

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
SABINE RIVER AUTHORITY  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
PENDLETON BRIDGE OFFICE  
15091 TEXAS HIGHWAY  
MANY, LA 71449  
1:00PM THURSDAY, JUNE 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2015**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mr. Ned Goodeaux, Chairman  
Mr. Therman Nash, Vice-Chairman  
Mr. Frank Davis, Secretary  
Mr. Norman Arbuckle  
Mr. C.A. Burgess  
Mr. Daniel Cupit  
Mr. Jimmy Foret, Jr  
Mr. Byron Gibbs  
Mr. Mike McCormic  
Mrs. Estella Scott  
Mr. Stanley Vidrine  
Mr. Bobby Williams

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Mr. Jerry Holmes

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jim Pratt, Executive Director-SRA, Many, LA  
Becky Anderson, Adm Asst 5-SRA, Many, LA  
Carl Chance, IT Director 1-SRA, Many, LA  
Mike Carr, Fac Maint Mgr 3-SRA, Many, LA  
Kellie Ferguson, Adm Prog Dir3-SRA, Many, LA  
There were eleven (11) visitors.

Mr. Goodeaux called the meeting to order. Mr. Nash offered the Prayer and Mr. Goodeaux led Pledge. The roll was called and it was noted that Mr. Holmes was absent; however, a quorum was established.

Mr. Goodeaux welcomed the visitors.

Mr. Goodeaux asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. He stated that Mrs. Linda Curtis-Sparks, Executive Director of the Sabine Tourist Commission, would like to address the Board during Special Reports and he also wanted to add under Old Business, Item #1-Employee of the Year. **Mr. Arbuckle moved, seconded by Mr. McCormic to approve the additions to the agenda and to adopt the amended agenda. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Goodeaux stated that the minutes of the May 28th, 2015 meeting were in the packet and asked if there were any corrections. Mr. McCormic stated that his name was left off of the “roll” and he was present. **Mr. Gibbs moved, seconded by Mr. Arbuckle to approve the corrected minutes of the Board meeting of May 28<sup>th</sup> 2015 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **STAFF REPORTS:**

Item#1-TBPJO-Mr. Pratt stated that the lake level for today is 172.56' msl. He stated that the Spillway Gates had been closed. He stated that rains continue to help keep the inflow up. He stated that Barton Rumsey along with other staff members had a conference call with legal counsel and the power companies to discuss the power sales agreement. He stated that the Joint Board had met in May and the law firm of Marrionneaux and Kantrow was hired to represent the Authority. He stated that this firm has extensive experience in dealing with the various power companies. Mr. Goodeaux asked if the firm was licensed in the state of Texas. Mr. Pratt stated that he had not checked into this due to the fact that Texas has always used Charley Granger, attorney for legal counsel and I assumed he would handle any issues that might necessitate a visit to Texas. Mrs. Ferguson and he explained the number of Louisiana employees that provide services to the "Joint Operations" and how their salaries are paid. He told the Board this was a request made by Mr. Williams.

Item #2-Shoreline: Mr. Chance stated that staff continues to work on compliance for the Recreation Plan and staff hopes to have it ready for public review and comment for the thirty day required timeframe to meet the Article 410 for the revision. He stated that the work on the monitoring of the erosion sites under forest services will start soon as required by Article 401. . He stated that the Shoreline staff had taken the boat and ran the shoreline all the way from Garrett Park to Grand Bayou. He stated that staff documented a total of 34 structures: 32 not permitted, 1-permitted, and 1 new construction permitted. He continued that most of these structures are owned by "absentee owners" and staff is preparing an information packet to be sent to or left for each of them. Permits: 1-new, 1-addition to old structure, and 3-transfers for a total of \$175.00.

