

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDING
OF
SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT
AUGUST 8, 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, August 8, 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 June 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.
 Mc Neely Rome
 Roland Curole
 Keith Guidry

Board members absent: None

Also present were: Executive Secretary and General Manager Windell Curole; Administrative Assistant 6 Mary Punch; Administrative Assistant 3 Amy Gisclair; Levee Board Operations Superintendent Drake Baudoin; Attorneys Ray Collins and Tyler Breaux; Engineering Personnel John Plaisance, Joe Picciola, Ben Hodson, Neil Angelette, Stevie Smith and ; and news media.

READING OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the July 11, 2016, Regular Meeting were approved unanimously upon a motion by McNeely Rome and seconded by Monty Vegas.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

RECOGNITION OF PAST BOARD MEMEBERS; LULA AUENSON AND BRENT DUET

President Ronald Callais announced that former board commissioner, Lula Auenson, was unable to attend the meeting, and then recognized former board commissioner Brent Duet. Mr. Callais read a resolution that was signed by all the commissioners, and presented the resolution along with a desk plaque commemorating Mr. Duet's years of service to the levee district. Mr. Duet thanked the commissioners and stated that he had enjoyed serving on the board from April of 2013 until April 2016, and that it was a pleasure to be a member while so much construction and improvement was being accomplished.

MILLAGE PUBLIC HEARING/MEETING SCHEDULED: SEPT 12, 2016 AT 3:00 PM

President Callais announced that a public hearing was scheduled at 3:00 P.M. on Sept. 12th to consider adopting the adjusted millage rate after reassessment and rolling forward to rates not to exceed the prior year's maximum.

76TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF LEVEE BOARDS OF LOUISIANA

President Callais informed members of the board that the ALBL Conference held in December of each year would once again be held at the Hilton Riverside Hotel, and encouraged all to attend. A copy of the conference agenda and dates were provided to each member.

President Callais urged the commissioners to attend the District Attorney’s public meeting on Open Meetings Law that would be conducted at Central Lafourche High School the following evening.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

DUCKS UNLIMITED – LESLIE SUAZO

Leslie Suazo presented slides and discussed current and future plans for building terraces to combat erosion. Ms. Suazo announced that a new project would be underway on the west side of the SLLD levee system starting in January 2017, with additional terraces being placed just north of that location in January 2018. A terrace project around Leeville would start late August or early September 2016.

GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT

SLIDE PRESENTATION

General Manager Windell Curole started his presentation with a video clip of the levee district building and adjacent property. He spoke on past hurricanes noting the damage and flooded areas outside our levee system that resulted. He discussed issues pertaining to the Cease and Desist Order on the Larose Floodwall and the progress being made with the Corps. Other slides were shown to update the commissioners on the work that was currently being done around the SLLD levee system.

BID RESULTS – APPROVAL TO ACCEPT AND PURCHASE

Mr. Curole requested engineer Neil Angelette announce the results of the bid openings for engine and gear drives. Mr. Angelette announced results and the awards were made as follows:

Bid Opening Results of July 21, 2016

Philadelphia Gear Drive

BIDDER	BID AMT
Philadelphia Gear	\$141,050.00

Moved by Monty Vegas, seconded by Keith Guidry and unanimously accepted, the board authorized the purchase of a Philadelphia Gear, Gear Drive, to the only bidder, Philadelphia Gear, at the bid price of \$141,050.00.

Bid Opening Results of August 3, 2016

De’Ran Gear Drive

BIDDER	BID AMT
Associated Pump & Supply, LLC	\$36,095.00
De’Ran Gear, Inc.	\$50,536.00

Moved by Clarence Marts, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board authorized the purchase of a De’Ran Gear Drive, to the low bidder, Associated Pump & Supply, LLC., at the bid price of \$36,095.00.

Bid Opening Results of August 3, 2016

Remanufactured Detroit Diesel Engine

BIDDER	BID AMT
Industrial Diesel Service, LLC	\$35,500.00
Marine Systems, Inc.	\$59,918.95

Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Mitch Danos and unanimously accepted, the board authorized the purchase of a Detroit Diesel Engine, to the low bidder, Industrial Diesel Service, LLC., at the bid price of \$35,500.00.

