

1 **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE**
2 **SABINE RIVER AUTHORITY**
3 **STATE OF LOUISIANA**
4 **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**
5 **PENDLETON BRIDGE OFFICE**
6 **15091 TEXAS HIGHWAY**
7 **MANY, LA 71449**
8 **1:00PM THURSDAY, JUNE 26TH, 2014**
9

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11 **MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mr. Ned Goodeaux, Chairman
12 Mr. Therman Nash, Vice-Chairman
13 Mr. Ron Williams, Secretary
14 Mr. Norman Arbuckle
15 Mr. C. A. Burgess
16 Mr. Daniel Cupit
17 Mr. Frank Davis
18 Mr. Jimmy Foret, Jr
19 Mr. Byron Gibbs
20 Mr. Jerry Holmes
21 Mr. Stanley Vidrine
22 Mr. Bobby Williams
23

24 **MEMBERS ABSENT:** Mr. Jerry Holmes
25 Mrs. Estella Scott
26

27 **OTHERS PRESENT:** Jim Pratt, Executive Director-SRA, Many, LA
28 Becky Anderson, Adm Asst 5-SRA, Many, LA
29 Mike Carr, Fac Maint Mgr 3-SRA, Many, LA
30 Carl Chance, IT Director 1-SRA, Many, LA
31 Kellie Ferguson, Adm Prog Dir3-SRA, Many, LA
32

33 **There were fourteen (14) visitors.**
34
35

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

39 Mr. Goodeaux asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. Mr.
40 Bobby Williams stated that he would like to add under L.-Item #7 Sabine River Compact
41 Report. Mr. Goodeaux asked a motion to adopt the agenda with the additional report.
42 **Mr. Cupit moved, seconded by Mr. Davis to adopt the amended agenda. Motion**
43 **carried unanimously.**

44 Mr. Goodeaux stated that the minutes of the May 22nd, 2014 meeting were in the
45 packet and asked if there were any corrections. **Mr. Burgess moved, seconded by Mr.**
46 **Gibbs to approve the corrected minutes of the Board meeting of May 22nd, 2014**
47 **meeting. Motion carried unanimously.**
48

49 **STAFF REPORTS:**

1 Item#1-TBPJO: Mr. Pratt stated that the engineering report was included in the
2 Board packet for review. He stated that this is the first season under the new MISO
3 procedure that Cleco and Entergy had agreed upon. He stated that there is a run
4 scheduled for Friday, June 27th. He stated that conference calls are being held to compare
5 notes on the operation. He stated that the lake level is still above 171 msl a lot in part to
6 the rains that have been received. He stated that the rehabilitation project on the gates
7 during the fiscal year continues on Gates #2, #6, #8 and #10 were selected for repair. He
8 stated that Gate #8 and #10 are basically complete. He continued that Gate #6 is being
9 welded and Gate #2 is being sandblasted. He stated that the completion date is still set
10 for September 2014. He stated that Entergy runs the power plant and during the peaking
11 season, they determine what hours they want to run. He stated that staff has been in
12 communication with them asking to make exceptions for the holiday weekends due to
13 activities downstream. He stated also to consider if we received a significant inflow, it
14 would be necessary to run the generators instead of going into spillway gate operation.
15 He stated this has not happened thus far, but just brought to Entergy's attention in case it
16 was necessary. Mr. Williams asked about the coal plants possibly shutting down to new
17 rules and regulations and isn't that going to cause the power companies to purchase more
18 power from us? Mr. Pratt stated that yes it would; however, generation would be stopped
19 at the 168' msl as required by law and the companies understand that situation. He stated
20 that we do have a contract that we would supply the 65,700 megawatt hours during the
21 peaking season. He stated that under the current budget, funds were provided for the
22 hiring of a consultant to review the current contract because in 2015, it is necessary to let
23 the companies know if we are going to continue the current contract or if it is going to be
24 necessary to negotiate a new contract. He stated that this consultant would review the
25 market to see where our leverage lies for negotiating a new contract when the time
26 comes. He stated that there would be an inspection of the Dam on July 15th and 18th.
27 He stated that staff would be meeting with the USGS on July 8th. He stated that because
28 of the conditions of the new license, it is necessary to measure the flows at the spillway
29 and the purpose of this meeting is to discuss the best way of handling this issue.

