John Earles, II – Avoyelles Julie Dupuis – St. Landry Paul Dauzat – Rapides Joshua Dara, Sr. – Rapides Jess Vanderlick – Rapides



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OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS RED RIVER, ATCHAFALAYA & BAYOU BOEUF LEVEE DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING June 6, 2025

The Board of Commissioners of the Red River, Atchafalaya & Bayou Boeuf Levee District met at its regular meeting place, 10 Calvert Drive, Alexandria, Louisiana on Friday, June 6, 2025 at 9:00 o'clock a.m. The following were present: Paul Dauzat, President and Rapides Parish Commissioner; Mr. Johns Earles, II, Vice President and Avoyelles Parish Commissioner; Ms. Julie Dupuis, St. Landry Parish Commissioner; Mr. Jess Vanderlick, Rapides Parish Commissioner; and Mr. Joshua Dara, Sr., Rapides Parish Commissioner; Ryan Ingles, Executive Director; Trey Gist, Board Attorney; Ellen Burke, Administrative Coordinator; Jarmarquis Torrence (DOTD) and Guests.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Paul Dauzat. The roll call of the meeting was performed by Mr. Ingles; Mr. Paul Dauzat, Mr. John Earles, II, Ms. Julie Dupuis, Mr. Jess Vanderlick and Mr. Joshua Dara, Sr. were present. Others in attendance were asked to identify themselves and offer any public comments they may have regarding the agenda. No public comments were made.

Motion by Mr. Joshua Dara, Sr. and seconded by Mr. John Earles, II to adopt the minutes/resolutions of the previous month.

Motion by Mr. Paul Dauzat and seconded by Mr. John Earles, II to go into executive session to discuss the Executive Director performance evaluation.

A roll call vote was performed by Mr. Ryan Ingles to enter into executive session to conduct the Executive Director's Performance Evaluation with a roll call vote performed by Mr. Ryan Ingles;

YEAS: Mr. John Earles, II, Mr. Joshua Dara, Sr., Mr. Paul Dauzat, Ms. Julie Dupuis,

and Mr. Jess Vanderlick

NAYS:

NONE

ABSTAINED:

NONE

ABSENT:

NONE

Motion by Mr. John Earles, II and seconded by Ms. Julie Dupuis to come back into regular session with a roll call vote performed by Mr. Ryan Ingles;

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YEAS:

Mr. John Earles, II, Mr. Joshua Dara, Sr., Mr. Paul Dauzat, Ms. Julie Dupuis,

and Mr. Jess Vanderlick

NAYS:

NONE

ABSTAINED:

NONE

ABSENT:

NONE

RESOLUTION 19-2025

Motion by Mr. John Earles, II Seconded by Mr. Paul Dauzat

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Red River, Atchafalaya & Bayou Boeuf Levee District discussed and considered the RRABB Executive Director Employment Contract; and,

WHEREAS, on June 7, 2022, the Board of Commissioners of RRABB entered into an employment contract with Mr. Ryan Ingles by Resolution 39-2022, which expires on June 30, 2025; and,

WHEREAS, the Board is amending the Executive Director employment contract as follows;

- Annual salary of \$150,000 per year.
- Annual leave accrual of 21 days per year.
- Notice of termination by executive director requires 60-day notice.
- Affirmation that the Executive Director will continue to serve as the Board Secretary.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Red River, Atchafalaya, and Bayou Boeuf Levee District in legal session assembled this 6th day of June 2025 does hereby execute an employment contract with the RRABB Executive Director as amended effective July 1, 2025.

A roll call vote was performed by Mr. Ryan Ingles to renew the executive director employment contract as amended;

YEAS:

Mr. John Earles, II, Mr. Joshua Dara, Sr., Mr. Paul Dauzat, Ms. Julie Dupuis,

and Mr. Jess Vanderlick

NAYS:

NONE

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ABSTAINED: NONE ABSENT: **NONE**

Motion by Mr. Paul Dauzat and seconded by Ms. Julie Dupuis to hold a public hearing on the 2025-2026 RRABB Annual Budget.

No public comments were made.

