

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDING
OF
SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT
MARCH 7, 2016**

The Board of Commissioners of the South Lafourche Levee District met in a regular session at its regular meeting place, 17904 Highway 3235, Galliano, Louisiana, on Monday, March 7, 2016, at three (3:00) o'clock p.m., pursuant to the provisions of a notice of regular session duly promulgated and posted in accordance with the law.

The regular meeting for the month of March was called to order by President Ronald Callais. Commissioner Clarence Marts led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Callais directed the secretary to call roll.

Board members present: Ronald Callais
 Robert "Bobby" Eymard, Sr.
 Bob Faulk
 Monty Vegas
 Mitch Danos
 Clarence "CJ" Marts, Jr.
 Brent Duet
 Keith Guidry

Board members absent: None

Also present were: Executive Secretary and General Manager Windell Curole; Administrative Assistant Mary Punch; Levee Board Operations Superintendent Drake Baudoin; Attorney Tyler Breaux; Engineering Personnel André Uzee, Joe Picciola, Larry Picciola, Mike D'Angelo, and Stevie Smith; Melissa Leblanc, Roland Ledet and sons; and news media.

READING OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the February 15, 2016, Regular Meeting were approved unanimously upon a motion by Mitch Danos and seconded by Monty Vegas.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

DC TRIP – MVFCA

President Callais announced that he and General Manager Windell Curole had attended the Mississippi Valley Flood Control Association Conference in Washington, DC the previous week. He added that he they had the opportunity to meet with representatives and senators, and were well received. He stated that he and Mr. Curole had expressed their concerns over the difficulties in obtaining Corps permits. Mr. Curole added that the MVFCA included states along the Mississippi River from Illinois south to the gulf. Mr. Curole explained that any time you alter a federal system you must obtain a 408 permit. Upon speaking with Mike Reed from a levee district in Illinois, he learned that others were experiencing the same difficulties in obtaining 408 permitting, so it has become a nation-wide issue. Mr. Curole briefed the board on other subjects that were discussed with the legislators.

TIER 2.1 – DUE MAY 15, 2016

President Callais informed the board members that the state required financial disclosure was due by May 15th of each year. A copy of the disclosure was prepared for each member with their meeting packets. President Callais requested each member review his report and make any necessary changes. If there were no changes, the report should be signed and return to the SLLD office for processing.

UPCOMING ALBL WORKSHOP, BATON ROUGE – MAY 5-6, 2016

President Callais announced that the annual ALBL Workshop would be on May 5th and 6th, and encouraged everyone to attend.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Mr. Roland Ledet expressed his objection to the road closure near his property along Hwy 24 in Larose. Mr. Ledet, along with his sons, and two other property owners, discussed their grievances. Mr. Curole and Engineer Joe Picciola explained the plans for the levee and explained that the new access road would be built by the parish, not the levee district. A lengthy discussion ensued which led into Mr. Curole showing slides of that area and the project. Mr. Curole stated that the SLLD and the parish government would address as many issues as possible in finding a replacement access.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

SLIDE PRESENTATION

General Manager Windell Curole showed images of the Larose Floodgate Improvement and Protection, Ph 2 Interim Project – Floodwall below LA Hwy 1, Intracoastal Bridge. He and Mr. Picciola explained where the road would be permanently closed, and options for a new access road that would be provided by the Lafourche Parish Government. Other slides included the Larose Floodwall on the east side of Bayou Lafourche and plans for improvement in that area.

HTV EDUCATION

Mr. Callais stated that he had met with representatives from NLLD, TLCD and HTv. He explained that HTv was putting together a program that would explain what the levee districts were doing and that the program would cost \$60,000 to produce, but that Chevron had offered to pay half of that cost leaving \$30,000 for the three levee districts to share. Each levee district would have the opportunity to present slides and information about their projects that were going on in the various districts. Mr. Callais stated that it would include five or six different shows and was a great opportunity to show the public what was happening in their areas. He also stated that HTv had offered to contact sponsors for the show, and if enough sponsorships were secured, it could cover the remaining costs so the levee districts would not pay anything.

APPROVAL OF FY 2017 PROPOSED BUDGET

Mr. Curole presented the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2017 and requested acceptance from the board.

On a motion by Mitch Danos and seconded by Monty Vegas, the board unanimously accepted the Proposed FY2017 Budget.

