

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, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Jeremy Evans, Chairman  
Mr. Kenneth Ebarb, Vice-Chairman  
Mr. Shane Jeane, Secretary  
Mrs. Rhonda Cupit  
Mr. Jimmy Foret, Jr  
Mr. Byron Gibbs  
Mr. Ned Goodeaux  
Mr. Mike McCormic  
Mr. Kevin Mitchell  
Mr. Therman Nash  
Mrs. Hannah Savell  
Mrs. Estella Scott  
Mr. Stanley Vidrine

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Mike McCormic  
Mr. Therman Nash  
Mr. Stanley Vidrine

OTHERS PRESENT:

Warren Founds, Executive Director-SRA, Many, LA  
Becky Anderson, Adm Asst 5-SRA, Many, LA  
Kellie Ferguson, Adm Prog Dir 3-SRA, Many, LA  
Alan Fulton, Eng. Tech 2-SRA, Many, LA  
Joey Remedies, Fac. Maint Mgr 3-SRA, Many, LA  
Chad Strother, Land Specialist 3-SRA, Many, LA

There were eleven (11) visitors.

Mr. Evans called the meeting to order. Mr. Jeane offered the Prayer and Mr.

Ebarb led the Pledge. The roll was called and it was noted that Mr. McCormic, Mr.

Nash, and Mr. Vidrine were absent; however, a quorum was established.

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

Mr. Founds stated that staff is requesting to add under Old Business, Item #1 - Update on

Logansport Project to the circulated agenda. Mr. Ebarb moved, seconded by Mr.

Mitchell to amend the circulated agenda. Motion carried unanimously. Mr.

Goodeaux moved, seconded by Mr. Jeane to adopt the amended agenda. Motion

carried unanimously.

Mr. Evans stated that the minutes of the August 24, 2023 meeting were in the

packet and asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting, if there were no

1 corrections. **Mr. Gibbs moved, seconded by Mr. Foret to approve the minutes of the**  
2 **Board meeting of August 24, 2023 as circulated. Motion carried unanimously.**  
3 **STAFF REPORTS: Item #1-TBPJO- Power House Operations:** Mr. Fulton  
4 stated that as of September 19<sup>th</sup>, total generation was 210,139MWH. He stated that there  
5 are no new updates on the Power House Step Up Transformer Replacement Project.  
6 **Reservoir Levels/Status:** The average reservoir level through September 20<sup>th</sup> was  
7 168.15' msl. He stated that the Prime Power Schedule runs May 1<sup>st</sup> thru September 30<sup>th</sup>.  
8 He stated that through the months of October, November, and December attempts will be  
9 made to keep the reservoir near a level of 168.0' msl. **FERC/NERC/SERC: Certrec**  
10 Corporation continues to provide support to SRA-TX and SRA-LA for  
11 NERC/SERC/FERC compliance issues for Power House. He stated that the Fall Outage  
12 will be done late October, early November. He stated that in January, plans are to have  
13 the new transformers put into operation.  
14 **Item #2-Shoreline: Permitting Activity:** Mr. Strother stated that from  
15 August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023, thru September 21, 2023, there were (10) new structure permits, (5)  
16 transferred structure permits, (6) new water withdrawal(s), (0) transferred water  
17 withdrawals, (0) cancelled water withdrawals, (0) shoreline improvements  
18 (dredge/erosion control), (6) approved final inspections and (0) failed final inspection.  
19 **NORTH-Converse area:** 1-new structures; 1-transferred structures; 1-transferred water  
20 withdrawals and 0-cancelled water withdrawal. **NORTH-Noble area:** 0 new structures;  
21 2-transferred structures; 0-new water withdrawal; 0-transferred water withdrawal and 0-  
22 cancelled water withdrawal; **NORTH-Zwolle area:** 2-new structures; 1-transferred  
23 structure; 0-new water withdrawal; 3-transferred water withdrawal; 1- cancelled water  
24 withdrawal. **MID LAKE-Many area:** 5-new structures; 2-transferred structures; 6new  
25 water withdrawal; 4-transferred water withdrawal; 0-cancelled water withdrawals; 0-  
26 shoreline improvements. **SOUTH-Florien:** 2-new structures; 1-transferred structures; 0-  
27 new water withdrawal; 0-transferred water withdrawal and 0-cancelled water withdrawal.  
28 **FLOWAGE EASEMENTS:** He stated that Northview Subdivision Phase #3 which  
29 covers 6.857 acres with 11 proposed lots/sites is located on Little Flock Road across the  
30 cove from Esto's Landing. **ENCROACHMENT PROGRAM:** None to report.  
31 **OTHER:** He stated that he and Mr. Fulton had attended the Entergy Shoreline Managers

