

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
SABINE RIVER AUTHORITY
STATE OF LOUISIANA
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CYPRESS BEND RESORT LEARNING CENTER
2000 CYPRESS BEND PARKWAY
MANY, LA

1:00PM THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Jimmy Foret, Jr, Chairman
Mr. Byron Gibbs, Secretary
Mr. Jeremy Evans
Mr. Kenneth Ebarb
Mr. Shane Jeane
Mr. Mike McCormic
Mr. Kevin Mitchell
Mr. Therman Nash
Mrs. Estella Scott
Mr. Stanley Vidrine

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. Danny Cupit
Mr. Ned Goodeaux

OTHERS PRESENT: Warren Founds, Executive Director-SRA, Many, LA
Becky Anderson, Adm Asst 5-SRA, Many, LA
Mike Carr, Fac. Maint. Mgr 3-SRA, Many, LA
Kellie Ferguson, Adm Prog Dir 3-SRA, Many, LA
Chevy Medlock, Adm. Prog Mgr 3-SRA, Many, LA
Chad Strother, Land Specialist 3-SRA, Many, LA
There were 0 visitors.

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

Mr. Foret asked if there were any additions or deletions to the circulated agenda?

Mr. Gibbs asked that Item #K2 be moved under #F1. Mr. Evans moved, seconded by

Mr. Gibbs to adopt the amended agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Foret stated that the minutes of the July 28, 2022 meeting were in the packet and asked for a motion to approve the minutes if there were no corrections.

Mr. Gibbs moved, seconded by Mr. Vidrine to approve the minutes of the Board meeting of July 22, 2022 as circulated. Motion carried unanimously.

Item F #1: Accept SRA Annual Audit: Mrs. Ferguson stated that a

representative from the Auditor's Office would present the report which was provided in the meeting packet. Mr. DeFlaco stated that to begin with the Staff does a great job for

1 the agency and there were no issues found during the audit. He stated that the agency is
2 in sound financial position. He reviewed the report in some detail. **Mr. Mitchell**
3 **moved, seconded by Mr. McCormic to accept the SRA Annual Audit as circulated**
4 **and presented. Motion carried unanimously.**
5 **STAFF REPORTS: Item #1-TBPJO- Power House Operations:** Mr. Founds
6 stated that Mr. Fulton is at a training seminar, but his report was included in the packet.
7 He stated that the units are in outage for the annual maintenance. There a cumulative total
8 of 365 hours generated in July, 32 hours in August, and 93 hours as of September 15th.
9 The Prime Power Schedule runs from May to the end of September. Total generation
10 year-to-date 74,523.8MWH. Power House Step Up Transformer Replacement Project
11 Update is as follows: Pre-construction meeting was held with Kiewit on August 11th.
12 Kiewit tentatively plans to begin civil operations Mid-October to Early-November. The
13 Power House began its annual outage to perform routine maintenance on Unit #2
14 Tuesday, September 6th which is expected to last until October 8th. **Reservoir**
15 **Levels/Status:** The average reservoir level through July was 168.99' msl through August
16 was 167.92' msl. He stated that the reservoir level to-date September 15th was 167.94' msl.
17 Through the months of October, November, and December, attempts will be made to
18 keep the reservoir near a level of 168.00' msl. Spillway Electrical Repair Project, no
19 changes since the last meeting. **FERC/NERC/SERC:** Certrec Corporation continues to
20 provide support to SRA-TX and SRA-LA for NERC/SERC/FERC compliance issues for
21 Power House. Completed annual Spillway Gate Operation Certification as required by
22 FERC on August 11th.

23 **Item #2-Shoreline: Permitting Activity:** Mr. Strother stated that from
24 July 20, 2022 to September 15, 2022, there were (18) new structure permits, (34)
25 transferred structure permits, (1) new water withdrawal(s), (6) transferred water
26 withdrawal, (2) cancelled water withdrawals, (1) shoreline improvements (dredge/erosion
27 control), (21) approved final inspections and (1) failed final inspection. **NORTH-**
28 **Converse area:** 0-new structures; 1-transferred structures; 0-transferred water
29 withdrawals and 0-cancelled water withdrawal. **NORTH-Noble area:** 0 new structures;
30 0-transferred structures; 0-new water withdrawal; 0-transferred water withdrawal and 0-
31 cancelled water withdrawal; **NORTH-Zwolle area:** 2-new structures; 9-transferred

