

**Proceedings of the Regular Meeting of the Greater New Orleans  
Expressway Commission (GNOEC), Wednesday, March 13, 2024, 10 AM,  
North Shore Conference Room, 100 North Causeway Blvd., Mandeville,  
Louisiana 70448**

Call to Order

Col. Spiceland called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Col. Evans Spiceland, Chair; Ralph Cox, Jr., Treasurer; Justin Clinton, James Tucker, and Tim Coulon. Absent: None.

Others Attending: Carlton Dufrechou, Melissa Phillipott, Robert Graham, Roy Jacob, Michelle Carlisle, Lt. Mike Kelly, Lt. Thea Andreas, Sgt. Tristan Thomas, Sgt. Colt Bruhl, Karen Lewis, Anita Murdrick, Mary Paplette, GNOEC; Craig Watson, Blue Williams; Cary Bourgeois, GEC; Jan Evans, Volkert; Lee Bresler, Stephanie Ferry, Raymond James; Brenden Black, Foley; Kent Schexnayder, Faith Howard, Sisung; and Michael Jeansonne, Andrew Staffier, Christina Lepine, Commuters.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Mr. Coulon, seconded by Mr. Cox, the minutes of the January 10, 2024, regular meeting were accepted as written. Col. Spiceland, Mr. Cox, Mr. Clinton, Mr. Tucker, and Mr. Coulon voted in favor of the motion.

Chairman's Remarks

Col. Spiceland welcomed aboard new Commissioners Clinton, Tucker, and Coulon. Each expressed their sincere interest in servicing on the GNOEC.

General Manager's report

- Drawbridge, Feb: 6 vessel openings, 4 test opening and 0 incidents.
- Fog Ops: None.
- Bridge Closures: NB bridge closed Feb 26, 1:13 PM to 2:06 PM due to crash response near 16 MM. SB bridge closed Mar 4, 2:57 PM to 3:03 PM due to crash at drawbridge. SB bridge closed Mar 4, 9:07 PM to 9:45 PM to retrieve burro fallen from truck.
- Breakdowns: During Feb, we responded to 345 on the CW (222 mechanical and 123 debris) and 29 on the HPL (22 mechanical and 7 debris) for a total of 374 for both bridges.
- Accidents: During Feb, we responded to 9 on the CW and 8 on the HPL for a total of 17 for both bridges.

Action Items

**Erosion Repairs at North Toll Plaza, GNOEC Project No. 639, Plan Change No. 2, GNOEC Resolution No. 2024-03:** On a motion by Mr. Cox, seconded by Mr. Coulon: During the installation of the sheet pile cells it was discovered that

the vibration from driving the sheet pile was causing the embankment supporting the roadway to shift toward the drainage ditch. To rectify the situation, engineers proposed to install a short section of sheet pile that could be pushed into place with an excavator. The area between the sheets and the embankment will be filled with a low strength concrete flow-able fill. The estimated cost for these repairs is approximately \$130,000. Final payment will be made on a time and materials basis under the "Force Account" provisions of Subsection 109.04(3) of the contract specifications. Based upon the recommendations of the staff and Consulting Engineers, the General Manager is hereby authorized to complete the execution of Plan Change No. 2 in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 and 14 additional calendar days. Col. Spiceland, Mr. Cox, Mr. Clinton, Mr. Tucker, and Mr. Coulon voted in favor of the motion.

**Approval for Sale of Surplus Firearms and Accessories, GNOEC Resolution No. 2024-04:** On a motion by Mr. Coulon, seconded by Mr. Clinton: The GNOEC through the Causeway Police Department ("CPD") desires to dispose of surplus firearms and purchase new firearms in accordance with La. R.S. 40:1798. The GNOEC hereby declares the following as surplus property: 1 Glock 23 (Serial No. BHH668US), 1 Glock 27 (Serial No. BTW36SUS), 1 Glock 26 (Serial Number CCC726US), and 1 S&W M&P (Serial No. MRJ0069). Based on the recommendations of the CPD, GNOEC staff, and legal counsel, the GNOEC hereby authorizes Director of Public Safety, Roy Jacob, in accordance with La. R.S. 40:1798 and all federal and state laws governing the transfer of firearms, to trade-in the surplus firearms identified herein for fair-market appraised value to CTC Gun Works, a federally licensed firearms dealer, holding licenses authorizing it to buy, sell, and trade these surplus firearms. The GNOEC further authorizes Roy Jacob to use the trade-in value as partial consideration to purchase five new firearms from CTC Gun Works. Col. Spiceland, Mr. Cox, Mr. Clinton, Mr. Tucker, and Mr. Coulon voted in favor of the motion.