1 Workshop in Hot Springs, Arkansas on September 11<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>. He stated that they heard  
2 several applicable seminars such as Permitting and Guidelines, FERC news, SMP  
3 changes, Easements and Flowage Easements, Encroachments, Invasive Species  
4 Management and Enforcement. He stated that they were also introduced to some of the  
5 latest Technology for permit managing and shoreline accounting.

6 **Item #3-Operational:** Mr. Remedies stated that the Restrooms at San Miguel  
7 Park will be complete once the stall walls are received and installed, then the Fire  
8 Marshall can be contacted to make his final inspection. He stated that he would defer his  
9 report on Logansport until Old Business. He stated that the crew had been doing some  
10 underbrush clearing at each of the park sites as well as San Patricio Pullover. He stated  
11 that staff had visited Converse Bay-Park Site #4 and that the lakeside of the boat launch  
12 was almost dry and had silted in, so launching and getting to the main body of water was  
13 pretty much impossible. **SRD:** Mr. Remedies stated that the Coach Williams Drive  
14 Project is complete and open to traffic. He stated that the Ozan Bridge Project is  
15 underway and the contractor has issued the date of October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 for completion. He  
16 stated that CIP #15, the upgrading of meters and necessary SCADA equipment to  
17 monitor water volume has been given to Meyers for engineering and a progress report  
18 should be available at the next Board meeting. He stated that staff is in the signing  
19 process of a contract with Eaton to run the appropriate power supply to our new pumps,  
20 this should complete the CIP #13, which is the upgrade to Pump Station #3 that will  
21 allow us to have an output of 35,000gpm.

22 **Financial Report:** Mrs. Ferguson stated that the reviewing the report for the  
23 Diversion Canal revenues year-to-date were \$1,423,569.39, expenses were \$771,330.69  
24 leaving a profit of \$652,239.27. She stated that for the Toledo Bend Division year-to-date  
25 revenues were 1,550,764.80, expenses were \$2,031,394.09 leaving a loss of \$480,629.29.  
26 She stated that staff is suggesting that the Board approve a resolution or amend the  
27 current resolution allowing recurring invoices that are over the Executive Director's  
28 spending authority to include the ability to pay these invoice. She stated that when a  
29 \$50,000 light bill was received, staff printed the check, had it signed and mailed it off to  
30 the vendor without thinking about the Executive Director's spending authority being on  
31 \$25,000 or otherwise, all invoices over that amount would have to be approved by the

1 Board. She stated that staff would prepare a new resolution for the next Board meeting.  
2 She stated that preparations are in progress for the Christmas Lighting at Cypress Bend  
3 Park. She stated that Civil Service has been performing their audit this week and a final  
4 report should be received by next Wednesday. She stated that the episode of the Bank  
5 Fraud seems to have found one instance where a vendor that SRA uses was sent a check  
6 for \$17,000, which was not received by the company but was cashed on SRA's account;  
7 however, the Bank has refunded our money and will continue to move forward with the  
8 investigation. She stated that SRA still has not received all the reimbursements from  
9 FEMA who had approved and sent monies to the State for the storm damages. She stated  
10 that SRA did receive approximately \$4.5 million and that staff continues to work on  
11 recovering these additional funds. **Mr. Gibbs moved, seconded by Mr. Foret to**  
12 **approve staff reports as circulated and presented. Motion carried unanimously.**  
13 **SPECIAL REPORTS: None.**  
14 **PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.**  
15 **OLD BUSINESS: Item #1- Update on Logansport/Garrett Park: Mr.**  
16 Remedies stated that the crew had completed the dredge and building of the boat launch  
17 at Garrett Park in Logansport. He stated that a concrete ramp had been poured and that  
18 staff would like to build a walkway with a floating pier next to the launch area. He stated  
19 that an additional \$10,000 was needed to complete the project with the total cost not to  
20 exceed \$35,000. **Mr. Goodeaux moved, seconded by Mr. Mitchell to approve an**  
21 **additional \$10,000 for the building of the walkway and floating pier next to the**  
22 **relocated boat launch at Garrett Park in Logansport not to exceed the total cost of**  
23 **\$35,000 for the entire project. Motion carried unanimously.**