OPTION TO RENEW HUNTING & FISHING LEASE HELD BY HECTON LANASSE FOR ADDITIONAL FIVE YEARS

Mr. Curole stated that the board had the option to do a one-time renewal of hunting and fishing leases upon their maturity. He recommended the board renew the lease currently held by Hecton Lanasse for an additional five years.

Moved by Bob Faulk, seconded by Bobby Eymard and unanimously accepted, the board authorized the one-time renewal of the hunting and fishing lease currently held by Hecton Lanasse for an additional five years at the same rate as the previous five years.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE FOR VENDORS AND CONTRACTORS – TO BE PAID ON A MONTHLY BASIS UNLESS ON THE APPROVED LIST FOR EXPEDITED PAYMENT

Mr. Curole announced that in the past the SLLD had paid vendors and contractors whenever an invoice was received. He added that often invoices of smaller contractors were paid without prior board approval. He stated that some vendors who had recurring monthly charges would need to be paid upon receipt to avoid late charges, but that all others should be pre-approved by the board before being paid. He recommended that the board authorize the once-per month payment schedule unless the payee was on a pre-approved list of vendors who would be paid upon receipt.

On a motion by Bob Faulk and seconded by Mitch Danos, the board agreed and authorized a monthly payment system where vendors and contractors would be made once per month upon board approval unless they were on the list of recurring monthly charges previously approved by the General Manager.

REACH K (MORGANZA TO THE GULF) ACCESS ROAD PROJECT – PH 1, LOW BIDDER

Mr. Curole requested engineer Stevie Smith report on the bid results for the Reach K Access Road Project. Mr. Smith reminded the board that bids were open the morning before the July 11th board meeting, and that the board voted to award to the lowest bidder upon review and recommendation of the engineer. Mr. Smith announced after careful review, Low Land Construction was the low bidder. He stated that no further action was needed at that time.

SAFETY FACTOR, A-WEST/B-SOUTH

Mr. Curole stated that a portion of the west side levee had been raised to a near 18' elevation. He explained that some dirt had been taken from the berm, and in doing so, the safety factor had been slightly reduced. A Geotech study was now in progress to determine what the safety factor was in that area. Mr. Curole added that materials would be brought in to reestablish the berm and to bring the safety factor to an even higher level.

408 PERMIT APPLICATION – STEP 2, PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Mr. Curole announced that they were making progress on the Larose floodwall issue, and that the congressional delegation was helping. He stated that Senator Vitter had a meeting in DC and brought up the issue with permitting and our Cease and Desist Order. He added that they felt they could get through the permitting process in 30 to 60 days. Mr. Curole further added that it would take approximately 30 to 45 days to complete the Larose Floodwall once the order was lifted. A lengthy discussion pursued.

Mr. Curole also informed the commissioners that a group of levee districts northern part of the Mississippi valley had formed a coalition to hire a group of attorneys out of Kansas City to help add language in the WRDA bill to change the 408 permitting. The coalition had collected about \$65,000 and was in need of another \$35,000. Mr. Curole mentioned some Louisiana levee districts that would be contributing to the fund and requested the SLLD board contribute \$5,000 toward that cause.

Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Bob Faulk and unanimously accepted, the board agreed to allocate \$5,000 to the coalition of levee districts for use in the hiring of attorneys to add language in the WRDA bill that would change the 408 permitting process.

STATE FACILITY PLANNING & CONTROL – CAPITAL OUTLAY UPDATE

Mr. Curole stated that he had received information that \$494,000 of \$1,494,000 was in the Capital Outlay Budget for us to use, but that the \$1M didn't make it through the bond commission at their July 21, 2016 meeting. Mr. Curole stated that the \$494,000 was locked in and designated toward the Larose Floodwall project. He added that we would have to try to get \$1M in the Capital Outlay bill for next year. Mr. Curole explained that the \$1M was not linked to a contract, so due to State budget cuts we would not receive that money.

CLEANING OF FUEL TANKS – DRAKE BAUDOIN

Mr. Curole requested Levee Board Operations Superintendent Drake Baudoin report on the pump station fuel tank investigation. Mr. Baudoin stated that after three or four hours of running the pumps, the fuel tank filters would fill up with sludge and trash and the pumps would have to be shut down. He stated that he had called Vacco to suction and clean out the tanks and that the cost per station was about \$2,200 each. Mr. Curole added that since the work was for normal operations, no board action was needed. He added that the tanks had never been cleaned, but would be checked for periodic cleaning.