1 structure; 0-new water withdrawal; 2 -transferred water withdrawal; 1 cancelled water
2 withdrawal. **MID LAKE-Many area: 13**-new structure; 14-transferred structures; 0-
3 new water withdrawal; 3-transferred water withdrawal; 1-cancelled water withdrawals; 1-
4 shoreline improvements. **SOUTH-Florien: 3**-new structure; 10-transferred structure; 1-
5 new water withdrawal; 1-transferred water withdrawal and 0-cancelled water withdrawal.
6 **ENCROACHMENT PROGRAM:** Mr. Strother stated that no change to report. He
7 stated that the new permitting software has been fully incorporated into the office and it
8 has provided the ability to attach SRA permits to the parcel numbers that are provided by
9 the Sabine Parish Tax Assessor. He stated that the Shadows Landing operating on SRA
10 Leaseback property without a commercial permit. He stated that the leaseback has sewer
11 tanks and sewer lines on it. He stated that the leaseback has some rental spaces with
12 permanent mobile homes on them. He stated that the leaseback has permanent buildings
13 located on it. He stated that the leaseback area where the permanent buildings are located
14 are being used as habitual structures with sewer lines installed. He stated that the
15 leaseback area has watercraft and equipment being stored on it. He stated that a complete
16 list of these issues along with picture document has been provided within the Board
17 packet. He stated that staff has met with the manager, presented her with the findings of
18 the investigation and gave her a copy of the guidelines to be followed concerning
19 leaseback. He stated that staff is waiting for the manager's response.
20 **Item #3-Operational: TOLEDO BEND:** Mr. Carr stated that the crew is
21 maintaining grounds at all parks. He stated that cabin and RV maintenance continue
22 daily in each park. He stated that the crew has almost completed clearing land, installing
23 drainage culverts and doing site prep for the golf course renovations. He stated that they
24 are placing old concrete at seawalls which need reinforcement. He stated that the SRA
25 Crew is placing flow able concrete under existing concrete at Park Site #1 1flag plaza to
26 save the retaining wall. He stated that the crew is removing old asphalt at Park Site 7-A
27 in preparation for Apeck starting that overlay project the week of September 26th. He
28 stated that pressure washing and spray painting at Cypress Bend Resort is scheduled to
29 start next week. He stated that staff is waiting for the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement
30 between Desoto Parish Police Jury, City of Logansport and SRA to be finalized to move
31 forward on the Garrett Park Project. He stated that once this is received, perhaps the

1 same time CEA could be done for the Blue Lake Launch. **SRD:** Mr. Carr stated that the
2 staff report was handed out and he would review and answer any questions. He stated
3 that staff conducts weekly inspections of the canal system. He stated that the staff
4 continues weekly inspection of flow metering stations and records weekly customer
5 usage rates throughout the canal system. He stated that staff has begun mowing the canal
6 system levees and right-of-ways. He stated that staff continues routine ground
7 maintenance of SRD pump stations, Administration Office and Maintenance Shop. He
8 stated that staff continues to apply herbicide by truck throughout the canal system which
9 includes roadway crossings and right-of-ways for vegetation control. He stated that CIP
10 #18-Canal Bridge Repairs and Rehab Project will be substantially complete after the final
11 inspection/walk through by staff and contractor. He stated that if the inspection is
12 satisfactory, then this project will be closed out preferably by the end of October.

13 **Financial Report:** Mrs. Ferguson stated that the financial reports were
14 circulated within the meeting packet. She stated that for the Toledo Bend Division
15 revenues for July were \$997,370.88, expenses were \$1,276,708.57 showing a deficit of
16 \$279,337.69. She continued that for August total revenue was \$362,498.37, expenses
17 were \$529,011.28 leaving a deficit of \$166,512.91. She stated that for the Diversion
18 Canal Division revenues for July were \$644,176.53, expenses were \$483,618.76 leaving
19 a profit of \$160,557.77. She stated continuing with the month of June, revenues were
20 \$708,827.02, expenses were \$304,507.38 leaving a profit of \$404,319.64. She stated that
21 the total spent at Cypress Bend for the month of July and August is \$73,170.26 of the
22 \$473,881.99 budgeted amount. She stated that staff received a call from FEMA
23 concerning SRA's outstanding reimbursement, and was asked if the agency would accept
24 \$5million for the 2016 Hurricane Laura Incident and staff expressed yes. She continued
25 that this amount would leave a balance of \$1million, which we were later told with some
26 additional documentation SRA would possibly receive it. She stated that the check has
27 not been received as of September 22, 2022. **Mr. Gibbs moved, seconded by Mr.**
28 **Vidrine to approve the Staff Reports as circulated and presented. Motion carried**
29 **unanimously.**

30 **SPECIAL REPORTS: Item #1: Project Discovery Lower Sabine Watershed:**

31 Mr. Edward Anthony, P.E. representing Quality Engineering addressed the Board to

1 explain that his company had been selected to provide services for a study of the lower
2 Sabine Watershed. He stated that along with the Department of Transportation and
3 Development, this study is to allow all project stakeholders to obtain a more
4 comprehensive and holistic understanding of the flood risk and flood mitigation
5 capabilities and opportunities of communities with in the lower Sabine watershed. He
6 stated that several public meetings would be held within the next few weeks at various
7 locations and he handed out a copy to all Board members present. He stated that all data
8 collected would be provided to the various entities for helping to create Flood Risk
9 Databases, Reports and Maps that could be used for regulatory purposes such as Flood
10 Insurance Rate Maps. Mr. Foret thanked Mr. Anthony for his informative presentation.

