

**RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSION
FOR THE PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE**
Regular Meeting – 5:00 p.m.
BREC Administration Building
6201 Florida Boulevard
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Commission Minutes
June 25, 2009

Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Recreation and Park Commission for the Parish of East Baton Rouge was held at BREC's Administration Building on June 25, 2009. The meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m. by Collis Temple, Jr., Chairman. Roll call was taken and a quorum of Commissioners was present including Bill Benedetto, Vice-Chairman; Bettsie Miller, Treasurer; Audrey Nabors-Jackson; Bert Neal; and Kenith Woodall. Commissioner Verge Ausberry, Jr. arrived at 5:05 p.m. and Commissioners David Guillory and Darryl Robertson were absent. Staff members present were William Palmer, Superintendent; Ted Jack, Assistant Superintendent; Dale Auzenne; Jack Dirks; Phil Frost; Tommy Green; Carl Johnson; Donna Mitchell; Mike Proctor; Justin Smith; Debbie Spica; Stephanie Trim; Kristi Williams; and Chris Marchiafava. Carl Stages, Executive Director of BREC Foundation; Steve Lousteau, Baton Rouge City President for Capital One Bank; and Stephen Whalen, legal counsel, were also in attendance. The audience consisted of BREC staff, the media, and the general public.

Adoption of Minutes

Resolved, That the reading of the minutes of the Recreation and Park Commission Meeting of May 28, 2009 and June 11, 2009 be dispensed with, and that they be approved as written.

Motion by Ms. Nabors-Jackson

Seconded by Mr. Woodall

Approved by unanimous consent

Consent Calendar

Resolved, That the Recreation and Park Commission for the Parish of East Baton Rouge does hereby approve the Consent Calendar items.

Motion by Mr. Neal

Seconded by Ms. Nabors-Jackson

Approved by unanimous consent

The following items were approved as part of the Consent Calendar:

Acceptance of Recommendations of the Finance Advisory Committee

Resolved, That the Commission approve the purchase of a Case Compact Track Loader, Model 420-CT for BREC's Baton Rouge Zoo on state contract from Crawler Supply Company for \$36,525.55.

Resolved, That the Commission approve Change Order #1 to a contract with Source Environmental, LLC for removal and disposal of pipe rail at ten additional parks for \$37,090.00. Change Order #1 will increase the existing contract amount from \$126,031.00 to \$163,121.00.

Acceptance of Recommendations of the Human Resources Advisory Committee

Resolved, That the Commission approve the Routine Personnel Transactions for the month of June 2009.

Resolved, That the Commission approve recommendations from the Insurance Subcommittee for the Request for Proposal (RFP) for Managed Medical Insurance Plan and Prescription Benefits Plan for the 2010 Plan Year.

Presentations

Mr. Palmer presented the following employee service awards:

15 Years

Greta M. Myles

Clarice Angie Palmer

5 Years

William S. Merrill

Ashton C. Hawkins

Ms. Miller noted that Mr. Ausberry had arrived. She then offered congratulations to the LSU Tigers baseball team for their victory at the College World Series. Ms. Miller also thanked the BREC staff for their work with children and getting them involved in athletics at an early age.

Mr. Temple also congratulated the LSU Tigers baseball team for winning the College World Series. He also commended the staff for their work with children in programs that promote lifelong participation in sports.

Mr. Benedetto suggested that the Commission put the congratulations in the form of a resolution and send it to the LSU Athletic Department. Ms. Nabors-Jackson made a motion to approve the resolution, Mr. Benedetto seconded, and it was approved by unanimous consent.

The Commission viewed a brief informational video.

Reports of Officers and Standing Committees

The Commission received the 2008 Audit Report from Mr. Palmer. Mr. Palmer stated that BREC received an unqualified opinion from Hawthorn, Waymouth and Carroll, L.L.P. Mr. Woodall made a motion to accept the report, Mr. Ausberry seconded, and the motion was approved by unanimous consent.

Mr. Neal moved to approve the following:

Authorize Collis Temple, Jr., as Chairman of The Recreation and Park Commission for the Parish of East Baton Rouge, to proclaim July as RECREATION AND PARKS MONTH and encourage all citizens to celebrate by taking part in their favorite sports, visiting the outdoors, spending time with family and friends or just relaxing.

Authorize Collis Temple, Jr., as Chairman of The Recreation and Park Commission for the Parish of East Baton Rouge, to proclaim July 12-18, 2009 as NATIONAL THERAPEUTIC RECREATION WEEK in East Baton Rouge Parish, and urge all citizens to support this observance, and to promote and enhance the quality of life for persons with physical, mental, emotional and/or social limitations.