FEMA REIMBURSEMENTS

Mr. Curole reported that the SLLD was still working on reimbursements from FEMA as far back as Hurricane Rita in 2005. He added that FEMA was attempting to close out past claims and that SLLD expected to receive more reimbursements in the future.

FY 2016 AUDIT – AUGUST 17, 2016

Mr. Curole announced that the auditors were scheduled to be at the levee district office on Aug. 17th to conduct the annual audit for fiscal year 2016.

APPROVAL TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT ALLOWING REIMBURSEMENT TO NLLD FOR WORK ON REACHES K AND L FOR MITIGATION AND DIKE CONSTRUCTION

Mr. Curole explained that the agreement to allow reimbursement to North Lafourche Levee District was for money that was designated for the Morganza project, and would be paid by the state. He added that NLLD was providing their equipment for the project and wanted to be reimbursed for fuel and manpower. He requested the board authorize the signing of the agreement by himself or President Callais and approve the reimbursement to NLLD for their work in building up the terraces. Engineer Mitch Marmande further explained that the total cost was estimated to be no more than \$200,000, but that it would be billed over time. He added that NLLD, who had already set funds aside for that project, would pay first and then request reimbursement from the Morganza funding.

Moved by Monty Vegas and seconded by Roland Curole, the board unanimously agreed that upon legal review of the documents, SLLD would reimburse North Lafourche Levee District from Morganza to the Gulf funds for work on Reaches K and L for mitigation and dike construction.

ENGINEERING REPORT

OFFICE OF COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION

Mr. Daniel Dearmond stated that he had nothing new to report. In answer to Mr. Curole's question as to where the agreement with CPRA stood, Mr. Dearmond stated that it was still in legal.

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 project is complete. The lien period has expired.

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 23. The pay application is for payment of retainage.

- Pay Request No. 23 in the amount of \$244,101.31

Moved by Keith Guidry, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 23 in the amount of \$244,101.31.

- **A-East Dredging**

Plaisance Dragline & Dredging Co., Inc. is the contractor. They began work again. There is no pay application this month.

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

Sealevel Construction, Inc. is the contractor. The project is complete. We are recommending Substantial Completion.

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No.5. The pay application includes embankment and concrete work completed July 2016. We also have change Order No. 2 for balancing of final contract quantities; a decrease of \$57,404.40.

Moved by Bob Faulk, seconded by Bobby Eymard and unanimously accepted, the board approved Certificate of Substantial Completion, Change Order No. 2 credit of \$57,404.40, and Pay Request No. 5 in the amount of \$65,686.73.

- **Yankee Canal Levee Repairs**

Plaisance Dragline & Dredging Co., Inc. is the contractor. The project is complete. We are recommending Substantial Completion.

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 4. The pay application includes dredging work completed July 2016.

Moved by Roland Curole, seconded by Keith Guidry and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 4 in the amount of \$5,246.79.

Mr. Curole added that the Parish had requested SLLD put together a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement, and stated that he had requested attorney Ray Collins handle the agreement.

J. WAYNE PLAISANCE, INC.

Engineer John Plaisance reported the following:

- **Bayou Lafourche Water Level Control**

We met with the State on the permit issue about six weeks ago. We now understand what they are questioning. Mr. Curole retained someone who will deliver the information to the state for us. We have two water control structures planned, but we might have to make them larger than originally planned. The Corps will be our next step after the state accepts the project.

- **Pump Station No. 4 Upgrades**

This project consists of the replacement of the crane at Pump Station No. 4 and the expansion of the fuel tank building. We are working to find a way to prevent back flow of the pipes.

We have figured a way to re-route the exhaust from the engines. This will raise the cost up to \$250,000. We are working on the design to expand the fuel tank building and expect that to be complete in the next two weeks. The crane should be finished in the next two months. We are ready to advertise the fuel tank building, although there would be some cost savings if we wait. Mr. Curole suggested the board wait to advertise the fuel tank building.

LEEVE IMPROVEMENTS – ANGELETTE-PICCIOLA, LLC

Engineer Neil Angelette reported the following:

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

Plans and specifications for this project are complete and have been reviewed by the State. We are finalizing the changes suggested by the State and will begin advertising next week.

