

House Committee on Ways and Means

Minutes of Meeting
2016 Regular Session
April 25, 2016

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Jim Morris, Vice Chairman, of the House Committee on Ways and Means, called the meeting to order at 9:16 a.m. in Room 6, in the State Capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The secretary called the roll.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Neil C. Abramson, Chairman
Representative Joseph Bouie, Jr.
Representative Paula P. Davis
Representative Phillip R. DeVillier
Representative Stephen C. Dwight
Representative Jimmy Harris
Representative Stephanie Hilferty
Representative Dodie Horton
Representative Mike Huval
Representative Barry Ivey
Representative Edward C. "Ted" James, II
Representative Robert A. Johnson
Representative John C. "Jay" Morris, III
Representative James H. "Jim" Morris, Vice Chairman
Representative Major Thibaut
Representative Thomas P. Willmott

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Chris Broadwater
Representative Marcus L. Hunter
Representative Julie Stokes

STAFF

Ms. Alison Pryor, deputy director
Ms. Elise C. Read, legislative analyst
Ms. Gay Owens, secretary

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Ms. Janet Anthony, sergeant at arms
Mr. M. J. Hernandez, clerk

III. DISCUSSION

Overview and discussion regarding the appropriations proposed in House Bill No. 2 of the 2016 Regular Session. Testimony was received from the following agencies:

Levee Districts and Ports

Parish, City, Village, and various other Miscellaneous Non-State Entity, and Non-Governmental Organization projects beginning in Schedule 36 and through Schedule 50 of HB No. 2, which are located in Acadia, Allen, Ascension, Assumption, Avoyelles, Beauregard, Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Calcasieu, Caldwell, Cameron, Catahoula, Claiborne, Concordia, DeSoto, E Baton Rouge, E Carroll, E Feliciana, Evangeline, Franklin, Grant, Iberia, Iberville, Jackson, Jefferson, Jefferson Davis, Lafayette, Lafourche, LaSalle, Lincoln, Livingston, Madison, Morehouse, Natchitoches, Orleans, Ouachita, Plaquemines and Pointe Coupee Parishes.

The committee recessed at 2:10 p.m. and reconvened at 6:21p.m.

Division of Administration

Mr. Mark Moses, Facility Planning and Control, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-2895.

Levee Districts and Ports

Mr. David Camardelle, Mayor, Grand Isle, P. O. Box 215, Grand Isle, LA 70358, (985) 787-3196.

Mr. Ray Fremin, Jr., Iberia Parish Levee Hurricane & Conservation District, 300 Iberia Street, Suite 410, New Iberia, LA 70560, (337) 492-5420.

Mr. Lynn Hohensee, West Calcasieu Port, 1592 Tantara Circle, Lake Charles, LA 70611, (337) 855-4554.

Mr. Chet Chaisson, Executive Director, Port Fourchon and South Lafourche Airport, P. O. Box 490, Galliano, LA 70354, (985) 632-6701.

Mr. Wyly Guilfoil, Port Director, Lake Providence Port Commission, 409 Port Road, Lake Providence, LA 71254, (318) 559-2365.

Mr. Craig Romero, Executive Director, Port of Iberia (no further information given).

Acadia Parish

Ms. Mark Moses and Ms. Simonne Whitmore, Facility Planning & Control, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-2895.

Mr. Ben Malbrough, Bayou LaFourche Freshwater District, 1016 St. Mary Street, Thibodaux, LA 70301, (985) 856-1579.

Assumption Parish

Mr. Shedrick Weatherspoon, Mount Mariah Masonic Lodge #17, 311 Martin Luther King Street, Napoleonville, LA 70390.

Beauregard Parish

Mr. Vernon Meyer, Meyer & Associates, 600 North Cities Service Highway, Sulphur, LA 70663, represented the DeRitter Education and Job Training Center, Planning and Construction; the DeRidder Community Recreational Building and Shelter, Planning and Construction; and the Beauregard Waterworks District #6 Improvements, Planning and Construction.

Bossier Parish and Bossier City

Ms. Ginger Adam Corley, represented the City of Bossier, 8250 North Harts Mill Lane, BR 70808, (225) 767-5151.

Ms. Jenifer Hill, The Strand Theatre, 619 Louisiana, Shreveport, LA 71101, (318) 518-0623.

Caddo Parish

Mr. Nic Walts, Director of Policy, The Picard Group, 1200 Camellia Boulevard, Suite 101, Lafayette, LA 70508, (337) 989-0071, and Mr. Steve Skrivanos, Chairman of the Board, Biomedical Research Foundation.

Calcasieu Parish

Ms. Jill Kidder, Project Director, National Hurricane Museum & Science Center, 1205 North Lakeshore Drive, Lake Charles, LA 70601, (225) 803-7033.

Mr. Vernon Meyer, Meyer & Associates, 600 North Cities Service Highway, Sulphur, LA 70663, represented the Sulphur and Westlake projects.

Ms. Ginger Adam Corley, represented the Port of Lake Charles, 8250 North Harts Mill Lane, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 767-5151.

Ms. Judy McCleary, represented the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury, 14978 Centenary Place, St. Francisville, LA, Waterworks and Drainage Districts.

Concordia Parish

Ms. Heather Malone, City of Vidalia, Post Office Box 612, Vidalia, LA 71373, (318) 336-3635.

Mr. Wylie Guilfoil, Port Director, Lake Providence Port Commission, 409 Port Road, Lake Providence, LA 71254, (318) 559-2365.

Mr. Joe Accardo, Jr., Ports Association of Louisiana, 325 Belle Terre, LaPlace Boulevard, LA 70068, (985) 817-0238.