24 **NEW BUSINESS: Item #1-Approve FY'23 Audit Report by Mr. Robert**  
25 **Furman:** Mrs. Ferguson introduced Mr. Furman, CPA representing the firm of Griffin &  
26 Furman. Mr. Furman stated that he would like to review the statement that was prepared  
27 and submitted to the Legislative Auditor's Office. He continued with asking those  
28 members present to turn to Pages 4 & 5 Statement of Net Position of Assets, Deferred  
29 Outflows/Inflows of Resources and Liabilities. He stated that total is \$126,961,232. He  
30 stated that on Page #6, Changes in Net Position shows on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 net position was  
31 \$101,184,206 and on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023 it was \$104,978,679 which shows a slight increase  
32 of \$3,234,826. He stated that the agency is in good shape. He stated that the one finding



1 was due to the Toledo Bend Project Joint Operations had been depreciating an item called  
2 Reservoir/Waterways that should not have been handled in that manner. He continued  
3 that TBPJO had reversed this decision around 2004 at which the current auditor did not  
4 pick-up the change and continued as before. He stated that the SRA staff did not handle  
5 these depreciation entries, the current auditor prepared the entries and passed them to the  
6 staff at SRA. He stated that currently Mrs. Ferguson and staff have been working to  
7 balance the books with our finding so going forward, there will not be an issue. He  
8 complimented the staff on their helpfulness during the entire process. **Mr. Foret moved,**  
9 **seconded by Mr. Goodeaux to approve the audit for FY'23 as presented. Motion**  
10 **carried unanimously.**

11 **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- 12 1) **Diversion Canal: No meeting.**  
13 2) **Toledo Bend Division: No meeting.**  
14 3) **Parks: No meeting.**  
15 4) **Finance: No meeting.**  
16 5) **Cypress Bend Golf Resort: Mr. Ebarb moved seconded by Mrs. Savell to**  
17 **approve the meeting minutes of 08-24-23 as circulated. Motion carried**  
18 **unanimously.**

- 19 6) **Toledo Bend Project Operations: No meeting.**

20 **LEGAL REPORT:** Mr. Founds stated that there were no updates.

21 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Mr. Founds stated that his written  
22 report was included in the packet. He stated that the Division of Administration had sent  
23 a letter to the agency giving SRA permission to pay the outstanding invoices for legal  
24 counsel services to Taylor-Porter for work prepared on the out-of-state water contract. He  
25 stated that he wanted to inform everyone that Aqeduct Werks was still interested in an  
26 out-of-state water sale when the time was right and after new administration is in place.  
27 **Mr. Foret moved, seconded by Mr. Mitchell to table this discussion until 2024.**  
28 **Motion carried unanimously.**

29 Mr. Evans stated that the next meeting would be Thursday, October 26, 2023 at

30 1PM. **Mr. Foret interjected a motion, seconded by Mr. Jeane to hold the Board**

1 Meetings at the Cypress Bend Conference Center 2000 Cypress Bend Parkway

2 Many, LA from this day forward. Motion carried unanimously.

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

4 Mrs. Cupit moved, seconded by Mrs. Savell to adjourn. Motion carried

5 unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 2:06p.m.

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8 JEREMY EVANS, CHAIRMAN

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10 KENNETH EBARB, VICE-CHAIRMAN

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15 ATTEST:



16 SHANE JEANE, SECRETARY