30 Item #2-Shoreline/Relicensing: Mr. Chance stated from talking with FERC
31 licensing personnel, the project has left legal, but still seems to be on the August time

1 frame for issuance. He stated that Mel Swoboda, consultant for the re-licensing project,
2 would be finished and leaving on June 27th 2014. He stated that the Shoreline Department
3 had two new water withdrawal permits (\$216.66) and three water withdrawal transfer of
4 permits (\$324.99). He continued there were five transfers of permits (\$175.00). He
5 stated that he staff has done the preliminary preparations for removal on the one
6 boathouse that is a safety hazard in the back of Lanan Creek area. He stated that staff has
7 been in dialogue with an absentee owner/permittee on removing or repairing a boathouse
8 in the Glenwood Park area.

9 Item #3-Operational: Mr. Carr stated that at the Toledo Bend Division
10 maintenance is catching up on needed repairs in all park sites. He stated that the park
11 report list which is prepared by the staff working in the various parks was quite lengthy.
12 He stated that the new laundry in the RV area at Site 11 is almost complete with finishing
13 drywall and painting the majority of work remaining. He continued that the new
14 playground equipment has been shipped for Oak Ridge Park and will be here next week.
15 He stated that the insurance claim in the amount of \$5,833.77 for replacing the
16 transformer that had lightening damage at &A was denied. He stated the reason being we
17 had not specifically listed transformers for scheduled coverage. He stated that it was
18 necessary to use a contractor for this work as CLECO will not work on any equipment
19 owned by the SRA. He stated that with the assistance of Ronnie Cole, we are submitting
20 a complete list of transformers with pictures and GPS locations in Park Sites 7A and 15
21 to Office of Risk Management (ORM) for coverage in the future. He stated that staff will
22 start the process with CLECO to do in those two parks what has been done in Oak Ridge
23 and Cypress Bend which will be to upgrade all transformers and primary lines and
24 convey ownership to CLECO with a maintenance right-of-way. He stated that with the
25 Fourth of July holiday approaching, all parks will be full with both overnight/monthly
26 campers and a large crowd of day use visitors. He stated that staff has contacted the
27 Sheriff's department for two deputies at Cypress Bend on July 4th and 5th from 2:00pm
28 until closing. He stated that these policemen will also conduct spot checks and a walk
29 through with a dog at Cypress Bend Park with additional deputies. He stated that the
30 transition of maintenance of the Toledo Bend Project from Texas to Louisiana is moving
31 forward and the goal is to have this transition completed by September. He stated that

1 applications have been received and the interviewing process would begin next week. He
2 stated that the new hires would work under the Texas foreman for a short time to make
3 the transition run smoothly. He stated that he along with two other Louisiana employees
4 were able to observe and participate in moving the stop logs from one gate to another as
5 this responsibility will fall to Louisiana in the future. He continued that at the Diversion
6 Canal all Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) were coming to a close with the exception
7 of Project #6. He stated that total expenditures to-date was \$6,004,512.00. He stated that
8 the balance in Phase #1 revised budget was \$2,817,301.00 which \$1,100,000.00 was
9 allocated for Project #6. He stated that \$300,000.00 is allocated for Project #11 Pump
10 Base Repair in Stations #3 & #4. He stated that this would leave \$1,417,301.00 in Phase
11 #1 budget and staff is confident the other nine projects would be completed within the
12 current budget. He stated there had been a lightning strike at the main SCADA tower
13 which resulted in damage equipment. He continued that staff had filed a claim with
14 ORM and staff gave instructions to have the damage repaired by an authorized vendor
15 under emergency repairs. He stated the total cost was \$11,627.55. He stated that Pump
16 #3 motor at Pump Station #1 was sent to Buna Electric for repair of this 600hp motor
17 which the Board has approved up to \$50,000.00 for this repair and this was estimated due
18 a similar failure. He stated that it did not arc through the windings or bearings and the
19 cost \$8,060.00.

