Call to Order
A regular meeting of the Recreation and Park Commission for the Parish of East Baton Rouge (BREC) was held at BREC’s Administrative Offices on August 25, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. by Vice Chair Sandra Davis. Commissioner Donna Collins Lewis offered the invocation. Commissioner Trina Hall led the pledge of allegiance. Roll was taken and a quorum of Commissioners was present including Sandra Davis, Vice Chair; Donna Collins Lewis, Treasurer; Connie Bernard; Trina Hall; Jason Hughes; William Scheffy; Collis Temple, Jr.; and Rossie Washington, Jr. Commissioner Kenneth Pointer was absent. Staff members present were Corey K. Wilson, Superintendent; Reed Richard, Assistant Superintendent of System Planning; Brandon Smith, Assistant Superintendent of Recreation; Jim Fleshman; Angela Harms; Steven Knight; RaHarold Lawson; Cheryl Michelet; Mike Raby; Lester Rainey; Darlene Winfield; and Chris Marchiafava. Murphy Foster, legal counsel, and Carl Stages, Executive Director of BREC Foundation, were also in attendance. The rest of the audience consisted of other BREC staff and the public.

Public Comment
Vice Chair Davis opened the floor for public comment on the agenda action items. She asked if there was anyone who would like to speak on any agenda action item. Hearing none, Vice Chair Davis closed the floor.

Adoption of Minutes
Resolved, That the reading of the minutes of the Recreation and Park Commission Meeting of July 28, 2022 be dispensed with, and that they be approved as written.
Motion to approve by Ms. Bernard
Second by Mr. Hughes
Unanimously approved

Consent Calendar
Resolved, That the Recreation and Park Commission for the Parish of East Baton Rouge does hereby approve the Consent Calendar items.
Motion to approve by Mr. Washington
Second by Ms. Lewis
Unanimously approved

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

Acceptance of Recommendations for the Human Resources Advisory Committee
Resolved, That the Commission approve the Routine Personnel Transactions from July 12, 2022 to August 9, 2022.

Presentations
The Chair recognized Reed Richard to provide the lakes and construction update. Mr. Richard gave a presentation reviewing the different aspects of the Lakes Project and answered
questions from the Commission. He noted that the renovations will improve the health of the lakes and provide a pedestrian and cyclist bypass to improve safety. He also provided information about the timeline of the project. Mr. Richard then presented the construction update and answered questions from the Commission.

The Commission viewed a brief video highlighting the Floats and Flicks event at Liberty Lagoon and various upcoming events throughout the parish in the month of September.

Reports of Officers and Standing Committees

Ms. Davis recognized Mr. Wilson for the Superintendent's Report. Mr. Wilson stated that there were no Administrative Matters. Under Communications, Mr. Wilson noted that the Commission had been provided with the 2022 Mid-Year Report which details each department’s progress on their 2022 goals through June 30.

Mr. Wilson stated that Andrea Roberts and Aneatra Boykin had recently attended the NRPA Directors School in Chicago where he was one of the instructors. He then told the Commission about the Community Engagement Policy that is currently out for public comment. He stated that on August 11 a meeting was held at the Zoo that included Mayor-President Broome, Mayor Waites, Mayor Barrow, and several council members from the each of the four councils in the parish to give a presentation on the community engagement work being done. The attendees were also given a tour of the progress at the Zoo. A similar meeting is being planned for the area legislators. The Community Engagement Policy will be presented for Commission approval in October.

Mr. Wilson explained the information provided on the July attendance report.

Mr. Wilson informed the Commission about a recent incident at Forest Community Park where a patron was recently accosted. He stated that the staff at the park assisted the patron and contacted emergency personnel and law enforcement to ensure the patron received medical assistance and that the incident was properly reported. Mr. Wilson stated that this incident was personal to him because he and his family live in the area and Forest Community Park was his community park. He told the Commission that BREC has 19 park rangers who patrol over 175 parks and that BREC Senior Risk Manager David Noland has worked to create and continually increase and improve relationships with law enforcement. Mr. Wilson stated that Ann Marie Black, a friend of the victim, was in attendance. He offered condolences and sympathy for what happened and shared his hopes for her friend’s full recovery. He noted that police had used video from one of BREC’s 1,100 security cameras to identify the suspect who was arrested. Mr. Wilson expressed appreciation for the work Steven Knight, Director of Information Systems, and his staff do to insure the cameras and other technology work properly. Mr. Wilson shared additional information about what is being considered to improve security.

Mr. Wilson noted that some staff and Commission members would be attending the upcoming NRPA conference in September.

