

**Proceedings of the Regular Meeting of the Greater New Orleans  
Expressway Commission (GNOEC), Wednesday, December 11, 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, Chairman, Ralph Cox, Jr., Vice Chairman; Tim Coulon, Treasurer; Justin Clinton, Secretary; and James Tucker, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer. Absent: None.

Others Attending: Carlton Dufrechou, Melissa Phillipott, Robert Graham, Roy Jacob, Eileen Barthe, Michelle Carlisle, Mike Kelly, GNOEC; Craig Watson, Blue Williams; Cary Bourgeois, GEC; Lloyd Orferndorf, Volkert; and Fred Wetekamm, Hardesty & Hanover.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Mr. Coulon, seconded by Mr. Tucker, the minutes of the October 9, 2024, meeting were accepted as written. Col. Spiceland, Mr. Cox, Mr. Coulon, Mr. Clinton, and Mr. Tucker voted in favor of the motion.

Chairman's Remarks

Col. Spiceland noted that his term was concluding with year's end and acknowledged his pride in the GNOEC and its operations. He expressed his confidence in his fellow commission members and the staff and confirmed that he is always just a call away whenever needed.

General Manager's report

- Drawbridge, Oct: 20 vessel openings, 15 test opening and 3 incidents.
- Drawbridge, Nov: 7 vessel openings, 1 test opening and 0 incidents.
- Fog Ops: None.
- Bridge Closures: SB bridge closed Oct 4, 7:22 AM to 7:33 AM, due to four vehicle crash at 12MM. SB bridge closed Oct 6, 8:26 AM to 9:13 AM due to crash with injuries at 16.9MM. NB bridge closed Oct 18, 12:30 PM to 1:19 PM due to six vehicle crash with injuries at 14.2MM. SB bridge closed Oct 22, 8:35 AM to 8:53 AM to respond to vehicle fire at 22.1MM. SB bridge closed Oct 23, 12:15 PM to 1:06 PM due to four vehicle crash involving 18-wheeler at 14.1MM. NB closed Nov 16, 11:30 AM to 12:10 PM to respond to vehicle fire at 10.8MM.
- Breakdowns: During Oct, we responded to 307 on the CW (221 mechanical and 86 debris) and 30 on the HPL (21 mechanical and 9 debris) for a total of 337 for both bridges.
- Breakdowns: During Nov, we responded to 308 on the CW (233 mechanical and 75 debris) and 19 on the HPL (14 mechanical and 5 debris) for a total of 327 for both bridges.

- Accidents: During Oct, we responded to 13 on the CW and 14 on the HPL for a total of 27 for both bridges.
- Accidents: During Sep, we responded to 6 on the CW and 7 on the HPL for a total of 13 for both bridges.

#### Action Items

**Bascule Generator Replacement, GNOEC Project No. 211, Plan Change No. 3, GNOEC Resolution No. 2024-24:** On a motion by Mr. Cox, seconded by Mr. Coulon: The west Lockbar Operator on the southbound bridge has experienced intermittent electrical shorts. Proposed Plan Change No.3 will install a larger electrical disconnect junction box at a new location and install flexible conduit for new conductors for power and communications circuits. Based upon the recommendation of staff and Consulting Engineers, the GNOEC authorizes its General Manager to complete the execution of Plan Change No.3 in the amount of \$14,940.57 and 14 calendar days. Col. Spiceland, Mr. Cox, Mr. Coulon, Mr. Clinton, and Mr. Tucker voted in favor of the motion.

**Electrical and Mobile Generator, GNOEC Project No. 215, GNOEC Resolution No. 2024-25:** On a motion by Mr. Tucker, seconded by Mr. Cox: Two bids were received on December 9, 2024, for the Electrical and Mobile Generator Project. However, neither bid was in compliance with the Public Bid Law. Based upon the recommendations of staff, Consulting Engineers, and legal counsel, the GNOEC hereby rejects the bids received for the Electrical and Mobile Generator, Project No. 215, as nonresponsive and in accordance with procedures outlined in Title 38 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, the GNOEC authorizes the re-advertisement of same. Col. Spiceland, Mr. Cox, Mr. Coulon, Mr. Clinton, and Mr. Tucker voted in favor of the motion.


**Upgrade Traffic Signals, GNOEC Project No. 640A, GNOEC Resolution No. 2024-26:** On a motion by Mr. Clinton, seconded by Mr. Coulon: Based upon the recommendations of the staff, Consulting Engineers, and legal counsel, the project titled Upgrade Traffic Signals Phase A: Intermediate Repairs, GNOEC Project No. 640A, is awarded to the Low Bidder, Jack B. Harper Electrical, LLC, in the amount of \$324,025.36. The General Manager is hereby authorized to execute the contract with Jack B. Harper, LLC, pending review of the bonds and insurance by legal counsel and insurance representatives. Col. Spiceland, Mr. Cox, Mr. Coulon, Mr. Clinton, and Mr. Tucker voted in favor of the motion.

#### Closing/Next Meeting


The accomplishments during Col. Spiceland's term were briefly reviewed including completion of six major repair and improvement projects, recognitions of exceptional staff actions, increases to staff benefits, creation of Causeway mini museum, and numerous others. Vice Chairman Cox presented a plaque and flag flown over the World's Longest Bridge to Col. Spiceland for his four years of selfless service to the GNOEC. Col. Spiceland again noted his pride in the

GNOEC. Col. Spiceland asked if there was any further business or comments. There being none, Mr. Tucker moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Cox seconded. All concurred and the meeting adjourned. The next GNOEC meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 15, 2025, in the VOA (south shore) conference room.

Sor

bcj  


Col. Evans Spiceland  
Chairman

  
Justin Clinton  
Secretary