Seconded by Mr. Benedetto

Approved by unanimous consent

Mr. Palmer noted that the Commissioners had each been provided a six month attendance report of their advisory committee appointees.

Mr. Palmer mentioned a very positive letter to the editor in The Advocate about BREC's cooperative endeavor with the YMCA and the American Legion Nicholson Post Number 38 that is providing an American Legion baseball program at Airline Highway Park.

Mr. Palmer introduced Steve Lousteau, Baton Rouge City President for Capital One Bank, and Carl Stages, Executive Director of BREC Foundation. Mr. Lousteau spoke briefly about Capital One's participation in the improvements at City Park through the BREC Foundation. He presented Mr. Temple a check in the amount \$35,000 as Capital One's 2009 contribution towards the \$125,000 total commitment for the Capital One Tennis Center at City Park. Mr. Lousteau expressed his satisfaction with all the enhancements at City Park. Mr. Temple expressed appreciation for Capital One's contribution on behalf of the Commission and the citizens of East Baton Rouge Parish. Mr. Palmer thanked Capital One and told the Commission about one of the programs held at the new tennis center. He also expressed his thanks to the BREC Foundation for their work on behalf of BREC.

Ms. Miller was recognized and gave the Finance Advisory Committee report. She asked Mike Proctor to provide a summary of the financial statements. Ms. Miller noted that BREC had received additional reimbursement from FEMA for damage done by Hurricane Gustav.

Resolved, That the Commission approve financial statements for month ended May 31, 2009.

Motion by Ms. Miller
 Seconded by Mr. Ausberry
 Approved by unanimous consent

Ms. Miller made a motion to approve the following contracts and bids:

Resolved, That the Commission accept a bid from Altec Industries, Inc. for two bucket trucks as follows for the Maintenance Department: A new 2009 Altec AT37-G bucket truck for \$82,700.00; and a 2006 Altec LVR60-E70 bucket truck (demo model) for \$120,000.00. Total for both trucks: \$202,700.00.

Resolved, That the Commission approve the purchase of limestone and recycled concrete as follows on contract from all of these dealers at their bid rates:

| | | Bear Industries | Dennis Stewart | Martin Marietta |
|------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| <u>Hauled by BREC Truck:</u> | | | | |
| Limestone: | 610 | \$24.95 | - | \$25.50 |
| 1.25x0, 3.0x1.50, #4, #8, #57 | | 26.20 | - | 26.82 |
| | Gabion | - | - | 36.75 |
| Recycled concrete: | | | | |
| | Road base | - | \$22.00 | - |
| <u>Hauled by Provider's Truck:</u> | | | | |
| Limestone: | 610 | \$29.95 | - | 30.50 |
| 1.25x0, 3.0x1.50, #4, #8, #57 | | 31.20 | - | 31.85 |
| | Gabion | 42.20 | - | 42.75 |
| Recycled concrete: | | | | |
| | Road base | - | 27.00 | - |

Seconded by Ms. Nabors-Jackson
 Approved by unanimous consent

The Chairman recognized Ms. Nabors-Jackson, who gave the Selection of Professionals report. She asked Ted Jack and Kristi Williams to explain the agenda items pertaining to their departments. Ms. Miller had some questions about the Library in the Park project and there was a brief discussion about the project. The Commission also discussed the market research project. Ms. Nabors-Jackson made a motion to approve the following and authorize the Superintendent to execute the contract and necessary documents:

Resolved, That the Commission approve a sub-contract with The Library Design Collaborative for a fee not to exceed \$19,622.85 for the schematic design work. The main contract amount of \$179,438.00 will be reduced by the \$19,622.85 to \$159,815.15 for the new main contract amount.

Resolved, That the Commission approve hiring Jason Collier to perform market research for 17 communications plans for the Communications Department to be completed by December 31, 2009 for a fee of \$1,000 per plan, total fee not to exceed \$17,000.

Seconded by Mr. Neal

Approved by unanimous consent

Special Orders

Motion to accept the following appointment of a citizen representative to a BREC Advisory Committee:

Mayor Henry Martinez

Jack Miller

Planning and Park Resources

Motion by Mr. Benedetto

Seconded by Mr. Neal

Approved by unanimous consent

Unfinished Business and General Orders

The Chairman announced that the next item of business on the agenda was the adoption of the ordinance fixing the ad valorem tax millages for the 2009 parish-wide assessment roll for the Recreation and Park Commission for the Parish of East Baton Rouge for general operations and capital improvements. This item was introduced at the regular Commission meeting on May 28, 2009. Mr. Temple announced the opening of the public hearing and asked for members of the public interested in speaking on the item to come forward. Hearing none, Mr. Temple closed the public hearing. At the conclusion of discussion and deliberation, Ms. Nabors-Jackson moved that the proposed ordinance be adopted. The motion to adopt the ordinance was seconded by Mr. Ausberry.

