

Minutes Zachary Taylor Parkway Commission

For Meeting Held On Wednesday, December 14, 2005
at First Baptist Church, Greensburg, LA

J. Curtis Jelks, Chairman, called meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. Welcome from pastor Bo Rice of First Baptist Church Greensburg was given as well as an opening prayer.

Ellis C. Magee swore in new Commissioner from Washington Parish, Mr. Robert Bateman.

Mr. Jelks requested that Mr. Dubroc call the roll. Commissioners and alternates in attendance were Jim Dubroc (Rapides), Curtis Jelks (E. Feliciana), Pat Witty, (Pointe Coupee), Vernon McMorris, Ike Jenkins (St Helena), Mr. Robert Bateman and Ms. Marilyn Bateman (Washington), Tobias Ford (W. Feliciana). Mr. Jelks declared a quorum in attendance.

Consideration of minutes of Quarterly Commission meeting held on June 15, 2005 and of Special Commission meeting held on September 30, 2005 was given. Mr. Witty moved they be accepted as distributed. Second by Mr. McMorris. All voted in favor.

Mr. Witty presented the Treasurer's report (copy attached to master copy of these minutes). Mr. Witty moved that his report be accepted. Second by Mr. Dubroc. Motion carried.

During Chairman's report, Mr. Jelks called on Ellis Magee to give recap efforts to obtain funds that were appropriated for the Commission by the Legislature at the Regular Session. He reported that, because of Katrina's impact on the State's finances: (1) the Governor issued a freeze order in September that stopped the Commission from obtaining the transfer of funds from DOTD to the Commission and other political subdivisions, and (2) the Legislature cancelled the appropriations for the Commission and other political subdivisions during the November, 2005 Special Session. Mr. Magee also reported (1) that a provision in the bill passed by the Legislature during the November Special Session authorizes the Commissioner of Administration to permit the transfer of funds in certain limited situations, and (2) that an effort was being made to get the Commissioner to approve the transfer of a portion of the appropriated funds.

An amended budget for fiscal year 05-06 was presented for consideration. Mr. Witty moved it be accepted, second by Mr. McMorris. All voted in favor. Copy attached to master of these minutes.

Mr. Jelks introduced Mr. Bert Babers, President of the West Feliciana Parish Police Jury, who updated the group on a recent action of that Police Jury. He presented the Commission with a copy of a resolution (attached) that proclaimed the Jury's support of

tolls on the John James Audubon Bridge should they be necessary to augment construction funds.

Mr. Witty moved that the Commission accept this resolution as well. Second by Mr. Ford. All voted in favor.

Mr. Dan Broussard of the LA DOTD gave a brief report, and stated that to “the best of his knowledge” the environmental issues concerning the bridge had been cleared.

Mr. Neil Wagoner reported on progress of the bridge and costs of construction.

With no other business at hand, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:
/s/ Jim Dubroc, Secretary