

INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION

UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

El Paso, Texas,
December 8, 1932.

Minute No. 140 - Boca Chica Bridge Project.

The Commission met at the office of the United States Section, El Paso, Texas, on December 8, 1932, at 9:00 A.M., at the call of the Commissioner of the United States.

The Commission received the report of the Consulting Engineers, dated December 3, 1932, relative to the project presented by the Boca Chica Bridge Company for the construction of an international bridge over the Rio Grande near its mouth at the Gulf of Mexico.

The Commissioners studied the report and the plans and specifications submitted by the Company holding the bridge concession, and approved the report of the Consulting Engineers, which is attached to this Minute and made a part thereof.

Bearing in mind the effects which the large floods occurring in September of this year on the Rio Grande had on the different international bridges already constructed, and the damages caused to adjacent river areas in both countries, the Commission accepts as a general principle that international bridge structures over the Rio Grande should constitute the least obstruction possible to the flood waters; and in accordance with this criterion, the Commission concurs in the modifications of the project for the Boca Chica bridge which the Consulting Engineers suggest in the attached report.

In this special case of the bridge at the mouth of the Rio Grande, the length of span and the clearance proposed, as recommended by the Consulting Engineers in the attached report, is approved, bearing in

COMISIÓN INTERNACIONAL DE LÍMITES

ENTRE MÉXICO Y LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS

El Paso, Texas,
Diciembre 8 de 1932.

Acta No.140 "Proyecto de Puente en Boca Chica".

La Comisión se reunió en la Oficina de de la Sección de los Estados Unidos, en El Paso, Texas, el 8 de Diciembre de 1932 a las nueve horas, a llamado del Comisionado de los Estados Unidos.

La Comisión recibió el Informe de los Ingenieros Consultores, fechado el 3 de Diciembre de 1932, relativo al Proyecto presentado por la Boca Chica Bridge Company para la construcción de un puente internacional sobre el Río Bravo cerca de su desembocadura en el Golfo de México.

Los Comisionados estudiaron el referido Informe y los planos y explicaciones presentados por la Compañía concesionaria del puente y aprobaron el Informe de los Ingenieros Consultores que se agrega a esta Acta y que forma parte de ella.

Teniendo en cuenta las consecuencias que las grandes crecientes ocurridas en Septiembre de este año en el Río Bravo tuvieron sobre los distintos puentes internacionales ya construidos, y los perjuicios causados en las riberas de ambos países, la Comisión acepta como principio general que las estructuras de los puentes Internacionales sobre el Río Bravo constituyan la menor obstrucción posible a las altas aguas, y de acuerdo con este criterio la Comisión está conforme con las modificaciones al Proyecto del Puente de Boca Chica sugeridas por los Ingenieros Consultores en el Informe anexo.

En el caso especial del puente en la desembocadura del Río Bravo, se aceptan el claro total y la altura propuestas, conforme a la recomendación que hacen los Ingenieros Consultores en el informe adjunto, teniendo

mind that the greater part of the flood waters of the river reach the Gulf of Mexico through floodways and flood control works existing in both countries below the mouth of the San Juan River, as well as through natural floodways of the river waters toward the low lands adjacent to Laguna Madre, and only a very reduced amount of water reaches the Gulf through the main channel of the Rio Grande.

The Commission adopted the following resolution:

Provided that the length of span is increased, as required by the report of the Consulting Engineers, between the bridge piers in the project for the international bridge over the Rio Grande at Boca Chica, the Commission considers that the structure will cause no undue obstruction to the river current nor any alteration in the international boundary line. The Commission, therefore, offers no objection to the plan if this provision is complied with and such compliance evidenced by a copy, in duplicate, of the modified plan in conformity herewith to be filed by the applicant for the information and files of this Commission; and submits its report to the two governments for action by other interested governmental agencies.

The meeting then adjourned.

L. M. Larson
Commissioner of the United States.

Armando Quintanar
Commissioner of Mexico.

Clark H. Creps
Secretary of the United States Section.

José Hernández Peña
Secretary of the Mexican Section.

en cuenta que la mayor parte de las aguas de creciente del río llegan al Golfo de México por los canales de alivio y obras de defensa construidos en ambos países abajo de la desembocadura del Río San Juan, así como por los derrames naturales de las aguas del río hacia los terrenos bajos adyacentes a la Laguna Madre, y solamente una cantidad muy reducida de agua llega al mar por el cauce principal del Río Bravo.

La Comisión tomó la siguiente resolución:

Siempre que se amplíen los claros entre los caballetes del Proyecto de puente Internacional sobre el Río Bravo en Boca Chica, siguiendo las indicaciones del Informe de los Ingenieros Consultores, la Comisión considera que la estructura no producirá obstrucción indebida a la corriente ni alteración a la línea divisoria internacional. Por lo tanto, la Comisión no encuentra objeciones al Proyecto, siempre que sea modificado como antes se indica, y que se compruebe este cambio por los interesados ante la Comisión, mediante la presentación, por duplicado, de los planos revisados. La Comisión presenta este Informe a los dos Gobiernos para conocimiento de las Secretarías que deben intervenir en el asunto.

Se levantó la Sesión.

Armando Quintanar
Comisionado de México.

L. M. Larson
Comisionado de los Estados Unidos.

José Hernández Peña
Secretario de la Sección Mexicana.

Clark H. Creps
Secretario de la Sección de los Estados Unidos.

El Paso, Texas,
December 3, 1932.

The Honorable Commissioners,
International Boundary Commission,
United States and Mexico,
City.

Sirs:

Complying with your verbal instructions we have examined the plans submitted by Boca Chica Bridge Company for the proposed international bridge across the Rio Grande, and submit the following as our report in the matter.

The proposed location of the bridge is near the mouth of the Rio Grande at a point about four hundred feet east of International Boundary Commission Reference Monument No. 55A. We see no objection to the location.

The type of bridge proposed is a creosoted pile trestle with a concrete deck. It is our opinion that this type of construction meets the local conditions as set out in the report of Engineer Geo. E. Cole of the bridge company. Regarding the structure itself we find that the plan calls for:

- A. An overall length of six hundred and twenty-nine feet.

This we consider adequate as it spans the normal channel and reaches a reasonable distance beyond the banks on both sides of the stream.

B. A deck height twelve feet above mean low tide.

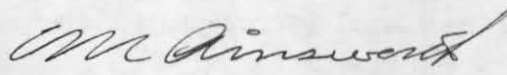
This is deemed sufficient as the tidal range is approximately two feet and as the deck will be above any probable tidal wave or river flood crest, and will probably clear all drift.

C. Pile bent spaced nineteen feet apart.

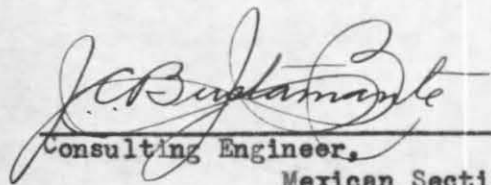
Our opinion is that the distance between bents should be increased to at least twenty nine feet by the use of thirty foot stringers in place of the twenty foot stringers proposed, as the fewer bents required will offer less obstruction to flow, and less chance for drift to lodge and so better guard against the possibility of the river shifting its channel during floods.

If the longer span between bents is adopted we recommend the approval of the construction.

Respectfully submitted,



Consulting Engineer,
United States Section.



Consulting Engineer,
Mexican Section.