MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
SEPTEMBER 16, 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 Ronald Lattier, Commissioner James F. Maxey.

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

RRWC Staff Members Present: Mr. Colin Brown - Executive 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: Katy Breaux and Camryn Willoughby with the USACE-Vicksburg and Mr. Richard Brontoli.

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

5. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

By motion of Commissioner Crutchfield, 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 Clark, seconded by Commissioner Altimus, the minutes of the August 19, 2026, meeting were unanimously approved.

7. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

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

8. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) Contracts

Consideration of Construction Quotes/Grand Ecore RV Park/Dog Park: By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved award of the project's construction contract to Lowe's Construction LLC in the amount of $45,825.00.

Consideration of Approval of Change Order No. 3/Fort Buhlow Additional Amenities/RRWC Project No. 23-01/Contract No. RRW-819: By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved the change order for the necessary repairs due to the base failures in the parking lot necessary prior to pavement overlay thus increasing the construction cost by $5,233.09 and construction time by four (4) days bringing the construction cost to $4,448,546.35.

Consideration of Change Order No. 2/1North Adventure Trails Phase 1F/Additional Cross-Country Trails/Project No. 25-04/Contract No. RRW-857: By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Altimus, the Commission unanimously approved the change order which rectifies quantities and adding two (2) flyover structures with railings to the project. The change order extends the contract time by 45 days and decreases the contract amount by $1,670.00 establishing the new contract price of $1,097,059.00.

Consideration of Approval of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement/Caddo Soil and Water Conservation District and Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development/Red Bayou Irrigation: By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved the cooperative endeavor agreement with Caddo Soil and Water Conservation District, Louisiana Department of Transportation and Department, and Red Bayou Irrigation in the amount of $700,000.00 to be fronted by the Commission of which $350,000.00 is to be reimbursed to the Commission by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development.

b) Land Management & Legal Affairs

Consideration of Approval of Renewal of Pipeline Right-of-Way Agreement/Pool 5 Tract 19/0.358 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved the twenty-year pipeline right-of-way renewal with ET Gathering & Processing, LLC (formerly Centerpoint Energy Field Services, Inc.) in the amount of $15,750.00 for the twenty-year term.

Consideration of Amendment to Right-of-Use Dredging Agreement/Pool 4: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved amendment one to the right-of-use dredging agreement with Expand Energy to add 233 acres to the dredge site area and revise the pre-payment guarantee to $75,000.00 annually.

Consideration of Approval of Surplus Property Request Procedure: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the procedural process as presented and to include language regarding the bid process and terms in which the bid minimum can be no less than the appraised value of the property.

c) **Recreation**

Recreation Area Status Report

- 195,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of August 2026
- Oxbow dredging in Pool 3 is completed. Dredge moving to Pools 4 & 5
- 1,000 acres of aquatic vegetation has been sprayed
- The Pool 5 Backwater Improvement Project approved by the Commission at its August 2026 meeting will be getting underway soon

d) **Ports** - None

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

f) **Personnel** - None

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

h) **Legislative** - None

9. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- USACE is dredging below Lock 1
- Half of the funding from the Commission's contributory funding agreement for dredging has been disbursed to USACE
- Dredging should be completed by the end of September
- Washington, D.C. delegate trip to continue conversation for the need of dredging areas key to the 12' Channel project
- Initial 2027 Budget will be presented at the November Commission meeting. The final 2027 Budget will be presented at the December Commission meeting for approval

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

- A video presentation of the Fort Buhlow playground project was provided to the Commission along with a current projection of project completion in two weeks
- Fort Buhlow Fishing Pier project – first of three fishing piers should be completed next week
- Fort Buhlow Additional Amenities project – all landscaping completed

11. **GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** - None

12. **CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT**

- 2027 Funding - $400,000.00 in the President's Budget of which a portion may be used for the 12' Channel Study
- Reports of the 12' Channel Study will go to Division December 2026 and Chief's report for June 11, 2027
- Fiscal Year 2027 Earmarks - $800,000.00 for the 12' Channel Study and more especially for the Joffrion and Westdale areas and lake revetments

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

14. **OTHER BUSINESS**

a) ***Southwest Arkansas Navigation Feasibility Study Presentation*** – Mr. Rich Brontoli provided the Commission with the following update:

- The project would establish Lock and Dam 6 in the area of the I220 bridge in the Caddo/Bossier area
- Current study will be completed in 2026. However, the study will not be up to the Corps newly updated/required specifications for a Section 203 request
- The project is now placed within the Arkansas Department of Agriculture. This allowed for a "Commission" to be created and the establishment of the Red River Intermodal Authority which encompasses six Counties.

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