CPRA LEADERSHIP

Mr. Curole announced that CPRA had recently appointed new members to its board. He also stated that he had remained a member. Several of the seats filled were from our area which would bring much experience and information regarding our issues.

UPDATE ON CEASE AND DESIST ORDER – LAROSE FLOODWALL

Mr. Curole stated that he had met with the Corps and was told that it would take another year to a year and a half to process the 408 permitting. Mr. Curole added that there was one area of the projects where the Corps did not replace sheet piling and could cause a major problem. Our project would greatly strengthen that segment. He explained that the sheet piles go down to a -12', but only go up to 7' or 8'. He further explained that the rule of thumb for placing sheetpile is to have two feet below ground for every foot that is above so the Sheetpile in that area should be at a minimum of 14' in the ground. He stated that that section was a weak spot and could be unstable. Mr. Curole stated that we would encourage the Corps to treat that area with urgency. Our completion of the project would relieve that problem.

REACHES K & L, ALL SOUTH CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Mr. Curole requested Stevie Smith address the amendment to the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement for permitting. Mr. Smith explained that the five-way cost share CEA was being amended to include additional funding for the permit. After speaking with the other entities, Mr. Smith announced that the other partners would approve the CEA within the next two weeks. He requested that the board give their approval to amend the permit to include additional funding for the permit costs.

Moved by Bob Faulk, seconded by Keith Guidry and unanimously accepted, the board approved and authorized Mr. Windell Curole or Mr. Ronald Callais to sign the Amendment to the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement to include additional five-way cost share funding for the permitting of Reaches K & L of the MORGANZA TO THE GULF project.

RIGHT-OF-WAY PERMIT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF ELEVATED LA 1 AT LEVEE CROSSING

Mr. Curole stated that the Elevated LA 1 Project could be affected by the 408 permitting system. Therefore, DOTD has requested a right-of-way permit to widen the levee.

Moved by Clarence Marts, and seconded by Bobby Eymard, the board agreed to provide a right-of-way permit to LA Dept. of Transportation for the purpose of widening the levee where the new elevated LA 1 Project would cross.

ENGINEERING REPORT

OFFICE OF COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION

Mr. Trung-Quan Nguyen was not in attendance.

CORPS OF ENGINEERS (JOEY WAGNER)

There was no one in attendance from the Corps.

PROJECT ENGINEERS

PICCIOLA & ASSOCIATES

Engineer Joe Picciola gave the following report:

- **D-North Levee Improvements**

Apeck Construction is the contractor. The contractor is pretty much done with hauling of material out of the borrow pits. They are grading and shaping the final levee sections now. They are approximately 95% complete with the project.

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 21. The pay application includes embankment completed February 2016 (3,429 cubic yards).

- Pay Request No. 21 in the amount of \$16,549.03

Moved by Mitch Danos, seconded by Bob Faulk and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 21 in the amount of \$16,549.03.

- **A-East Dredging**

We received bids on January 28th. Plaisance Dragline & Dredging Co., Inc. was the low bidder in the amount of \$89,224.48. We are currently processing contracts and it is anticipated that the work will start after the completion of the Yankee Canal Levee Dredging.

- **Larose Floodgate Improvement and Protection, Ph 2 Interim Project – Floodwall below LA Hwy 1, Intracoastal Bridge**

Sealevel Construction, Inc. is the contractor. The roadway is currently barricaded and it is anticipated that they will mobilize to begin construction on site this week.

- **Yankee Canal Levee Repairs**

Plaisance Dragline & Dredging Co., Inc. is the contractor. They began dredging on February 16th.

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 1. They pay application includes dredging completed in February 2016 (11,000 cubic yards).

- Pay Request No. 1 in the amount of \$22,716.00

Moved by Keith Guidry, seconded by Brent Duet and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 1 in the amount of \$22,716.00.

J. WAYNE PLAISANCE, INC.

Engineer John Plaisance reported the following:

- **Bayou Lafourche Water Level Control**

We are still waiting on the permit for the Bayou Lafourche Water Level Control, but it seems to be at a stand-still at this point. I've sent two requests this month, but have not heard back from DNR on the changes I've submitted, or on our request for information from them. Mr. Curole and I will be making a trip to Baton Rouge to meet with them in person.

