



Cane River Waterway Commission

244 Cedar Bend
Natchez, Louisiana 71456
318-357-3007 office 318-617-3235 cell

May 12, 2020

RE: CRWC Budget Message

Commission Members,

The 2020/2021 General and Capital Budget(s) addresses the needs of the lake, provides for infrastructure improvements, governmental partnership projects, lake enhancement program, and safety enforcement that benefit the lake and the people of the State of Louisiana. It further provides for operations of establishing, operating and maintaining a navigable waterway system.

The general fund balance holds a minimum of no less than 1-2 months operating expenditures. A budget letter, signed by the commission administrator, was submitted that requested authorization to draft the budget resolutions, amendments, advertisements, public hearing/meeting, agenda postings, completion certification, and provided the commission with budget requirements and attendance as required by state law.

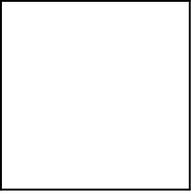
The Commission has reviewed drafts, held discussions, and authorized projects and partnerships that best benefit the lake for the 2020/2021 budget(s) and the 2021/2022 projected budget(s).

The majority of the Commission's revenues come from a millage tax of the parish of Natchitoches. The Commission adopted resolutions to roll forward to preserve the allocated 6 mil with the intent to reduce the millage rate for the 2021 tax year. The roll forward is estimated to produce an income of \$1,977,390.00 for the 2020 tax year. The Commission's total proposed expenditure expenses do not exceed the total of estimated funds available for the ensuing fiscal year.

The budget finalizes a project that will maintain a constant water source during drought conditions at a cost of \$500,000.00 to complete. The budget provides for supplemental enforcement to enhance safety, reduce accident, injury, and fatalities on the lake. The budget provides for an infrastructure plan to increase the parking at Shell Beach, replacement of Washington Street landing with parking lot upgrades, boat cleaning stations at public landings that will help prevent the movement of negative impact plants, a partnership with the Parish Government to rehabilitate Bermuda and Fish Hatchery Road(s) that is estimated to cost \$4,542,871.00, a partnership with Cane River Creole National Historical Park to rehabilitate Bermuda Bridge estimated to cost \$349,000.00 and partnerships with other agencies that best benefit Cane River Lake and its users. Budget figures are based on projections, trends, and data provided by the Commission's engineer Henry Shuler.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betty Fuller



CRWC Commission Administrator