

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE
AMITE RIVER BASIN DRAINAGE & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

3535 S. Sherwood Forest Boulevard, Suite 135, Baton Rouge, LA

September 18, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT DURING ROLL CALL: Ben Babin, Jerry Thibeau, David Hoover, Lionel Bailey, Willie George Lee, James Little, Larry Thomas, Don Thompson, Kenneth "Wade" Welborn

MEMBERS ABSENT: Matt Milazzo, Tamiara Wade

Vacancy: East Feliciana Parish, St. Helena Parish

ALSO, PRESENT: ARBC Executive Director Dietmar Rietschier, ARBC Executive Secretary Toni Guitrau, ARBC Legal Counsel Larry Bankston

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Babin.
2. Prayer/Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Public Comments on Agenda Items:
4. Minutes

The Board unanimously approved a motion by Thompson, second by Thomas to approve the August regular meeting minutes, as presented.

5. Financial Statement Report

- Hoover presented to the Board the August 2018 General Fund and CRDC Fund financial statements. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Thomas, second by Lee to approve the August 2018 General Fund and CRDC Fund financial statements.

6. Executive Director Report

- Demolition Sealed-Bids Opening: Sealed bids were opened by Bankston. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Hoover, second by Little to approve the lowest bidder, American Construction & Demolition Co., 7740 Elliott Rd, Baton Rouge, LA in the amount of \$118,000. The approved bidder must enter into contract with ARBC within 30 days of bid-acceptance and the job is to be completed in 120 days with a one-time 45-day extension.
- Request by ORX Pipeline for ROE for Survey Purposes: Action by the ARBC is not needed because the Board previously approved Resolution 1141 authorizing, Dietmar Rietschier, Executive Director, to sign any and all documents, agreements, permits, and rights-of-way and any other instrument on behalf of the Amite River Basin Drainage and Water Conservation District in furtherance of executing the right of way and Servitude Agreement by and between ARBC and various utilities, as he deems necessary in his sole discretion.
- Revised Borrow & Fill Material CEA with East Baton Rouge Parish. Bankston informed the Board that minor changes to the CEA are on Page 2, Section **II, Survey**, *The excavation shall be made to a depth no greater than twenty (20) feet from the existing grade*. Note: Changed from 6' to 20'. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Hoover, second by Lee to approve Resolution 1142 - CEA, as amended.
- DOTD Report by Susan Douglas and Christina Brignac:
DOTD is currently working on acquiring the construction servitude associated with the Bypass Road tie ins at US61 and the permanent servitude needed for the Barnett Road relocation. Utility relocation designs are ongoing at this time. DOTD is working with the utilities and the Corps to provide any assistance possible in clearing wetland concerns in areas where HDD pits and pipe laydown will be occurring. The pipelines on the east side of US61 have begun discussions with landowners on both the north and south of the channel with civil and environmental surveys anticipated to begin the week of 10.8. DOTD is identifying potential funding for initiation of design activities at LA 964, LA 19 and LA 67. Initial design activities will include survey and geotechnical at all remaining bridge locations.

7. ARBC Legal Counsel

Bankston reported to the Board that he and Rietschier attended a meeting called "Mitigation Industry Day" at the Corps of Engineers. The issue is that they are looking for mitigation solutions as there are not enough mitigation bank credits to buy and they are concerned these larger projects will take up all mitigation credits, which will hurt the smaller projects causing prices to sky-rocket and may cause a problem for development in Louisiana. Steve Roberts, with the USACE, said there are 800 acres outside of the ROW, which is potentially available for mitigation. Roberts will make a determination as to

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whether or not that potential is there. There will be a new agreement going forward. Everything involved with Hwy 61 is under the old agreement and everything going forward is under the new agreement. ARBC has not seen the new agreement but it is anticipated it will be ARBC and DOTD's obligation to continue to acquire all the LEERDS. We will continue to submit payments and details about the purchase and get reimbursed. The issue is how long will it take to get reimbursed. Also, all work moving west to east in the CRDC Project has been abandoned. They are looking at doing it all at once. This new agreement is coming directly from Washington, which is a good thing

8. Old Business: None
9. New Business: None
10. The Board adjourned the meeting. 6:57 pm.

APPROVED:

/s/ Ben Babin, ARBC President
Date: October 16, 2018

/s/ Toni B. Guitrau, Executive Secretary