Item #3-Operational: Mr. Carr stated that at the Toledo Bend Division the Fire Marshall conducted an inspection of the new office addition and gave permission to occupy. He stated that the crew has been painting the outside. He stated that security has been arranged for Saturday and Sunday during the Fourth of July weekend. He stated that the buoy crew had been placing the remaining junction buoys and replacing any missing buoys in all boat lanes. He stated that the maintenance crew is performing all routine and reaction maintenance on cabins and utilities as well as starting the base work

for the new office at San Miguel. He stated that the wastewater pond project is on hold since the DEQ overestimated our usage and revoked the original permit to build. He stated that at TBPJO the crew repaired five large washouts in rip-rapped area of Dike #3 near the Texas Office. He stated that the crew located and recovered culverts in washed out road to spillway apron. He stated that twenty (20) tons of fertilizer was spread over the entire project. He stated that the crew had mowed all levees, weed eaten around all piezometers and relief wells; and sprayed all upstream levees and toe ditch bottoms with “rodeo” (a herbicide approved for use around public waterways.) He stated that the crew had cleaned vegetation from powerhouse gates and repaired two (2) broken Piezometers. He stated the crew also sprayed “round-up” along fence lines and guardrails. He stated that the crew repaired the broken two-inch water line that feeds the powerhouse and measured water levels in all 63 Piezometers and 47 relief wells for 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter instrumentation report and; repaired two small slides on main levee using SRA-LA excavator; washed and greased all trucks and heavy equipment and spread three (3) loads of rock on entrance toad to Project Shop. He stated that the lake level at 9:30 this morning was 172.52 with all gates closed. He stated that the first relief well has been drilled and should be pumping late today or tomorrow and hopefully will have the second well pumping by the end of next week. He stated that at the Diversion Canal the water level in the canal has been lowered so that work could begin on the Sasol temporary crossings; however, at the lower level, Entergy could not receive water so the level was raised in the canal until they could dredge on their side of the Houston River Road. He stated that the Crossing #5 pipe has been installed and the base work has begun on Crossing #2 and #9 with these projects expected to be completed next week. He stated that before the water level is raised back to normal; approximately three feet of the levee top will be removed and replaced with compacted lime and dirt fill mix for traffic. He stated that one customer complaint had been received concerning the turbidity. He stated that Sasol expects the work to be completed on the three crossings next week. He stated that all final documents have been signed for the KCSR Yard Expansion Project that includes installing new siphons under the tracks. He stated that SRA is administering this project using funds provided by KCSR and those funds covering the design and bid phase have been deposited into the account that the Board approved at the May meeting. He

stated that Staff has not received the final contract with Meyer & Associates at the time of the meeting, but Wayne Harris (at his request) has already given the GEOtech & Survey crews the “commence to work” instructions. He stated that staff is hopeful to have the final contract in place in July. He stated that staff has completed the servitude agreement for the needed SRA property while eliminating the annual payment to KCSR for our servitude. He stated that Sasol has unofficially indicated they will need at least two more permanent crossings but as of now, have not received a formal request for any other than the pipe rack. He stated that the Water Reservation Agreement with Lake Charles Methanol has been signed and they were billed for \$6,570.00 on May 28<sup>th</sup> for June reservation and as of the time of the meeting, no payment had been received although water reservation agreements are to be paid in advance. He stated that the good news is that this company has paid the Agency close to \$300,000.00 since 2008 reserving water under four (4) different company names: Leucadia, Lake Charles Cogen, Lake Charles Clean Energy, and presently Lake Charles Methanol. He stated that a draft Water Infrastructure Agreement similar to what was done with KCSR was sent to LCM, but staff does not intend to finalize this Agreement until the reservation fee is paid. He stated that LCM is asking for 10,000 GPM and we have that water available in Canal #6 between Westlake Petrochem and Pump Station #4.