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

Construction is still on hold due to the Cease and Desist Order issued by the Corps of Engineers. We are continuing to work with the Levee District to resolve this through the 408 process.

- **Bason Pump Station Area Seepage Analysis**

The contractor, Sealevel Construction, Inc., has completed driving the sheet pile and is finalizing the site dress up. We are recommending approval of Pay Request No. 4 for \$162,884.68. We are also recommending substantial completion as of July 30, 2016.

Moved by Bobby Eymard, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 4 in the amount of \$162,884.68 along with Substantial Completion of the project.

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

We are continuing with the preliminary design for this project and expect to have preliminary plans ready for review next week.

MORGANZA TO THE GULF

ALL SOUTH CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Engineer Report (Stevie Smith)

- **Reach K & L**

We accepted bids before the July 11th meeting and the board awarded to the lowest responsible bidder which, after careful review, was Low Land Construction in the amount of \$643,794.91. We will issue a Notice to Proceed effective August 15, 2016 to the contractor, Low Land Construction. The project will start at Point-Aux-Chene and will work north. This project consists of hauling in material along a small stretch of levee. A community meeting was held to inform the public.

The next project, On Site Excavation, consists of digging materials out of Grand Bayou along a six or seven mile stretch. This project is tracking about 60 days behind the haul-in project.

We have received comments from the state on the soil conditions. We are currently trying to set up a meeting with the state for next week to resolve any geotechnical questions the state might have.

Program Manager Report (Mitch Marmande, Delta Coast Consultants)

- **Approval of magnetometer survey for mitigation area**

This involves an area close to Larose at the marsh creation site. We propose borrowing material out of several of the canals on location to create some marsh. Prior to initiating a design, we need to see if the areas are free from obstruction. The survey to do this will cost \$29,295.00. We'd like approval to execute this contract.

Moved by Roland Curole, seconded by Clarence Marts and unanimously carried, the board authorized Mr. Windell Curole to sign the agreement for a magnetometer survey for the mitigation area of Reach K & L of the Morganza to the Gulf Project.

- **Approval to authorize ASCE to conduct inspection services – Reach K, Haul-In**

We had not previously executed an agreement with All South Consulting Engineers to do inspection services. We are asking the board to authorize Mr. Windell Curole to sign an amendment to the existing contract for inspection services in the amount of \$64,200.00.

Moved by Bobby Eymard, seconded by Clarence Marts and unanimously carried, the board authorized Mr. Windell Curole to sign an amendment to the existing contract to allow All South Consulting Engineers to conduct inspection services on Reach K, Haul-In in the amount of \$64,200.00.

CB & I ENGINEERS

- **Grand Bayou Floodgate Structure**

Project Manager Nick Matherne reported the following:

We are currently in the preliminary design report phase. The 10% design is now 100% complete, and we are about 80% complete on the cost estimates for the three design options.

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

Chairman Mitch Danos announced that one permit request was received for review and that it would not interfere with the levee.

On a motion of Mitch Danos, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously accepted, the following permit was approved:

1. BOLLINGER FOURCHON LLC

CUP NO: P20160029

LOCATION: Lafourche Parish, LA; Lat. 29-7-53N, Long. -90-11-38W; 236 Adam (Ted) Gisclair Road in Golden Meadow.

DESCRIPTION: Proposed dredging to deepen Slip C to allow installation of a drydock facility. Approx. 71,580 c.y. of material will be displaced by operations. Approx. 5.7 acres of non-vegetated waterbottoms and 168 acres of upland habitat may be impacted by the proposed activities.

Revision: Deeper draft needed in southern portion of Slip C to allow installation of a drydock facility. Previous dredging and spoil areas have been permitted by OCM and COE. Reference CUP# P20171098, P20140878 & MVN-2008-00037 and P20041429 & MVN-1998-01340 CZ.

BOARD ATTORNEY

Attorney Tyler Breaux stated that he had nothing to report.

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.

Mr. Vegas announced that the committee had reviewed the Investment Policy as required annually. With no changes to the policy, Mr. Vegas recommended approval by the board.

On a motion of Monty Vegas, seconded by Bobby Eymard, and unanimously carried, the board accepted the SLLD Investment Policy for the FY 2017 as presented.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

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 Keith Guidry.

/s/Ronald Callais, President

/s/Windell A. Curole, Executive Secretary