**Proceedings of the Regular Meeting of the Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission (GNOEC), Wednesday, March 4, 2026, 10 AM, North Shore conference room, Mandeville, Louisiana 70448**

Call to Order
Chairman Tim Coulon called the meeting to order at 10 AM.

Roll Call
Commissioners Present: Tim Coulon, Chairman; Ralph Cox, Jr., Vice Chairman; James Tucker, Treasurer; Justin Clinton, Secretary; and Donald Sharp, Assistant Secretary Treasurer. Absent: none. Quorum achieved.
Others Attending: Carlton Dufrechou, Melissa Phillpott, Robert Graham, Thea Andras, Matthew Haley; Michelle Carlisle, Audrey Williams, and Brandon Fos, GNOEC; Cary Bourgeois, GEC; Gavin Gillen, All South Consulting Engineers (ASCE); Jan Evans and Lloyd Orferndorf, Volkert; Cody Lemoine, Arcadis; and Craig Watson, Blue Williams.

Minutes
Mr. Tucker moved to accept the minutes of the January 15 meeting. Mr. Cox seconded. Chairman Coulon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Tucker, Mr. Clinton, and Mr. Sharp voted in favor of the motion.

Chairman's Remarks
Chairman Coulon noted that much time and effort had been invested in reviewing toll system proposals and thanked everyone involved for their diligence.

General Manager's Report
- Drawbridge: Jan - 0 vessel openings, 2 test openings and 0 incidents. Feb – 4 vessel openings, 3 test openings, and 0 incidents.
- Fog Ops: Jan 7, 8; Feb 10, 13, 28; and Mar 2, 3, 4.
- Bridge Closures: NB bridge closed Jan 5 for response to overturned pickup with jackknifed trailer at 16.9 MM from 3:05 PM to 4:10 PM. Feb 2, SB bridge closed for response to 2 vehicle crash at 2.7 MM from 10:42 AM to 10:52 AM. Feb 10, NB bridge closed for response to crashes associated with fog near the 20 MM from 9:05 AM to 9:58 AM. Feb 10, NB bridge closed for response to 2 vehicle crash with injuries at the 21 MM from 2:42 PM to 3:03 PM. NB bridge closed for response to 2 vehicle crash at 17.2 MM from 6:39 PM to 7:27 PM.
- Breakdowns: During Jan, we responded to 285 on the CW (205 mechanical and 80 debris) and 11 on the HPL (9 mechanical and 2 debris) for a total of 296 for both bridges. Feb numbers pending review.
- Accidents: During Jan, we responded to 10 on the CW (4N, 6S) and 13 at HPL (2 actually on the HPL) for a total of 23 for both bridges. Feb numbers pending review.

Action Items

**Selection of Toll System Integrator for Upgrades to GNOEC's Toll Collection System, RFP No. 2025-001, GNOEC Resolution No. 2026-03:** Mr. Dufrechou summarized the RFP process. On October 8, 2025, the GNOEC issued RFP No. 2025-001 for proposals from qualified firms to provide the services for a Toll Systems Integrator to upgrade GNOEC's Toll Collection System. On December 19, 2025, five responses were received by the GNOEC. The five firms were requested to submit technical proposals and sealed cost estimates. Upon completion of review of technical merits, cost estimates were opened. Staff and tolling consultants completed reviewing the five proposals in mid-January. Proposals from three firms appeared to meet GNOEC needs. Subsequent, staff and tolling consultants interviewed the three firms. Interviews included questions and answer sessions. All three firms met technical needs. However, findings revealed that two firms had significant recurring costs in their proposals and one of these two could not complete work during required period. The remaining proposal (by Sinelec USA) met all requirements and was also the lowest cost. Staff requested legal counsel to initiate a search of any past or pending litigation involving Sinelec USA. None found.

On a motion by Mr. Cox, seconded by Mr. Tucker: After evaluation, consideration, and upon recommendation from GNOEC staff and legal counsel, the GNOEC hereby selects Sinelec USA and further authorizes the General Manager to negotiate and enter in to a contract with Sinelec USA to provide the services of a Toll Systems Integrator to upgrade GNOEC's Toll Collection System. In the event negotiations with Sinelec USA fail and the parties are unable to enter into a contract, the GNOEC authorizes the General Manager to enter in to negotiations with another qualified firm and, upon recommendation by GNOEC Staff and legal counsel, the General Manager shall present the firm to the GBOEC Commissioners selection and contract execution. Chairman Coulon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Tucker, Mr. Clinton, and Mr. Sharp voted in favor of the motion.

**Fender Repair, GNOEC Project No. 436, Plan Change No. 3, GNOEC Resolution No. 2026-04**: On a motion by Mr. Sharp, seconded by Mr. Tucker: Proposed Plan Change No. 3 provides for items to address differing site conditions on the replacement of the navigational channel marker light platforms and generator removal in the total amount of $19,209.96 and 10 additional calendar days. Based upon the recommendation of the Staff and Consulting Engineers, the GNOEC authorizes the General Manager to complete the execution of Plan Change No. 3. Chairman Coulon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Tucker, Mr. Clinton, and Mr. Sharp voted in favor of the motion.

**Electrical and Mobile Generator, GNOEC Project No. 215, GNOEC Resolution No. 2026-05**: On a motion by Mr. Clinton, seconded by Mr. Sharp: The final inspection for the Electrical and Mobile Generator was conducted on February 6, 2026, with all items found to be complete. The GNOEC authorizes the General Manager to execute any documents associated with the acceptance

of this project on behalf of the GNOEC. Chairman Coulon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Tucker, Mr. Clinton, and Mr. Sharp voted in favor of the motion.

**Authorization to advertise a RFQ and RFP for Employee Benefits Producer, GNOEC Resolution No. 2026-06**: On a motion by Mr. Sharp, seconded by Mr. Cox: The GNOEC desires to solicit statements of qualification and proposals for an employee benefits producer and hereby authorizes its General Manager to issue and advertise a RFQ/RFP for these services. Mr. Tucker recused. Chairman Coulon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Clinton, and Mr. Sharp voted in favor of the motion.

**Authorization to advertise a RFQ for insurance Broker Services, GNOEC Resolution No. 2026-07**: On a motion by Mr. Cox, seconded by Mr. Clinton: The GNOEC desires to solicit statements of qualification from qualified firms to provide insurance broker services to assist the GNOEC in the procurement and assessment of insurance products, and hereby authorizes its General Manager to issue and advertise an RFQ for these services. Mr. Tucker recused. Chairman Coulon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Clinton, and Mr. Sharp voted in favor of the motion.

Median Cut Presentation

Gavin Gillen with ASCE summarized work underway by Kort's Construction for the median cut between the toll plaza and Monroe Overpass. The cut will be used for emergency turn arounds in the event of a prolonged closure of the south bound bridge. All work including paving has been completed. Only item remaining is installation of rolling gate which in anticipated by mid-March. Project should be completed on time and within budget.

Closing/Next Meeting

Chairman Coulon 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 at 10:36 AM. The next regular GNOEC meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 8, 2026, in the south shore conference room.

Tim Coulon
Chairman

Justin Clinton
Secretary