Item #4-Financial Report: Mrs. Ferguson stated that the report was included in the meeting packet. She stated that the Toledo Bend Division for the month of May showed revenues of \$1,328,871.54; expenses of \$724,990.43 leaving a profit of \$603,881.11. She stated that the Sabine Diversion Canal Division for the month of May showed revenues of \$350,551.15; expenses of \$202,814.27 leaving a profit of \$147,736.88. **Mr. Burgess moved, seconded by Mr. Arbuckle to approve the Staff Reports as circulated and presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

**SPECIAL REPORTS: Toledo Bend #1 Bass Fishing Lake:** Mrs. Linda Curtis-Sparks, Executive Director of the Sabine Parish Tourist Commission stated that Bass Masters had started selecting the top “100 Bass Fishing Lakes” approximately five years ago. She stated that Toledo Bend has been in the top fifteen. She stated that the excitement is overwhelming since Toledo Bend is ranked “No.1”. She stated that she wanted to thank the SRA Board and staff for doing a wonderful job with the tournaments

along with the Toledo Bend Lake Association for helping with the restocking program, lunger program, and various other projects that have enhanced the fishing experience on Toledo Bend. She stated that all of these things as well as the eighty-one (81) lunkers caught this past year probably helped with media coverage that Toledo Bend received. She stated that future plans are being discussed on how to “capitalize on this” wonderful opportunity and once again, thanks to all who have helped to make Toledo Bend #1!

Mr. Mifflin asked if the Recreation Plan would be on the website that the public who were interested in reviewing the plan could do so at their convenience within the thirty days. Mr. Chance stated that he would put the draft plan on the website for review.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

**OLD BUSINESS: Item #1- Employee of the Year:** Mr. Goodeaux stated that Janice Hutton, Horticulturist for SRA was selected as the Employee of the Year by her peers. He stated that he wanted Mrs. Hutton to know that the Board appreciates all her hard work keeping the flowerbeds within all the parks in beautiful shape as well as tending to a greenhouse for her plants that she grows to be transplanted to the park sites. He stated that he would like staff to please let Mrs. Hutton know that she is well deserving of the honor and again congratulations.

**NEW BUSINESS: Item #1- Motor Repair Pump Station #1:** Mr. Carr stated that staff was requesting approval for a budgetary expenditure not to exceed \$60,000.00 for the mechanical and electrical repair of Pump Station #1- Motor #1 and Motor #2. He stated that both motors have excessive bearing noise from the top and bottom bearing assemblies. He stated that this was a definite indication of possible bearing failure. He stated that both units were experiencing abnormal vibration and amperage readings. He stated that the motor requires a complete disassembly to allow the bearing to be installed and while these motors were disassembled, staff would like to upgrade the motor space heaters and the thermal protection monitoring devices which are installed inside the motor units. He stated that the purchased repairs would be funded out of the major repairs budget for FY’16. **Mr. Vidrine moved, seconded by Mrs. Scott to approve motor repairs and upgrades at Pump Station #1 not to exceed the cost of \$60,000.00.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**Item #2: Cypress Bend Parkway Entrance:** Mrs. Ferguson stated that approximately fifteen years ago, the Authority had an agreement with Boise to lease the property to the Authority for five (5) years at \$500.00 in order to build the signage for Cypress Bend Golf Resort and Conference Center. She continued that at the end of that lease, Boise which has been sold to Meriwether whom assumed the lease, increased the fee to \$600.00 for five (5) years. She stated that at the end of that five (5) year lease, the cost went to \$720.00. She stated that since that lease, Meriwether was sold to Hancock Forest Management, LLC and this company wants \$1,500.00 for the same lease. She stated that HFM wishes to sell the tenth (1/10) acre. She stated that the company is asking \$2,500.00 plus closing costs which could be another \$2,500.00. She stated that staff is requesting to purchase this tenth of an acre where the entrance sign for Cypress Bend Golf Resort and Cypress Bend Park is located. **Mr. Foret seconded by Mr. Vidrine to approve purchasing the fourth of an acre from Hancock Forest Management, LLC where the signage for Cypress Bend Golf Resort and Cypress Bend Park are located at the total cost of \$2,500.00 plus closing cost and authorize the Executive Director to execute the necessary documents. Motion carried.** Mr. Williams stated that there were a couple of areas in the roadway that needed to be repaired.

