

**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  
July 27, 2023

**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 July 27, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. by Chairman Kenneth Pointer. Commissioner Donna Collins Lewis offered the invocation. Commissioner Rossie Washington, Jr. led the pledge of allegiance. Roll was taken and a quorum of Commissioners was present including Kenneth Pointer, Chair; Sandra Davis, Vice Chair; Trina Hall; Jason Hughes; Donna Collins Lewis; Nathan Rust; and Rossie Washington, Jr. Commissioners Dwayne Rogers and Collis Temple, Jr. were absent. Staff members present were Corey K. Wilson, Superintendent; Reed Richard, Assistant Superintendent of System Planning; Brandon Smith, Assistant Superintendent of Recreation; Aneatra Boykin, Chief Administrative Officer; Andrea Roberts, Chief Operating Officer; Tracy Fountain, Chief Financial Officer; Jim Fleshman; Angela Harms; Darlene Jarvis; RaHarold Lawson; Cheryl Michelet; Mike Raby; Christel Sims; and Chris Marchiafava. Chris Billings, legal counsel, and Carl Stages, Executive Director of BREC Foundation, were also in attendance. The rest of the audience consisted of other BREC staff, sign language interpreters, and the public.

**Public Comment**

Public comment would be allowed prior to a vote being taken on any agenda action item.

**Adoption of Minutes**

Resolved, That the reading of the minutes of the Recreation and Park Commission Meeting of June 29, 2023 be dispensed with, and that they be approved as written.

Motion to approve by Ms. Lewis

Second by Ms. Davis

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 Mr. Hughes

Unanimously approved

The following item was approved as part of the Consent Calendar:

**Acceptance of Recommendations from the Human Resources Advisory Committee**

Resolved, That the Commission approve the Routine Personnel Transactions from June 23, 2023 to July 11, 2023.

**Presentations**

The Commission viewed a brief video highlighting various upcoming events throughout the parish during the month of August.

### **Reports of Officers and Standing Committees**

Chairman Pointer recognized Mr. Wilson for the Superintendent's Report. The Chairman stated that there were no comment cards submitted for any of the administrative matters.

Superintendent Wilson stated that there were several administrative matters. He stated that the first item was the designation of July as Park and Recreation Month and read the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Commission approve designating July as NATIONAL PARK AND RECREATION MONTH in East Baton Rouge Parish and encourage all citizens to celebrate by taking part in their favorite sports, visiting the outdoors, or spending time and relaxing with family and friends.

Motion by Mr. Washington

Second by Mr. Rust

Unanimously approved

The Superintendent gave a brief explanation of the next item regarding an easement for Entergy in Bayou Manchac Park and then read the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Commission approve a Right-of-Way Instrument granting a 30' wide easement in Bayou Manchac Park to Entergy Louisiana LLC for installation of a regulator bank in the location of existing power lines, and for the purpose of establishing a servitude of record, pending final legal review.

Motion to approve by Mr. Rust

Second by Ms. Davis

Approved by unanimous consent

The Superintendent stated that the final item was regarding a worker's compensation settlement. He stated that an executive session was placed on the agenda if the Commission would like to discuss the settlement. He continued that this item would grant the authority to negotiate above the established \$25,000 claim limit. Ms. Lewis stated that she had some questions. Ms. Lewis made a motion to enter an executive session noted on the agenda as follows:

The Recreation and Park Commission for the Parish of East Baton Rouge ("BREC") is calling an Executive Session pursuant to LSA-R.S. 42:17(A)(2), for the purpose of discussion of potential litigation of a worker's compensation claim.

Mr. Washington seconded.

The motion was approved unanimously.

The Commission members retired to an executive session at 5:16 p.m.

The Commission returned from executive session and Mr. Washington made a motion to reconvene, Ms. Lewis seconded, and the Chairman called the meeting back to order in open session without objection at 5:22 p.m.

Superintendent Wilson then read the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Commission approve allowing BREC's worker's compensation insurance company to enter settlement negotiations above the agency's established claim limit up to \$125,000 on the recommendation of legal counsel.

Motion by Mr. Washington

Second by Ms. Lewis

Unanimously approved

Under Communications, Superintendent Wilson told the Commission that the City Councils of Zachary and Central and Metro Council of East Baton Rouge Parish have also designated July as Park and Recreation Month. He stated that the presentations he made at the Central Council meeting and the Metro Council meeting were well received. The Superintendent gave the June activity report. He invited the Commission to the ribbon cutting at Gus Young Park on July 28 celebrating the newly renovated basketball courts provided through the partnership with the Langston Galloway Foundation. Superintendent Wilson stated that on Saturday the Community Advisory Council would be taken on a park tour. He also invited the Commission to the ribbon cutting at Jackson Community Park on July 31 at 1:00 p.m.