**Series 2024 Refunding Revenue Bonds, GNOEC Resolution No. 2024-05:** On a motion by Mr. Cox, seconded by Mr. Coulon: A Series Resolution authorizing the issuance of not exceeding Twenty-Eight Million Five Hundred thousand dollars (\$28,500,000) aggregate principal amount of Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission Refunding Revenue Bonds, in one or more series; providing for the terms, provisions and conditions of such Bonds; authorizing and approving the preparation and distribution of a Preliminary Official Statement and a Final Official Statement relating to such Bonds; authorizing the execution of a Certificate of Determination containing terms and details of said Bonds; and providing for other matters in connection therewith. Col. Spiceland, Mr. Cox, Mr. Clinton, Mr. Tucker, and Mr. Coulon voted in favor of the motion.

Supporting the above resolution, Ms. Stephanie Ferry of Raymond James summarized the proposed Series 2024 Refunding Revenue Bonds, potential benefits/interest savings to the GNOEC, and near term outlook for the bond market.

### Other Matters (Life Saving Recognitions)

On the 27<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023, at 0645 hours, Lenton Brumfield, MAP Unit 82, received a call via dispatch of a disabled vehicle at the 16.4 mile marker on the southbound span of the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway Bridge. Upon his arrival on-scene at 0646 hours, Brumfield observed a white van stationary in the left lane with the driver's door pinned against the bridge rail. Brumfield found the driver slumped over the center console of the van. Several commuters were on the scene, including Michael Jeansonne, who was in the process of breaking out the passenger-side window to gain access to the driver. Commuter Andrew Staffier entered the van and removed the seatbelt from the victim; upon removing the seatbelt, Staffier was able to position the unresponsive victim so as to allow Jeansonne and Brumfield to remove him from the passenger side of the van. Commuter Christina Lepine, a Medical Assistant, checked for a pulse, finding none, the three men carried the victim to the rear of the van where Lepine began CPR, while Brumfield returned to his truck to retrieve his Automatic External Defibrillator (AED). Upon his return, Brumfield continued CPR along with Lepine.

Sgt. Colt Bruhl arrived on-scene at 0650 hours, and assisted Brumfield and Lepine with deploying the AED to the victim. Sgt. Tristan Thomas arrived at 0651 hours and took over CPR from Brumfield; Sgt. Thomas ordered the bridge shut down at 0652 hours while the victim was treated in the roadway. The AED delivered a total of five shocks. EMS Fire District Unit 41 (Paramedic Stephanie Hartman, Lead Paramedic Spencer Bean, and FF/EMT Johnathan Thibodeaux) arrived on-scene at 0702 and took over CPR. At 0709 hours, the victim was transported to Lakeview Hospital.

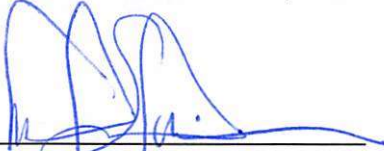
Upon arrival at Lakeview Hospital, the Emergency Room doctor advised Sgt. Thomas that their quick response starting CPR and rapidly deploying the AED were critical actions to save the victim's life. Vincent Trabona, Chief of EMT's, advised Sgt. Thomas that the victim had suffered a cardiac incident, and confirmed that the actions on-scene were crucial in saving the driver's life.

Dispatchers Karen Lewis and Anita Mudrick were instrumental in coordinating the response efforts, and maintaining order during an inherently chaotic event.

Col. Spiceland and Chief Jacob presented Life Saving awards to those following.  
Commuters: Michael Jeansonne, Andrew Staffier, and Christina Lepine.  
Dispatchers: Karen Lewis and Anita Mudrick. Police Officers and Motorist Assistance Patrol (MAP): Sgt. Colt Bruhl, Sgt. Tristan Thomas, and MAP Assistant Leaderman Lenton Brumfield


### Closing/Next Meeting

Col. Spiceland asked if there was any further business or comments. There being none, Col. Spiceland asked to adjourn the meeting. All concurred and the meeting adjourned. The next GNOEC meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 10, 2024, in the VOA (south shore) conference room.



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Col. Evans Spiceland  
Chair



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Ralph Cox  
Treasurer