RESOLUTION 20-2025

Motion by Ms. Julie Dupuis Seconded by Mr. Jess Vanderlick

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Red River, Atchafalaya & Bayou Boeuf Levee District discussed and considered the proposed RRABB annual budget for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026; and,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Red River, Atchafalaya, and Bayou Boeuf Levee District in legal session assembled this 6th day of June 2025 does hereby agree to adopt the following budget to serve as an Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026; and,

REVENUES

Taxes	\$3,300,000
State Revenue Sharing	\$50,000
Fees & Self-Generated Funds	\$332,200
TOTAL REVENUES	\$3,682,200
EXPENDITURES	
Salaries	\$1,098,500
Fringe Benefits	\$906,500
Operating Services	\$1,078,100
Travel	\$18,000
Professional Services	\$68,100
Capital Outlay	\$513,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$3,682,200

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The foregoing resolution was read in full; the roll was called on the adoption thereof, and the resolution was adopted by the following votes:

YEAS: Mr. John Earles, II, Mr. Joshua Dara, Sr., Mr. Paul Dauzat, Ms. Julie Dupuis,

and Mr. Jess Vanderlick

NAYS:

NONE

ABSTAINED:

NONE

ABSENT:

NONE

RESOLUTION 21-2025

Motion by Mr. Paul Dauzat Seconded by Mr. John Earles, II

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Red River, Atchafalaya & Bayou Boeuf Levee District discussed and considered an increase in the authorized hourly rate for legal services with The Gist Firm; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Trey Gist with The Gist Firm, located in Alexandria, Louisiana, has served as the legal advisor for the RRABB Levee District since September 2009; and,

WHEREAS, the current legal services contract was entered into in September 2018; and,

WHEREAS, it is requested that consideration be given to increasing the allowable hourly rate from \$175.00 per hour to \$250.00 per hour as allowed by the Attorney General fee schedule; and,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Red River, Atchafalaya, and Bayou Boeuf Levee District in legal session assembled this 6th day of June 2025 does hereby agree to increase the hourly rate for legal services with The Gist Firm from \$175.00 per hour to \$250.00 per hour effective immediately.

RESOLUTION 22-2025

Motion by Mr. Paul Dauzat Seconded by Mr. Jess Vanderlick

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WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Red River, Atchafalaya & Bayou Boeuf Levee District discussed and considered providing a nomination for a representative from Avoyelles Parish to serve on the Red River Waterway Commission; and,

WHEREAS, in accordance with LA R.S. 34:2303, the RRABB Levee District is a nominating authority for the membership of the Red River Waterway Commission; and,

WHEREAS, the current term for the RRWC representative from Avoyelles Parish expires on July 1, 2025; and,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Red River, Atchafalaya, and Bayou Boeuf Levee District in legal session assembled this 6th day of June 2025 does hereby agree to submit a nomination letter to the Red River Waterway Commission nominating Mr. John Earles, Sr. from Avoyelles Parish.

A roll call vote was performed by Mr. Ryan Ingles to submit a nomination letter to RRWC;

YEAS: Mr. Joshua Dara, Sr., Mr. Paul Dauzat, Ms. Julie Dupuis, and Mr. Jess

Vanderlick

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAINED: Mr. John Earles, II

ABSENT: NONE

RESOLUTION 23-2025

Motion by Mr. Jess Vanderlick. Seconded by Mr. Joshua Dara, Sr.

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Red River, Atchafalaya & Bayou Boeuf Levee District discussed a Permit Request from Direct/Star Communications to install fiber optic cable across and on the riverside of the Atchafalaya River Levee in Simmesport; and,

WHEREAS, the applicant is requesting to install fiber optic cable within Simmesport; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Red River, Atchafalaya & Bayou Boeuf Levee District in legal session assembled this 6th day of June 2025 does hereby agree to grant permission for the project as described, provided before the project begins, the applicant is hereby

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required to receive written approval from the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development Public Works and Water Resources Division and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Operations Division for the project as described in the documentation provided with the permit request to the levee board; and,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that upon written approval from the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, an appointee from the Red River, Atchafalaya & Bayou Boeuf Levee District will make an on-site inspection throughout the project period and to ensure that all is in accordance with standards set forth by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Red River, Atchafalaya & Bayou Boeuf Levee District.

Motion by Mr. John Earles, II and seconded by Ms. Julie Dupuis to approve payment of the bills for the previous month.

Motion to Adjourn made by Mr. John Earles, II and seconded by Mr. Jess Vanderlick.

CERTIFICATE

I, Ryan Ingles, Secretary of the Board of Commissioners of the Red River, Atchafalaya, and Bayou Boeuf Levee District, certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original resolutions adopted by said Board of the meeting duly convened on the 6th day of June 2025, at which meeting a quorum of members of said Board was represented.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, witness my official signature of said Board at Alexandria, Louisiana, on the 6th day of June 2025.

Board Secretary