

1 **MINUTES OF THE SPEICAL CALL MEETING OF THE**
2 **SABINE RIVER AUTHORITY**
3 **STATE OF LOUISIANA**
4 **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**
5 **CYPRESS BEND RESORT CONFERENCE CENTER**
6 **2000 CYPRESS BEND PARKWAY**
7 **MANY, LA**

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9 **6:00PM THURSDAY, JANAURY 12TH, 2012**

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12 **MEMBERS PRESENT:** **Mr. Robert Conyer, Chairman**
13 **Mr. Stanley Vidrine, Vice-Chairman**
14 **Mr. Bobby Williams, Secretary**
15 **Mr. Norman Arbuckle**
16 **Mr. C.A. Burgess**
17 **Mr. Daniel Cupit**
18 **Mr. Carlton Gibson**
19 **Mr. Ned Goodeaux**
20 **Mr. Larry Kelly**
21 **Mr. Therman Nash**
22 **Mrs. Estella Scott**
23 **Mr. Kermie Valentine**

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26 **MEMBERS ABSENT:** **Mr. Byron Gibbs**

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30 **OTHERS PRESENT:** **Jim Pratt, Executive Director-SRA, Many, LA**
31 **Becky Anderson, Adm Asst 5-SRA, Many, LA**
32 **Mike Carr, Fac Maint Mgr 3-SRA, Many, LA**
33 **Kellie Ferguson, Adm Prog Dir3-SRA, Many, LA**

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35 **There were approximately three or four hundred (300-**
36 **400) visitors.**

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39 Mr. Conyer called the meeting to order. Mr. Nash offered the Prayer and Mr.
40 Goodeaux led the Pledge of Allegiance. The roll was called and it was noted that Mr.
41 Gibbs was absent; however a quorum was established.

42 Mr. Conyer stated that before approving the agenda, he would like to allow the
43 Board and Staff to make Comments before the Public proceeds with their comments.

44 **Mr. Cupit moved, seconded by Mr. Burgess to accept the agenda allowing the Board**
45 **and Staff to comment prior to the Public Comments. Motion carried unanimously.**

46 Old Business: Item #1- Water Sales Contract: Mr. Conyer thanked everyone for
47 taking the time to attend the meeting to learn and discuss the proposed water sales
48 contract received by the SRA from Toledo Bend Partners, LP. He stated that since there
49 were several folks that would like to address the Board, the 3-minutes time limit would
50 be addressed. Mr. Conyer stated that he also appreciated all the written comments

1 received by all parties concerning this project. He asked Mr. Pratt to make his report.
2 Mr. Pratt stated that there had been 386 written responses received by the SRA office.
3 He stated that this had been reviewed by staff and the statistics were as follows: There
4 were seven people for the sell and 379 against the contract. He continued of these 378
5 were Louisiana residents and 8 were from Texas. He stated that the number one concern
6 was lake level, followed by length of contract, drought contingency, why sell to
7 Texas/keep in Louisiana, public distrust/ethics, stop generation, decreased property
8 values, who gets the money, future water rate, build a pipeline from Red River and build
9 a saltwater barrier. He stated “Mr. Chairman, with your direction, staff and I have
10 pursued developing water supply as an alternative to power generation on Toledo Bend
11 for almost eight years. During this time, we have made public presentations to civic and
12 governmental organizations throughout the Sabine River Basin promoting the benefits of
13 water supply versus power generation. During this endeavor, no markets for additional
14 water supply within the State of Louisiana have been identified for the near future, but
15 interest outside Louisiana into Texas have approached SRA as early as 2004, with the
16 most recent by Toledo Bend Partners, LP. Considering the persistent drought conditions
17 that began in late 2010, the lack of a comprehensive water plan for the State of Louisiana,
18 the public’s opposition to the proposed agreement with Toledo Bend partners, my staff
19 and I recommend we suspend Out-of-State water sales considerations until a
20 comprehensive water plan for the State of Louisiana has been developed.” **Mr. Cupit**
21 **moved, seconded by Mr. Nash to approve suspending the consideration of an Out-**
22 **of-State Water Sales Contract until the State of Louisiana can develop a statewide**
23 **comprehensive water plan. Motion carried unanimously.**

24 Mr. Conyer asked Senator Gerald Long to address the meeting. Senator Long
25 stated that he was very pleased to see so many folks concerned about the water sales and
26 the future of Toledo Bend Reservoir. He continued stating that he wanted the reservoir to
27 provide access for recreational purposes for all residents and visitors alike for many years
28 to come especially since he has several grandsons who like to fish. He stated that he had
29 been appointed Chairman of Natural Resources Senate Committee and one item he would
30 definitely address would be to start the research and development of the Statewide
31 Comprehensive Water Plan because he had recently realized that Louisiana was only 1 of

1 nine in the nation who did not have such a plan. He stated that he would work very
2 closely with all interested parties during the development process. He stated that a “blue
3 ribbon” commission would be setup along with the Department of Natural Resources to
4 develop the plan evaluating essentially all surface water areas in the State. He recognized
5 Representative Jack Montoucet from Crowley, Louisiana who is a member of the Natural
6 Resources Committee. Representative Montoucet stated that he was a property owner on
7 the reservoir and felt that this has made us become aware of the needs for water. Senator
8 Long thanked the Board for their decision and for allowing the people of the area to
9 speak their concerns.

10 Mr. Conyer called the following who signed in to address the Board: Shawn
11 Rosenwicz, Dianne Lampman, Ivan Degeyter, Paul Ringo, Steve Mimahon, Sharon
12 Miller, Grady Farris, Ted Dove, Mike Wilder, Sonny Mason, Jack Montoucet, Joe
13 Palermo, Jim Binns, Gene Kuntz, Kenneth Pitre, Lary Deroussel, and Gloria Thompson.
14 Several of the speakers thanked the Board and staff for the action taken to suspend
15 discussions of the out-of-state water sales until an in-depth study could be done and a
16 comprehensive water plan developed; others stated they had requested an audit be
17 performed to show where the revenues of the SRA were going and for what purpose. Mr.
18 Conyer thanked everyone again for their time and interest.

19 With no further business to discuss, Mr. Conyer asked for a motion to adjourn.

20 **Mr. Burgess moved, seconded by Mr. Cupit to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting**
21 **adjourned at 7:08pm.**

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ROBERT CONYER, CHAIRMAN

STANLEY VIDRINE, VICE-CHAIRMAN

BOBBY WILLIAMS, SECRETARY