Chairman Pointer stated that he had no comment cards for any of the standing committee report agenda items. He stated that the Human Resources Routine Transactions were on the Consent Calendar.

Chairman Pointer then recognized Mr. Washington for the Selection of Professionals Committee report. Mr. Washington asked Reed Richard to review the agenda items. Mr. Richard explained that the first three items are change orders for GMP 1, GMP 2A, and GMP 2B for the Greenwood/Zoo project and that these change orders were budgeted. He then read the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Commission approve Change Order No. 8 to the existing GMP 1 Amendment with Lemoine Company, LLC for the Greenwood & Zoo Phase 1 project for a Not to Exceed total of \$215,431 for the following items: \$156,606 for design changes from Bid Set to Issued for Construction plan set; \$8,562 for sewer conflict at Giraffe Exhibit; \$50,263 for Giraffe Overlook/Feeding Platform design modifications. Original contract amount was \$20,851,893; the new contract amount through Change Order No. 8 is \$ \$23,172,593 for a total contract increase of 11.13%.

Resolved, That the Commission approve Change Order No. 5 to the existing GMP 2A Amendment with Lemoine Company, LLC for the Greenwood & Zoo Phase 1 project for a Not to Exceed total of \$344,893 for the following items: \$44,707 for exterior signage changes; \$220,186 for Train realignment, Train culvert crossing, grading (fill) & subgrade modifications; \$80,000 for Bayou Landscaping modifications for erosion control. Original contract amount was \$16,109,864; the new contract amount through Change Order No. 5 is \$16,412,008 for a total contract increase of 1.88%.

Resolved, That the Commission approve Change Order No. 4 to the existing GMP 2B Amendment with Lemoine Company, LLC for the Greenwood & Zoo Phase 1 project for a total of (\$12,787) for the following items: \$17,423 for design changes at barrel curtainwall and metal panel intersection; (\$30,210) for flooring & finish design changes (credit). Original contract amount was \$14,797,581; the new contract amount through Change Order No. 4 is \$15,704,114 for a total contract increase of 6.13%.

Motion by Mr. Hughes  
Second by Mr. Rust  
Unanimously approved

Mr. Richard then read the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Commission approve Amendment No. 6 to Contract No. 2020-112 with Sasaki Associates, the prime design professional for Phase 1 of the Greenwood Park and Baton Rouge Zoo Design and Construction project, for a 2.45% net increase NTE \$147,000 for the extended construction schedule and owner requested changes, floodplain analysis for train track, IT coordination, additional permitting and drainage design, Entry Building power demand

changes, design modifications of giraffe shade structure, train platform retaining wall, and planting areas. Fee increase of \$237,000 with redistribution of \$90,000 from Reimbursable Expenses to Design. Original contract amount was \$5,999,692; revised contract amount through Amendment No. 6 is \$6,719,303 including reimbursable expenses.

Motion by Mr. Hughes

Second by Mr. Washington

Approved by unanimous consent

Mr. Richard then read the following resolution:

Resolved, that the Commission approve Amendment No. 5 for \$9,500 to Contract 2016-184 with SJB Group LLC, for the provision of updated plans reflecting connection from the existing Ward Creek Bluebonnet Extension Trail Segment to the proposed MoveBR Constantin Drive Ph 2 road project. The new contract total will be \$183,518.

Motion by Mr. Washington

Second by Mr. Hughes

Unanimously approved

The Chairman stated that there were no reports from Special Committees and no Standing Committee appointments.

### **Unfinished Business and General Orders**

Chairman Pointer stated that the next item was the Superintendent's contract. He asked if anyone would like to go into executive session to discuss. There was no motion offered to go into executive session. The Chairman asked for a motion to approve the contract.

Mr. Hughes made a motion to approve the Superintendent's contract, as presented.

Ms. Lewis seconded

Unanimously approved

The Chairman recognized Superintendent Wilson. The Superintendent noted that the Commission had been provided a printout of current construction projects in lieu of the construction update presentation. He stated that the Commissioners had each been given a copy of the fall Playbook. He also pointed out that they had been provided a copy of the stylized annual report. As in previous years formatting of the report is based on the questions used for agencies applying for the Gold Medal. He thanked Amy Seal who was responsible for the graphic design and Toni Stepter who was responsible for the printing the report.

### **New Business**

There was no New Business.

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Washington made a motion to adjourn, Ms. Lewis seconded, and Chairman Pointer adjourned the meeting at 5:40 p.m. without objection.

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Corey K. Wilson, Superintendent  
and Ex-Officio Secretary

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Kenneth Pointer, Chairman