The ordinance provides as follows:

ORDINANCE Ad Valorem Tax Levy

BE IT ORDAINED by the Recreation and Park Commission for the Parish of East Baton Rouge (the "Commission"), in legal session convened, as follows:

SECTION 1. There is hereby levied in the Parish of East Baton Rouge, the following described ad valorem taxes for the year 2009:

a tax of sixty-three one-hundredths (.63) of one (1) mill, authorized by the electorate in a special election conducted October 28, 1947, under the authority of Article XIV, Section 3(b) of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1921 (Added by Act 387 of 1946, adopted November 5, 1946); ratified by Article VI, Section 31, and adjusted under the authority of Article VII, Section 23 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974;

a tax of forty-two one-hundredths (.42) of one (1) mill, authorized by the electorate in a special election conducted June 22, 1954, under the authority of Article XIV, Section 3(b) of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1921 (as amended by Act 626 of 1956, adopted November 5, 1956); ratified by Article VI, Section 31, and adjusted under the authority of Article VII, Section 23 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974;

a tax of four and ten one-hundredths (4.10) mills, authorized by the electorate in a special election conducted April 17, 2004, under the authority of Section 4570.4.B of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, and adjusted under the authority of Article VII, Section 23 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974;

a tax of two and ten one-hundredths (2.10) mills, authorized by the electorate in a special election conducted April 17, 2004, under the authority of Section 4570.4.B of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, and adjusted under the authority of Article VII, Section 23 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974;

a tax of three and ninety-six one-hundredths (3.96) mills, authorized by the electorate in a special election conducted March 31, 2007, under the authority of Section 4570.4.B of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, and adjusted under the authority of Article VII, Section 23 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974;

a tax of three and two hundred fifty-three one-thousandths (3.253) mills, authorized by the electorate in a special election conducted November 2, 2004, under the authority of Section 4570.4.B of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, and adjusted under the authority of Article VII, Section 23 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974;

the foregoing making a total tax of 14.463 mills on the dollar of assessed valuation to meet the established liabilities and expenses of the Commission used in acquiring, developing, maintaining, and operating the public parks and recreational properties and facilities of the Commission and in making available funds available for the operating budget, all as provided for in the respective propositions approved by the voters in the special tax elections above referred to.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that certified copies of this ordinance be transmitted by the Superintendent and Ex-Officio Secretary of the Commission to the Assessor of the Parish of East Baton Rouge and to the Legislative Auditor, said ordinance to constitute full authority for the Assessor to place the above described taxes on the parish tax roll for 2009, and the tax rates shown be applied to the assessed value for ad valorem tax purposes, in compliance with R.S. 47:1705A.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that a certified copy of this ordinance be transmitted to the Sheriff and Ex-Officio Tax Collector for the Parish of East Baton Rouge, Attention: Mr. Octave

Anthause, Tax Director, Post Office Box 70, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821, said ordinance to constitute supporting authority for the sheriff to collect the said taxes as described on the above referenced Parish tax roll for 2009.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this ordinance is adopted and approved in place of all other ordinances and actions of this Commission, and this ordinance shall be effective immediately upon its adoption.

Thereupon the ordinance was signed and approved by the Chairman, attested by the Superintendent and Ex-Officio Secretary and declared to be adopted and effective on this the 25th day of June, 2009.

Attest:

Collis Temple, Jr., Chairman

William G. Palmer
Superintendent and Ex-Officio Secretary

SECTION 2: The title of the ordinance shall be published one time in the official journal of the Commission, together with notice of a public hearing on the proposed ordinance and tax levy at a meeting of the Commission to be conducted on June 25, 2009, which will be held at the Commission's Administrative Offices in Womack Park, 6201 Florida Boulevard, in the City of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, at which time members of the public desiring to be heard may appear and be heard.

Attest:

Collis Temple, Jr., Chairman

William G. Palmer
Superintendent and Ex-Officio Secretary

The above and foregoing ordinance was submitted to a roll call vote, and the vote thereon was as follows:

| | |
|--------------|--|
| YEAS: 7 | Mr. Ausberry, Mr. Benedetto, Ms. Miller, Ms. Nabors-Jackson, Mr. Neal, Mr. Temple, Mr. Woodall |
| NAYS: 0 | |
| ABSTAINED: 0 | |
| ABSENT: 2 | Mr. Guillory, Mr. Robertson |

The ordinance was declared adopted.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 5:48 p.m.

William G. Palmer, Superintendent
and Ex-Officio Secretary

William Benedetto, Vice Chairman