Mr. Scheffy asked the Superintendent to provide staffing trends from 2019 to present. He also asked that the unfilled budgeted positions be included through June 30.

Ms. Davis recognized Ms. Lewis for the Finance Advisory Committee report. Ms. Lewis asked Lester Rainey, Assistant Finance Director, to present the action items. Mr. Rainey reviewed the executive summary for the June 2022 financial statements. Mr. Rainey then read the following resolution:
Resolved, That the Commission accept the unaudited financial statements for the six months ending June 30, 2022 (fiscal year-to-date period January 1 – June 30, 2022), as presented.

Motion by Ms. Hall
Second by Mr. Hughes
Unanimously approved

Mr. Rainey proceeded to the Contract and Bids items. He then read the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Commission award Sealed Bid No. 1813 – 2023 or Newer Western Star 47X and KBF-222 Series Loader or Approved Equal, to the lowest responsive bidder, All Truck Parts & Equipment Co., LLC for Items #1 through #3. The total bid amount is $222,797.

Motion by Mr. Washington
Second by Mr. Hughes
Approved by unanimous consent

Mr. Rainey then read the following resolution:

Resolved that the Commission approve the award of Item No. 10 on Sealed Bid 1819 - BREC Annual Contract for Swimming Pool Chemicals for Delivery to BREC Sites to Commercial Chemical Products, Inc. dba Poolsure as follows: Muriatic Acid, Bulk for 35 Gallon Drums, at a cost of $5.15 per gallon, total over six months up to 2,400 Gallons, 150 gallons per month minimum and 400 gallons per month maximum, additional amounts needed for delivery year-round; for the contract period of August 1, 2022 through July 31, 2023 with an option to renew for two additional 12-month terms, at same prices, terms, and conditions, not to exceed 36 months.

Motion by Mr. Washington
Second by Ms. Lewis

Mr. Scheffy asked about the how BREC would be affected by rising prices in chemicals. Ra Harold Lawson, Director of Park Operations, stated that he thought that the current contract pricing was at the mid-point. Mr. Wilson stated that BREC had an option on whether or not to renew. Ms. Lewis then explained that the vendor also had the option whether to renew or not and if the contract was not renewed it would be rebid. Mr. Rainey further clarified the renewal process.

Ms. Davis stated that there had been a motion and a second offered and asked if there were any objections to the motion. Hearing none, she declared the motion approved.

Mr. Rainey then read the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Commission approve Amendment No. 2 to Annual Contract No. 1813 – BREC Annual Contract for Trash Dumpster Services with Republic Services, Inc. / DBA BFI Waste Services, LLC for the following changes and/or increases:

Add an 8 yd. dumpster, 2 services per week to N. Sherwood Forest Community Park (Park Ops location) - $2,376
Increase (extra dumps) dumpster services per week at Farr Park Maintenance Center, Womack Building, and Oak Villa. (Recreation and Special Facilities) - $1,872
Increase (extra dumps) dumpster services for varying Park Operations locations - $8,788
The estimated annual contract total increases from $85,304 to $98,340 from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022, with the option to renew for two additional 12-month terms, at same prices, terms, and conditions, not to exceed 36 months.

Motion to approve by Mr. Hughes
Second by Mr. Scheffy
Approved by unanimous consent
Mr. Scheffy asked about the status of the audit. Mr. Rainey stated that he was not in the most recent meeting about the audit, but Tracy Fountain could provide the requested information.

Mr. Scheffy asked when the Commission could expect a fund balance report and offered an explanation of the reason it was necessary to receive that report at least quarterly.

Vice Chair Davis noted that the Golf Advisory Committee only had information items with no action necessary. She also stated that the Human Resources routine transactions had been approved on the consent calendar.

Vice Chair Davis recognized Mr. Scheffy for the Planning and Park Resources Advisory Committee report. Mr. Scheffy recognized Mr. Richard who explained the action item and then read the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Commission approve a Recreational Personal Servitude and Right of Use Agreement with Exxon Mobil Corporation granting to BREC a 15’ wide servitude and 20’ wide temporary access servitude for construction of 200’ of a multi-use recreational pathway for public use on portions of Lots 5 and 7+ on the south side of Amarillo Street east of Alamonster Avenue in Baton Rouge as part of the CMAQ Trail Segment (Scotlandville Parkway to Downtown); authorize superintendent to execute necessary documents.

Motion by Mr. Washington
Second by Ms. Lewis
Unanimously approved

Adjournment

Vice Chair Davis stated there was no further business and asked for a motion to adjourn. All Commission members made a motion to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned at 6:09 p.m. without objection.

Corey K. Wilson, Superintendent
and Ex-Officio Secretary

Sandra Davis, Vice Chair