20 #4-Financial Report: Mrs. Ferguson stated that the financial reports were
21 included in the meeting packet. She stated that the Toledo Bend Division showed
22 revenues were \$644,777.10; expenditures of \$777,593.22 leaving a deficit of
23 \$132,816.12. She continued with the Diversion Canal revenues were \$339,719.42;
24 expenditures of \$246,520.09 leaving a profit of \$93,199.33. **Mr. Gibbs moved,**
25 **seconded by Mr. Ron Williams to accept all the Staff Reports including the**
26 **Financial Reports for May 2014 as circulated and presented. Motion carried**
27 **unanimously.**

28 SPECIAL REPORTS: None.

29 Mr. Mifflin stated he appreciated the opportunity to keep the lines of
30 communication with the public and thanked the Board for allowing him to serve as a
31 member of the outreach committee.

1 PUBLIC COMMENTS: Mrs. Tina Pilcher addressed the Board concerning the
2 procedure in which to rent a monthly RV pad at Cypress Bend Park in the month of July.
3 She stated that she was representing 8-10 families that love staying in the park during the
4 month of July, but with the current procedure makes it very difficult and an unpleasant
5 experience to achieve. She stated that she would like for the Board to review and
6 possibly change this procedure to make the RV sites more easily accessible to those who
7 want to rent the spaces especially during the summer months.

8 OLD BUSINESS: None.

9 NEW BUSINESS: Item #1: Election of Officers: Mr. Goodeaux stated that the
10 floor was open for nominations for Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary of the
11 Sabine River Authority Board of Commissioners. He explained that the nominations
12 could be made as a “group” or individually. **Mr. Vidrine nominated Mr. Goodeaux for**
13 **Chairman, Mr. Nash for Vice-Chairman and Mr. Ron Williams for Secretary and**
14 **asked that nominations cease. Mr. Burgess seconded the motion. Motion carried**
15 **unanimously.**

16 Item #2: Selection of Official Journal. Mr. Goodeaux stated that the agency is
17 required to have an “official journal” which has to be domiciled within the parish of the
18 agency. He stated that the Sabine Index is the only newspaper within the parish. **Mr.**
19 **Bobby Williams moved, seconded by Mr. Burgess to approve the selection of the**
20 **Sabine Index as the “official journal” for the agency. Motion carried unanimously.**

21 Item #3: Adopt Resolution of Appointing Authority: Mrs. Ferguson stated that
22 this is required by State Statute, SRA’s By-laws, and the Rules of the State Civil Service
23 Commission. She presented each member with a copy of the resolution for review prior
24 to the meeting. **Mr. Cupit moved, seconded by Mr. Nash to adopt the resolution of**
25 **Appointing Authority to James W. Pratt, Executive Director as stated by La. R.S.**
26 **38:2323, the Sabine River Authority’s By-laws and the Rules of the State Civil**
27 **Service Commission to manage the affairs of all employees of the Sabine River**
28 **Authority. Motion carried unanimously.**

29 Item #4: Approve ALH, No.5 Replacement Reserve Emergency Expenditure of
30 \$11,433.16. Mr. Carr stated that there was no need for any action on this item. He
31 stated that a pump had gone out and the cost to repair which was initially thought to be

1 above the limit for Board approval, has been resolved and the cost approximately
2 \$8,000.00. He stated that no action is required.

3 **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

4 1) Diversion Canal: No meeting.

5 2) Parks: No meeting.

6 3) Leaseback: No meeting.