- **Pump Station No. 4 Upgrades**

This project consists of the replacement of the overhead crane at Pump Station No. 4. I've run into a few issues that I need to discuss with SLLD staff before moving on.

Mr. Curole added that the pumps that had been out for repairs at PS No. 4 were now back and installed. Levee Board Operations Superintendent Drake Baudoin added that all pumps were back in operation with the exception of one at PS No. 1. He explained that Philadelphia Gear was waiting on parts to repair the pump, but that no other pumps were down in the system.

LEVEE IMPROVEMENTS – ANGELETTE-PICCIOLA, LLC

Engineer Larry Picciola reported the following:

- **B-South, B-North & C-South, Apache Farm to Golden Meadow Park**

Plans for this project are complete and ready to submit to Facility Planning and Control for approval.

- **Larose Floodwall Elevation, Ph 1 & 2**

Construction has stopped due to the Cease and Desist Order issued by the Corps of Engineers. We have submitted a design report to the Corps and are working with the levee district to resolve this as quickly as possible.

- **Bason Pump Station Area Seepage Analysis**

The contractor, Sealevel Construction, Inc., is currently fabricating and painting the sheet piles and will begin installation in a few weeks.

- **Morganza to the Gulf, Reach L**

The surveying and geotech field work are complete and we are working on the preliminary levee design.

MORGANZA TO THE GULF – ALL SOUTH CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Engineer Stevie Smith reported the following:

- **Reach K & L**

The SLLD has received the LA DNR Coastal Use Permit, and the COE permit for this project. The COE permit was received March 3rd.

The SLLD, TLCD, and NLCLD have begun discussions on the mitigation necessary for this project.

- **Reach K Haul-In Section**

A 95% design deliverable was submitted to the SLLD, the TLCD, and the State the week of Feb. 22, 2016. Comments are expected in the next week. Advertisement should begin in May.

- **Reach K On-Site Excavation Section**

All South is working on the preliminary design section with the geotechnical contractor. An interim design deliverable will be submitted in the next 45 days.

- **Reach K ROW**

The necessary ROW has been acquired from LA DWF.

Conoco Phillips has provided an amended ROW document for approval by the SLLD.

Apache ROW map is currently being prepared.

CB & I ENGINEERS

Engineer Mike D'Angelo reported the following:

- **Grand Bayou Structure**
Geotechnical sub-consultants continue to do the lab analysis on the soils and put together their geotechnical recommendations. All soil borings in the field are complete and once we receive their report, we'll be able to do structural analysis on the foundation and put the preliminary report together on the structure.

LEGAL, PERMITS, AND RIGHT-OF-WAYS COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairman Mitch Danos announced that no permit requests were received for review.

BOARD ATTORNEY

Attorney Tyler Breaux announced he had nothing to report and there would be no need for Executive Session.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

INVOICES

Commissioner Monty Vegas announced that the Finance Committee had reviewed the invoices and recommended they be paid.

On a motion of Monty Vegas, seconded by Clarence Marts, and unanimously carried, the board approved the payment of the invoices as presented.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

ADD POSITION OF OPERATING ENGINEER 1 TO AVAILABLE JOB TITLES

Commissioner Monty Vegas announced that we would add the job position of Operating Engineer 1 to available positions and be filled by Mobile Equipment Operator 1, Ryan Bagala.

Moved by Monty Vegas, seconded by Mitch Danos and unanimously carried, the board agreed to add the Civil Service title of Operating Engineer 1 to the available positions, and to promote Mobile Equipment Operator 1 Ryan Bagala to the position of Operating Engineer 1.

OLD BUSINESS

LBOS Drake Baudoin voiced the need for a new overhead crane at PS No. 4. Mr. Baudoin stated that the temporary hoist that they were now using at that location was not safe. He explained that the other pump stations had overhead cranes in them and that one was needed at PS No. 4 also.

Mr. Callais recommended the board move to allow HTv to get sponsors to cover the cost of the new TV programs:

Moved by Monty Vegas, seconded by Bob Faulk and unanimously accepted, the board agreed to get sponsors to cover the cost of the Levee District programs that would be produced and broadcast by HTv Channel 10.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

With no further business to discuss, the board unanimously adjourned the meeting on a motion of Clarence Marts and seconded by Mitch Danos.

/s/Ronald Callais, President

/s/Windell A. Curole, Executive Secretary