

**MINUTES  
OF THE  
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING  
MAY 20, 2026  
10:00 AM  
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION  
5941 HWY 1 BYPASS  
NATCHITOCHEES, 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 Michael P. Deville, Commissioner Charles R. Greer, Commissioner Ronald Lattier, Commissioner James F. Maxey, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

**Absent:** Commissioner John F. Earles, Commissioner Paul Fleming, 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. Greg Upton - Legal Counsel.

**3. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

**Others Present:** Ben Russo, Executive Director of Central Louisiana Regional Port.

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

**5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

By motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Deville, the agenda, as amended, was unanimously approved. Comments from the public were called for, however, none were offered. The amended agenda to include item number 4 under Recreation Committee to read as follows: Consideration of Authority to Advertise for Construction Bids and Request to Increase the Available Funds for Construction and Budget/Red River National Wildlife Refuge Lake Caroline Comfort Station/Project No. 25-01/Contract No. RRW-848.

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

By motion of Commissioner Greer, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the minutes of the April 15, 2026, meeting were unanimously approved.

**7. TREASURER'S REPORT**

By motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Expenditures, Financial Statements, Investment Reports, & Fund Balance Report for the month of April 2026 were unanimously approved.

**8. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a) **Contracts** - None
- b) **Land Management & Legal Affairs** - None
- c) **Recreation**

**Consideration of Rates/Grand Ecore RV Park:** No action was taken on this item in committee. No further action was taken.

**Consideration of Approval of Additional Amenities Project/INorth Adventure Trails:** By motion of Commissioner Greer, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved the production of trail signage at INorth Adventure Trails up to a budgeted amount of \$30,000.00 and a corresponding budget amendment.

**Discussion of Bijou Realignment Property:** By motion of Commissioner Greer seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved authorizing staff to get an appraisal for the purchase of the property necessary to gain access to the 366 acre Commission owned island.

**Consideration of Authority to Advertise for Construction Bids and Request to Increase the Available Funds for Construction and Budget/Red River National Wildlife Refuge Lake Caroline Comfort Station/Project No. 25-01/Contract RRW-848:** By motion of Commissioner Greer, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved the increase in Available Funds for Construction to \$400,000.00 and a corresponding total budget increase to \$500,000.00.

**Recreation Area Status Report** – Mr. Marcus Long highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 126,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of April 2026. Updated maintenance items include, but not limited to:

- Headquarters' new roof is under construction
- Red River Rumble/F1 Powerboat Racing May 22-24
- Upcoming fishing tournaments - Bishop Point and Grand Ecore RV Park

d) **Ports** - None

e) **Public Awareness & Marketing**

**Consideration of Funding Request and Amendment No. 1/Shreveport/Bossier Sports Commission/Bass Champs:** By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the funding request in the amount of \$17,500.00 and the approval of Amendment No. 1 to the cooperative endeavor agreement with the Shreveport-Bossier Sports Commission.

**Marketing Update** - None

f) **Personnel** - None

g) **Revenue, Banking & Budget**

Update on Southwest Arkansas Red River Navigation Feasibility Study: No action taken.

h) **Legislative** – The “CURRENT Authority”, formally the Coordinated Use of Resources for Recreation, Economy, Navigation, and Transportation (CURRENT) Authority Board, recently convened and are scheduled to reconvene in July.

9. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- Update on Commissioner Fleming
- Reminder that the Tier 2.1 Financial Disclosure requirement deadline was May 15
- F1 Powerboat races are in year 3 of the 3-year contract
- Update on US Army Corps of Engineers river channel dredging and an inquiry to the Commission regarding possibility of contributory funding
- Notice and reminder of the revision to the Caddo-Bossier Port event

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

- Update on Ft. Buhlow additional amenities project
- 1North Adventure Trails – Trail projects
- St. Maurice and Lake Caroline – design phase
- Grand Ecore RV Park – Pricing for dog park with fencing, sidewalk and pavilion

11. **GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** - None

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

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 Crutchfield, seconded by Commissioner Altimus, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned.

  
JAMES F. MAXEY  
SECRETARY/TREASURER

  
TROY ROUSSELL  
CHAIR DESIGNEE