

**Proceedings of the Regular Meeting of the Greater New Orleans
Expressway Commission (GNOEC), Tuesday, June 16, 2026, 10 AM, North
Shore conference room, Mandeville, Louisiana 70448**

Call to Order

Chairman Tim Coulon called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM.

Roll Call

Present: Tim Coulon, Chairman; Ralph Cox, Jr., Vice Chairman; James Tucker, Treasurer; and Donald Sharp, Assistant Secretary Treasurer. Absent: Justin Clinton, Secretary. Quorum achieved.

Others Attending: Carlton Dufrechou, Melissa Phillpott, Robert Graham, Thea Andras, Mike Kelly, Michelle Carlisle, Audrey Williams, and Branden Fos, GNOEC; Cary Bourgeois, GEC; Jan Evans, Volkert; and Craig Watson, Blue Williams.

Minutes

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

Chairman's Remarks

Chairman Coulon noted that the 70th anniversary of the opening of the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway is this summer. M. Coulon summarized the recent story in *Biz New Orleans* about the Causeway, its history, and operations. Mr. Tucker and other commissioners mentioned that they had received positive comments from associates about the story and its depth.

General Manager's Report

- Drawbridge: Apr - 22 vessel openings, 3 test openings and 1 incident.
- Drawbridge: May - 7 vessel openings, 5 test openings and 0 incidents.
- Fog Ops: None.
- Bridge Closures: NB bridge closed Apr 29 for response to jackknifed trailer blocking both NB lanes at 4.9 MM from 6:30 PM to 6:55 PM. SB bridge closed May 6 for response to jumper at 10 MM from 10:30 AM to noon. NB bridge closed for response to two vehicle crash blocking both lanes at the 20 MM from 9:51 AM to 10:09 AM. NB bridge closed June 4 for response to vehicle fire at 10.5 MM from 6:08 AM to 6:50 AM.
- Breakdowns: During Apr, we responded to 401 on the CW (260 mechanical and 141 debris) and 24 on the HPL (15 mechanical and 9 debris) for a total of 425 for both bridges.
- Breakdowns: During May, we responded to 418 on the CW (299 mechanical and 119 debris) and 17 on the HPL (15 mechanical and 2 debris) for a total of 435 for both bridges.

- Accidents: During Apr, we responded to 12 on the CW (7N, 5S) and 10 at HPL (2 actually on the HPL) for a total of 22 for both bridges.
- Accidents: During May, we responded to 6 on the CW (2N, 4S) and 17 at HPL (2 actually on the HPL) for a total of 23 for both bridges.

Action Items

Toll Tag System Software, GNOEC Resolution No. 2026-13: On a motion by Mr. Cox, seconded by Mr. Tucker: The GNOEC desires to upgrade its toll tag software support and maintenance services and hereby authorizes its General Manager to issue and advertise a Request for Proposals under LA. R.S. 38:2234 to provide for installation, upgrade, support, and maintenance of its toll tag system software services. Chairman Coulon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Tucker, and Mr. Sharp voted in favor of the motion.

Police Radios, GNOEC Resolution No. 2026-14: On a motion by Mr. Sharp, seconded by Mr. Tucker: The GNOEC desires to procure portable radios for the police department and Command Central AXS consoles for communication in order to replace the current technology, which is reaching the end of its useful life and is Louisiana Wireless Information Network (LWIN) approved. The GNOEC hereby authorizes its General Manager to contract with Motorola, Inc., an approved state contract vendor under contract with the State of Louisiana, pursuant to LA. R.S. 38:2212.1(F) and LA. R.S. 39:1701, et seq., to provide for portable radios and Command Central AXS consoles in an amount not to exceed \$500,000. Chairman Coulon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Tucker, and Mr. Sharp voted in favor of the motion.

Communications Antennas, GNOEC Resolution No. 2026-15: On a motion by Mr. Sharp, seconded by Mr. Tucker: To address maintenance and operations issues with its current radio antennas, the GNOEC desires to relocate its radio antennas to the TPN and make improvements to optimize operability of the GNOEC's police and maintenance radios. The GNOEC hereby authorizes its General Manager to contract with Motorola Solutions, Inc., an approved state contract vendor under contract with the State of Louisiana, pursuant to LA. R.S. 38:2212.1(F) and LA. R.S. 39:1701, et seq., to provide for transfer, install, and improvements to the GNOEC's radio antennas. Chairman Coulon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Tucker, and Mr. Sharp voted in favor of the motion.