11 **PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.**

12 **OLD BUSINESS: Item #1: Approve Letter of Intent to Negotiate an Out-of-**

13 **State Water Sale:** Mr. Founds stated that staff had received a Letter of Intent to
14 negotiate an out-of-state water sale with Aqueduct Werks, LLC. He stated that he is
15 requesting authorization to move forward with discussions pursuant to the plan(s) or
16 proposal(s) concerning a water sale contract from the reservoir. He stated that in previous
17 discussions, the agency has approved his pursuit of water sales as an alternate funding
18 source to power generation, and this Letter of Intent moves this to the next step of that
19 endeavor. **Mr. McCormic moved, seconded by Mr. Nash to approve authorizing the**
20 **Executive Director to move forward with Aqueduct Werks, LLC discussions and**
21 **signing this Letter of Intent pursuant to the proposed out-of-state water sales**
22 **contract. Motion carried unanimously.**

23 **NEW BUSINESS: Item #1: Accept ALH, No.5 Bi-Annual Audit:** Mrs.
24 Ferguson stated that when staff requested to add this item to the agenda for the meeting,
25 the report had not been received; however, the auditor's office had estimated that staff
26 would have it before the meeting. She stated that staff is requesting to table this item
27 until next month since the report has not been received. **Mr. Gibbs moved, seconded by**
28 **Mrs. Scott to table the ALH, No.5 Bi-Annual Audit until next month. Motion**
29 **carried unanimously.**

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31 **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1 **1) Diversion Canal:** Mr. Foret called the Committee to order. The roll was
2 called, noted that Mr. Cupit was absent, but a quorum was established. He opened
3 the floor for nominations for Chairman. **Mr. Vidrine nominated Mr. Gibbs**
4 **with nominations to cease seconded by Mr. Jeane. Motion carried**
5 **unanimously. Mr. Gibbs elected by acclamation.**
6 **2) Toledo Bend Division:** Mr. Foret called the Committee to order. The roll was
7 called and all were present. He opened the floor for nominations for Chairman.
8 **Mr. Ebarb nominated Mr. Evans with nominations to cease, seconded by Mr.**
9 **Mitchell. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Evans elected by acclamation.**
10 **3) Parks:** Mr. Foret called the Committee to order. The roll was called and all
11 members were present. He opened the floor for nominations for Chairman. **Mr.**
12 **Gibbs nominated Mr. Jeane with nominations to cease, seconded by Mrs.**
13 **Scott. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Jeane elected by acclamation.**
14 **4) Finance:** Mr. Foret called the Committee to order. The roll was called, it was
15 noted that Mr. Goodeaux was absent, however a quorum was established. He
16 opened the floor for nominations for Chairman. **Mr. McCormic nominated Mr.**
17 **Goodeaux with nominations to cease, seconded by Mr. Evans. Motion**
18 **carried unanimously. Mr. Goodeaux elected by acclamation.**
19 **5) Cypress Bend Golf Resort:** Mr. Foret called the Committee to order. The roll
20 was called, it was noted Mr. Cupit was absent, however a quorum was
21 established. He opened the floor for nominations for Chairman. **Mr. McCormic**
22 **nominated Mr. Ebarb with nominations to cease, seconded by Mr. Evans.**
23 **Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Ebarb elected by acclamation.**
24 **6) Toledo Bend Project Joint Operations:** Mr. Foret stated that the Louisiana
25 representatives to serve are Mr. McCormic and Mr. Vidrine.
26 **LEGAL REPORT:** Mr. Foret asked for a motion to move into Executive
27 Session. **Mr. Ebarb moved, seconded by Mr. Evans to move into Executive Session.**
28 **Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Gibbs moved, seconded by Mr. Mitchell to**
29 **reconvene from Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Vidrine**
30 **moved, seconded by Mr. Gibbs to authorize the Executive Director to move forward**
31 **with the negotiation and structuring of a contract for the sale of power generation**

1 with the company that offers the best proposal for the two Sabine River Authorities,
2 as determined by staff and hired consultants, and to report back to the Board with
3 the final agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

4 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Mr. Founds stated that there are two
5 developers waiting to see about the FERC boundary approval. He stated that in the
6 previous month's meeting, he had explained that FERC did not approve the Boundary
7 Amendment Application presented and discussions with legal representative are ongoing
8 to aid in resolving the issue. He stated that talks with International Paper about the
9 upgrading of their water pipeline and the use of SRA Revenue Bonds, as in the past, are
10 beginning and assured the company that SRA would be glad to work them again Mr.

11 **Gibbs moved, seconded by Mr. Evans to approve the Executive Director's report as**
12 **presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

13 Mr. Foret stated that the next meeting would be Thursday, October 28, 2022 at
14 1:00pm at the Cypress Bend Resort Learning Center, 2000 Cypress Bend Parkway,
15 Many, LA.

16 With no further business to discuss, Mr. Foret asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr.
17 **Gibbs moved, seconded by Mr. Evans to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.**

18 **Meeting adjourned at 2:28p.m.**

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JAMES FORET, JR, CHAIRMAN



NED GOODEAUX, VICE-CHAIRMAN

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30 **ATTEST:** 
31 **BYRON GIBBS, SECRETARY**