MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
OCTOBER 21, 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 Michael P. Deville, Commissioner John F. Earles, Commissioner Charles R. Greer, Commissioner Ronald Lattier, Commissioner Kenneth Richardson, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

Absent: Commissioner Paul Fleming and Commissioner James F. Maxey.

RRWC Staff Members Present: Mr. Colin Brown - Executive Director, Mr. Marcus Long - Operations & Maintenance Director, Ms. Stephanie Bonnette - Executive Assistant, Mr. Kyle Smith - Engineering Supervisor, Mr. Greg Upton - Legal Counsel.

3. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Others Present: Katy Breaux with the USACE-Vicksburg District.

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

5. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

8. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) Contracts

Consideration of Approval of Change Order No. 4/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 increasing the contract time by 69 days, decreasing the contract amount by $65,000.00, and bringing the final project amount to $4,383,546.35.

Consideration of Authority to Advertise for Construction Bids/1North Adventure Trails/Phase 1E/Site, Paving, and Utility Improvements/RRWC Project No. 26-03/Contract No. RRW-852: By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Greer, the Commission unanimously approved authorizing staff to advertise for construction bids.

Consideration of Cancellation of Electronic Services Contract/Basic Matrix, LLC: By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Richardson, the Commission unanimously approved cancelling the current electronic services contract with Basic Matrix, LLC.

Consideration of Approval of Electronic Services Contract/Fig MSP, LLC: By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Richardson, the Commission unanimously approved a three-year electronic services agreement with Fig MSP, LLC.

Consideration of Approval of 2027 Contracts List: By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Greer, the Commission unanimously approved the 2027 contracts list as presented by Executive Director, Colin Brown.

b) Land Management & Legal Affairs

Consideration of Renewal of Leaseback/Lock & Dam 2/Tracts 4 & 9/32.5 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the five-year leaseback renewal to Barry Ryland for $3,737.50 for the five-year agreement.

Consideration of Cancellation and Approval of Vehicular Right-of-Way Agreement/Lock & Dam 3/0.80 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved the cancellation of an existing 20-year vehicular right-of-way agreement with Richard Crain and approved a new 20-year vehicular right-of-way agreement with the Crain Real Estate Living Trust for the amount of $1,440.00 to be paid in annual installments of $72.00.

Consideration of Surplus Property Request/Pool 3 Tract 70/24.6 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Clark, and one abstention (Commissioner Richardson), the Commission approved declaring the property as surplus and authorized staff to initiate the approved procedure, providing results of a third-party appraisal to the Commission for further consideration.

c) Recreation

Recreation Area Status Report – Mr. Marcus Long highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 178,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of September 2026. Updated maintenance items include, but not limited to:

- Oxbow dredging completed
- Boat Roads project has been paused for further evaluation
- Louisiana Youth Bass Nation high school tournament on February 20, 2027 at Grand Ecore. Anticipate approximately 180-200 teams
- Two smaller tournaments took place at Red Oak
- Annual Bass re-stocking of the Red River in Pools 1 : 5 begins today

d) **Ports** - None

e) **Public Awareness & Marketing**

- Fort Buhlow Additional Amenities project ribbon cutting, October 30, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.
- Ports Association of Louisiana Navigation reception and meeting will be held in Natchitoches on November 11th and 12th respectively
- Bass re-stocking: Pools 1 & 2 October 21st; Pools 3 & 4 October 28th; and Pool 5 November 4th

f) **Personnel** - None

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

h) **Legislative** - None

9. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- 2026 dredging of the navigation channel by the Corps is complete. The Commission provided $1,999,200.00 in contributory funding for dredging. Of which, the Commission will be receiving back $400,036.11
- Washington D.C. trip – met with delegates, appropriations staff, etc. to further promote necessity of funding for dredging, the 12' Channel, and designation the Red River as a Strategic Marine Highway
- Red Bayou Irrigation update
- Initial draft of the 2027 budget to be presented at the November meeting

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

11. **GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** - None

12. **CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT**

- 12' Channel funding is in the President's Budget. Project will continue moving forward. Model will have its second review next week. Partner visit on November 5th. Report to Headquarters in December. Chiefs Report by June 11, 2027
- Draft earmarks for Joffrion and Westdale – key areas for furtherment of the 12' Channel Study
- Inspection Trip – Fall 2026

13. **RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION** – Texas conference next week

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 Richardson, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned.

JAMES F. MAXEY
SECRETARY/TREASURER

TROY ROUSSELL
CHAIR DESIGNEE