7 4) Finance: Mr. Cupit stated that the Committee had met at 10:30am on
8 Thursday June 26th with several items that were discussed. Item a) He stated that the
9 budget was reviewed for FY'15. He stated that the Budget had been circulated within the
10 Board packet and asked if there were any questions. **Mr. Cupit moved, seconded by**
11 **Mr. Ron Williams that the Committee recommends that the Board approve the**
12 **Budget for FY'15 as circulated. Motion carried unanimously.** Item b) Mr. Cupit
13 stated that the Resolution along with the questionnaire was circulated within the Board
14 packet. He asked for any corrections. Mr. Nash stated that his name was misspelled and
15 Mr. Davis stated that his phone number was incorrect. **Mr. Cupit moved, seconded by**
16 **Mr. Bobby Williams that the Board adopt the Resolution for the Legislative**
17 **Compliance Questionnaire that is required to be sent to the auditor along with the**
18 **corrections that needed to be made to the questionnaire. Motion carried**
19 **unanimously.** Item c) Mr. Cupit stated that there had been a lightning strike at the main
20 tower that damaged the SCADA System equipment at the Diversion Canal. He stated
21 that a claim has been filed with ORM and staff was instructed to have the repairs done by
22 an authorized vendor under emergency repairs. He stated that the cost of the repairs was
23 \$11,627.55. **Mr. Cupit moved, seconded by Mr. Nash to approve the emergency**
24 **repairs to the SCADA Monitoring System at the Diversion Canal at the cost of**
25 **\$11,627.55. Motion carried unanimously.**

26 5) Water Sales: No meeting.

27 6) Fishery & Lake Management: No meeting.

28 7) Sabine River Compact: Mr. Bobby Williams stated that he would like to give
29 a brief update on the Sabine River Compact meeting that was held in Lake Charles,
30 Louisiana June 5th and 6th. He thanked Mr. Cupit for attending the meeting. He
31 presented each Board member with a bound copy of the report of the Compact. He

1 stated that the Compact is the bi-state organization that oversees the Sabine River. He
2 stated that the no-voting Chairman is appointed by the President of the United States. He
3 stated that there are two representatives from Louisiana, Dr. Brandon from Leesville and
4 himself along with the two representatives from Texas. He stated that the group meets
5 twice a year. He stated that the engineering Committee members meet once a year and
6 these can be found on Page 2 & 3 of the report. He stated that an engineering report is
7 presented at each meeting even when the Committee does not meet. He stated that this
8 committee reports on the water quality of the river and that readings are taken from gages
9 placed along the river. He stated that on Page 13 is the auditor's report and Page 15 tells
10 about the purpose of the Compact. He stated that on Page 29, there is a report about the
11 gages and where they are placed along the river. He stated that on Page 81 you can find
12 some history about the Compact which was created in 1951 in Congress between Texas
13 and Louisiana and the purpose was to make sure each state got its equal portions of the
14 waters, tributaries, and to remove the presence of any future controversy. He stated that
15 on Page 91 are the listed articles of the Compact between the two states. He stated that
16 on Page 4, you will find an explanation of the amount of water used by the two states. He
17 stated that Louisiana is 89,829 acres of water and Texas is 55,000 acres of water.

18 **LEGAL REPORT:** Mr. Pratt stated that no report. **Mr. Gibbs moved,**
19 **seconded by Mr. Davis to accept the legal report as presented. Motion carried**
20 **unanimously.**

21 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Mr. Pratt stated that the office would be
22 closed Thursday and Friday for the Fourth of July holiday. He stated regulars would
23 resume on Monday. He stated that he needed to explain a rumor that is floating around
24 the area concerning his leaving. He stated that he would be eligible to retire December
25 31st 2015 at which time his contract would be up for renewal; however, with the
26 Governor Election set for October/November 2015 the Board members appointed by the
27 new Governor would most probably be the ones to offer a new contract. He stated that he
28 would continue to be at the agency. **Mr. Burgess moved, seconded by Mr. Arbuckle to**
29 **accept the Executive Director's report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

30 Mr. Goodeaux stated that there would not be a July meeting; therefore the next
31 meeting would be August 28th, 2014 at 1:00pm at the Pendleton Bridge Office.

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

2 **Mr. Cupit moved, seconded by Mr. Gibbs to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.**

3 **Meeting adjourned at 2:04 pm.**

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NED GOODEAUX, CHAIRMAN

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THERMAN NASH, VICE-CHAIRMAN

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14 **ATTEST:**

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RON WILLIAMS, SECRETARY

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