Approach Roads, GNOEC Resolution No. 2026-16: On a motion by Mr. Cox, seconded by Mr. Sharp: In accordance with its Articles of Incorporation, the Commissioners of the GNOEC hereby determine that the possession, operation, and maintenance of those certain East, West, and North Causeway approach roads identified by survey are no longer necessary for its corporate purpose, and that it is in the best interest of the GNOEC to transfer its possession and operations and maintenance obligations in said approaches to the Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development ("DOTD"). The transfer will enhance the long-term financial stability of the GNOEC. The GNOEC hereby

authorizes its General Manager to engage with the DOTD and take all steps necessary to facilitate transfer to the DOTD of any portion of the approach roads the DOTD agrees to acquire. Chairman Coulon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Tucker, and Mr. Sharp voted in favor of the motion.

Cable Tray Repairs, GNOEC Project No. 438, Plan Change No. 4, GNOEC Resolution No. 2026-17: On a motion by Mr. Tucker, seconded by Mr. Cox: Plan Change No. 3 added an item to remove abandoned electrical cable with an estimated 10 working days. Plan Change No. 4 adjusts the number of working days to the actual 4.5 working days used. Plan Change No. 4 also provides for payment for materials used to secure the abandoned electrical cable, the replacement of damaged cable tray on the Northbound Safety Bay, the purchase of spare cable tray, the reimbursement for the repair of damaged fiber optic cable and the replacement of custom 30" cable tray at Crossover 5. Plan Change No. 4 will result in a net credit to the GNOEC of \$1,217.02 with contract time to be adjusted to the time used to complete the work. Based upon the recommendations of the Staff and Consulting Engineers, the GNOEC authorizes the General Manager to execute Plan Change No. 4. Chairman Coulon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Tucker, and Mr. Sharp voted in favor of the motion.

Traffic Signals, GNOEC Project No. 640A, Plan Change No. 1, GNOEC Resolution No. 2026-18: On a motion by Mr. Tucker, seconded by Mr. Sharp: Proposed Plan Change No. 1 provides for the installation of loop detectors at Brookside Drive and North Approach, Florida St. and North Approach, and Florida St. and West Approach in the amount of \$185,323.08 and an additional 15 calendar days. Based upon the recommendations of the Staff and Consulting Engineers, the GNOEC authorizes the General Manager to complete the execution of Plan Change No. 1. Chairman Coulon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Tucker, and Mr. Sharp voted in favor of the motion.

Fender Repair, GNOEC Project No. 436, Plan Change No. 5, GNOEC Resolution No. 2026-19: On a motion by Mr. Cox, seconded by Mr. Tucker: Proposed Plan Change No. 5 provides for the repair of broken welds on the Grid Deck of the South Leaf of the Southbound Bridge at the North Channel Bascule in the amount of \$25,200.09 and 3 additional working days. Based upon the recommendations of the Staff and Consulting Engineers, the GNOEC authorizes the General Manager to complete the execution of Plan Change No. 5. Chairman Coulon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Tucker, and Mr. Sharp voted in favor of the motion.

North Channel Bascule Roadway, GNOEC Project No. 213, Plan Change No. 3, GNOEC Resolution No. 2026-20: On a motion by Mr. Sharp, seconded by Mr. Cox: Proposed Plan Change No. 3 provides for renovations to the existing navigation span lighting circuits on the bascule spans in the amount of \$81,091.29 and an additional 75 calendar days. Based upon the recommendation of the Staff and Consulting Engineers, the GNOEC authorizes

its General Manager to complete the execution of Plan Change No. 3. Chairman Coulon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Tucker, and Mr. Sharp voted in favor of the motion.

Lane 5 Extension, GNOEC Resolution No. 2026-21: On a motion by Mr. Cox, seconded by Mr. Sharp: To facilitate traffic flow exiting the North Toll Plaza and to enhance safety, the GNOEC wishes to extend Lane 5's acceleration road on the lakeside of the Toll Plaza to the degree feasible. Based upon the recommendation of the Staff and Engineers, the GNOEC authorizes its General Manager to have plans and specifications prepared and to advertise the project. Chairman Coulon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Tucker, and Mr. Sharp voted in favor of the motion.

Official Journal, GNOEC Resolution No. 2026-22: On a motion by Mr. Cox, seconded by Mr. Sharp: The official journal of the GNOEC is chosen for one year to publish all notices, proceedings, and financial statements as required by state law. The GNOEC's Articles of Incorporation require it to alternate the official journal between newspapers published in the parishes of Jefferson and St. Tammany. This year the official journal will be awarded to a qualified newspaper published in St. Tammany Parish, *The Farmer*, in accordance with LA. R.S. 43:142 effective June 16, 2026. Chairman Coulon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Tucker, and Mr. Sharp voted in favor of the motion.

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 10:24 AM. The next regular GNOEC meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 12, 2026, in the south shore conference room.



Tim Coulon
Chairman



Justin Clinton
Secretary