DeSoto Parish

Mr. John Neilson, DeSoto Parish Waterworks, P. O. Box 1409, Mansfield, LA, (318) 872-0004.

Mr. Steve Brown, DeSoto Parish Police Jury, 101 Franklin Street, Mansfield, LA 71052, (318) 918-8713.

East Baton Rouge Parish

Mr. Jeff Mosely, Vice President of Facilities and Construction, Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center, 5000 Hennessey Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 933-6031.

Ms. Coletta C. Barrett, Vice President of Mission, Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center, 5000 Hennessey Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 765-8851.

Dr. Lula B. Williams, The Developmental Institute, 201 North McGuire Avenue, Monroe, LA, (318) 855-3233.

Iberia Parish

Mr. Larry Richard, Parish President, 300 Iberia Street, Suite 400, New Iberia, LA 70560, (337) 365-8246. (No card)

Mr. Ryan Haynie, represented the Bayou Teche Museum, Post Office Box 44032, (225) 235-7049.

Ms. Cathy Indest, Iberia Parish Bayou Teche Museum, 312 Marie Street, New Iberia, LA 70563, (337) 364-1603.

Mr. Larry Hensgens, President, Iberia Parish, 817 Briarwood, New Iberia, LA 70560, (337) 380-7159.

Mr. Gene Sellers, represented Jeanerette and Loreauville projects, 148 B Easy Street, Lafayette, LA, (337) 232-0777.

Jefferson Parish

Ms. Rubye Noble, Jefferson Parish Legislative Delegation Office, P. O. Box 44434, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 342-0357.

Ms. Belinda Constant, Mayor, City of Gretna (no further information).

Mr. John Shaddinger, Jr., Mayor, City of Westwego, 419 Avenue A, Westwego, LA, (504) 347-5745.

Mr. James Butler, CPA, City of Westwego, 2067 Paxton Street, Harvey, LA 70058, (504) 347-0441.

Lafayette Parish

Mr. Marcus Bruno, Assistant to Mayor-President, Joel Robideaux (no card).

Mr. Paul Segura and Mr. Steven Picou, Lafayette Airport Commission, 1200 Camellia Boulevard, Suite 101, Lafayette, LA 70508, (337) 989-0071.

Mr. Nic Walts, Director of Policy, The Picard Group, Lafayette Airport Commission, 1200 Camellia Boulevard, Suite 101, Lafayette, LA 70508, (337) 989-0071.

Mr. Jared Stark, Chief Executive Officer, Ms. Katie Hebert, Chief Operating Officer, and Mr. Brian Kirk, Chief Financial Officer, University Hospitals and Clinics, 1200 Camellia Boulevard, Suite 101, Lafayette, LA 70508, (337) 989-0071.

Natchitoches Parish

Mr. Rick Nowlin, President, Parish of Natchitoches, 200 Church Street, Natchitoches, LA 71457, (318) 352-2714.

Mr. Willis Carter, Director, Natchitoches Parish Communications, 716 Second Street, Natchitoches, LA 71457, (318) 402-9823.

Mr. Randy LaCase, representing the City of Natchitoches and Natchitoches Levee & Drainage District, P. O. Box 37, Natchitoches, LA, (318) 357-3838.

Orleans Parish

Dr. Andrew Ward and Mr. Ed Carlson, Odyssey House Louisiana, 1125 North Tonti Street, New Orleans, LA 70119, (504) 494-9628.

Mr. Robert Farnsworth, Senior Vice President for Capital Programs, and Mr. Nick Mueller, President, The National WWII Museum, 945 Magazine Street, New Orleans, LA 70130 (no witness cards).

Mr. Steven Wright, Executive Director of State and Local Affairs, Tulane University, 200 Broadway, New Orleans, LA 70125, (504) 439-9597.

Mr. Ron Forman, President and Chief Executive Officer, and Ms. Laurie Conkerton, Executive Vice President, Audubon Nature Institute, 6500 Magazine Street, New Orleans, LA 70118, (504) 861-5119.

Mr. Paul Rainwater, represented WYES, PBS Television Station, New Orleans, LA (no further address).

Ms. Julia Bland, Executive Director, Louisiana Children's Museum, 420 Julia Street, New Orleans, LA 70130, (504) 266-2400.

Ms. Renee Vidrine, Lighthouse for the Blind, 123 State Street, New Orleans, LA 70118, (504) 899-4501.

Pointe Coupee Parish

Mr. Kevin Lemoine, Superintendent of the Point Coupee School Board, 1341 Highway 67, Slaughter, LA 70777, (225) 618-4802.

Tangipahoa Parish

Mr. Jason Hood, Hammond Area Recreation District, and Mr. Ryan Barker, Chappapeela Sports Park, 19325 Hi Park Boulevard, Hammond, LA 70403, (985) 543-6767.

East Baton Rouge Parish

Mr. Mitchell Aleshire, Office of State Parks, 1051 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 342-8111.

Legislative Budgetary Control Council

Mr. Jerry Guillot, Chief of Staff, LA State Senate.

Department of Transportation

Secretary Shawn Wilson, Dr. Eric Kalivoda, (Deputy Secretary), and Ms. Anna Hanks (Project Manager), 1201 Capitol Access Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 379-1232.

LA Office of Community Development

Mr. Pat Forbes, Executive Director of Louisiana Office of Community Development, and Mr. Marc Parenti, Program Manager, Louisiana Government Assistance Program, (LGAP) and Community Water Enrichment Funds (CWEF).

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Willmott offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion to adjourn passed by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramsom, Davis, DeVillier, Dwight, Hilferty, Horton, Huval, Ivey, Robert Johnson, Jim Morris, and Willmott voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Neil C. Abramson
House Committee on Ways and Means