**Item #3: Election of Officers-Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary:** Mr. Goodeaux opened the floor for nominations for Chairman: **Mr. Nash nominated Mr. Cupit which was seconded by Mr. Vidrine for the office of Chairman. Mr. Arbuckle nominated Mr. Vidrine declined. Mr. Gibbs moved, seconded by Mrs. Scott that nominations for Chairman cease. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Cupit was elected by acclamation. Mr. Burgess nominated Mr. Goodeaux which was seconded by Mr. Vidrine for the office of Vice-Chairman and asked that the nominations cease. Motion carried. YEAS: 11 NAYS: 1 (Foret) ABSENT: 1. Mr. Goodeaux was elected by majority vote. Mr. Burgess nominated Mr. Davis which was seconded by Mr. Gibbs for the office of Secretary and that the nominations cease. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Davis was elected by acclamation.**

**Item #4: Selection of Official Journal-The Sabine Index:** Mr. Goodeaux stated that each year, the Authority has to select a newspaper that is domiciled within the parish as the official journal. He continued that The Sabine Index was the only newspaper within the parish therefore he asked for a motion to approve the selection of The Sabine Index as the Official Journal of the SRA. **Mr. Burgess moved, seconded by Mr. Arbuckle to approve the selection of The Sabine Index as the “official journal” of the Authority. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Item #5: Adopt Resolution for Legislative Compliance Questionnaire:** Mrs. Ferguson stated that this is a standard requirement each at the ending of the fiscal year in preparation for the annual audit. She continued that the copy of the draft questionnaire along with the draft resolution was included in the packet and asked if there were any questions. Mr. Goodeaux hearing none, asked for a motion to adopt the resolution. **Mr. Williams moved, seconded by Mr. Foret to adopt the Resolution for the Legislative Compliance Questionnaire for the annual audit. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Item #6: Delegation of Appointing Authority:** Mrs. Ferguson stated that this resolution of appointing authority is required by the State Civil Service Department. She continued that a copy of the resolution was included in the packet which states that the Executive Director has the appointing authority to manage the affairs and all employees of the Sabine River Authority and asked if there were any questions. Mr. Goodeaux hearing no questions, asked for a motion to approve the resolution of appointing authority. **Mr. Gibbs moved, seconded by Mrs. Scott to approve the resolution in support of Delegation of Appointing Authority to the Executive Director for the Sabine River Authority. Motion carried. YEAS: 11 NAY: 1 (Williams) ABSENT: 1.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- 1) Diversion Canal: No meeting.
- 2) Parks: No meeting
- 3) Leaseback: No meeting.
- 4) Finance: No meeting.
- 5) Water Sales: No meeting.
- 6) Fishery & Lake Management: No meeting.

**LEGAL REPORT:** Mr. Pratt stated no report.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Mr. Pratt stated that the staff and the contract security is ready for the Fourth of July weekend which we will see a heavy volume of visitors to the parks. He stated that looking at the report prepared by Mr. Rumsey and included in your packet, shows the inflow of 500,000 acre feet. He stated that this has been a good year. He stated that he hoped everyone would have a safe and happy Fourth of July. He stated that he would visit with Mr. Cupit to review Committee Appointments and any issues/concerns that might need to be brought before the Board at the next meeting. Mrs. Ferguson stated that since the holiday is on Saturday, the office would be closed on Friday; however, the Tourist Center would be open on Saturday July 4<sup>th</sup>. **Mr. Burgess moved, seconded by Mr. Cupit to approve the Executive Director's report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Goodeaux stated that the next meeting would be July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 at 1:00pm at the Pendleton Bridge Office Many, Louisiana. .

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

**Mr. Foret moved, seconded by Mr. Vidrine to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 2:26 pm.**

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**NED GOODEAUX, CHAIRMAN**

**ATTEST:**

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**THERMAN NASH, VICE-CHAIRMAN**

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**FRANK DAVIS, SECRETARY**