth, upon the assessment roll of said Parish for the year 2026, and to make the collection of the taxes imposed for and on behalf of the taxing authority, according to law, and that the taxes herein levied shall become a permanent lien and privilege on all property subject to taxation as herein set forth, and collection thereof shall be enforceable in the manner provided by law.

The foregoing resolution was read in full, the roll was called on the adoption thereof, and the resolution was adopted by the following votes:

	<u>Yeas</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>Abstained</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Commissioner Clark	√			
Commissioner Crutchfield				√
Commissioner Deville	√			
Commissioner Fleming				√
Commissioner Earles	√			
Commissioner Greer				√
Commissioner Altimus	√			
Commissioner Lattier	√			
Commissioner Maxey	√			
Commissioner Richardson	√			
Commissioner Simpson	√			

**h) Legislative**

- Legislative session ongoing
- Notice that the Coordinated use of Resource for Recreation, Economy, Navigation, and Transportation Authority, the "Authority", will be meeting May 9, 2026.

**9. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- Reporting information on legislative bills will be going out

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

- Alexandria Levee Park project is at substantial completion
- North Adventure Trails is receiving a lot of positive social media postings of the mountain bike trails
- Fort Buhlow Recreation project – provided drone footage presentation of the recreation area

**11. GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** - None

**12. CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT** – Katy Breaux with the USACE provided the following update:

- The approach to Lock 2 is completed
- 12' Channel Study – physical model is being done of the actual lock and impact of locking through at a 12' draft versus the current 9'. Projected completion of feasibility study in December 2026

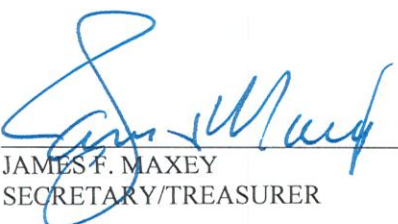
**13. RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION** - None

**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