

OFFICIAL PROCEEDING
OF
SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT
JUNE 12, 2017

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, June 12, 2017 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; Levee Board Operations Superintendent Drake Baudoin; Attorneys Ray Collins and Loulan Pitre; Engineering Personnel André Uzee, Joe Picciola, Neil Angelette, Stevie Smith, Gavin Gillen, Mitch Marmande, and Hilary Thibodeaux; MAC member Roland Guidry; CPRA Daniel Dearmond; TLCD Reggie Dupre; LPC Daniel Lorraine; and news media.

READING OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the May 8, 2017 Regular Meeting were approved unanimously upon a motion by Monty Vegas and seconded by McNeely Rome.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Ronald Callais stated that he had nothing to report.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

There were no comments from the audience.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

SLIDE PRESENTATION

General Manager Windell Curole presented slides beginning with a levee system map from 1976. From there he discussed the Larose Floodwall Corps' project, the removal for repairs of a pump at Pump Station No. 7 and ruts that were made in Section F near the pump station. A police report was filed. Other slides included the LOOP Reservoir in Section D-North along with terraces in D-South. Photos were shown of reinforcement work on discharge pipes at Pump Station No. 4 to protect against wave action. Section A-East Dredging revealed a

barrier that was placed across the canal preventing the contractor to work in that area. Mr. Curole stated that he had spoken with the Lafourche Parish School Board and was told that a private citizen put the barrier in place and the school board is working to resolve that matter. A section of levee was removed to allow the contractor to move barges over the levee to work in the area of the Golden Meadow Boat Launch and Pump Station No. 1. Once the second barge is through, the levee would be closed and back to its previous height and strength. Mr. Curole showed the beginning stages of new terraces that have been built in Section B-South and funded by Ducks Unlimited, ConocoPhillips and the state. In that same section construction photos show dirt piled to use to increase the levee height to 18 feet. The contractor at Pump Station No. 2 was using flexi-floats to work from inside the canal. Mr. Curole showed slides of containment dikes in the Morganza to the Gulf Project, and Engineer Stevie Smith updated the board on the progress. A new Saltwater Diversion Structure located in Lockport would prevent salt from getting into the drinking water. The final slide showed a large supply vessel docked along the banks of Bayou Lafourche.

ACCEPTANCE OF EXTENSION AND AUDIT FEES FOR BROUSSARD AND COMPANY, LLC

Mr. Curole announced that the legislative auditor had approved a three year extension of services by Broussard and Company, LLC. Mr. Curole stated that the Levee District had used that firm over the past three years and was pleased with their performance. The cost to continue with Broussard and Company would be \$9,000.00 per year. Mr. Curole recommended the board accept the extension and the price as offered.

On a motion of Roland Curole and seconded by Bobby Eymard, the board unanimously accepted the three year extension of auditing services by Broussard and Company, LLC at the cost of \$9,000.00 per year, as allowed by the Louisiana Legislative Auditor.

APPROVAL OF AMENDED BUDGET FOR FY 2017

Mr. Curole presented the amended budget for Fiscal Year 2017 and pointed out the changes that were made. He requested the board accept the budget as amended.

On a motion of Clarence Marts and seconded by Monty Vegas, the board unanimously accepted the Fiscal Year 2017 Budget as amended.

FLOODWALL CONSTRUCTION IN LAROSE; HOUSE DAMAGE CLAIMS

Mr. Curole stated that he had received two claims of damages on houses due to the sheet pile driving. Homeowners were sent a letter instructing them to contact the contractor who was responsible for any damages.

MORGANZA TO THE GULF, REACH K PROGRESS

Mr. Curole stated that bids were received and opened on Friday, June 9, 2017. Mr. Gavin Gillen with All South Contracting Engineers recommended awarding to the contract to the low bid, Weeks Marine, at the bid price of \$2,125,000.00.

Moved by Bobby Eymard and seconded by Keith Guidry, the board agreed to award the contract of Morganza to the Gulf Reach K Access Road Ph 2, to the low bid Weeks Marine, in the amount of \$2,125,000.00.

TLCD's Executive Director Reggie Dupre thanked the board for working closely with TLCD. He stated that the bid price came in under budget and recommended moving forward with the design phase of the Grand Bayou Floodgate and the west side Reach L Bayou L'bleu Gate Structure. Mr. Dupre informed the board of the two water control structures had been the only areas that overtopped during recent high tides from Tropical Storm Cindy. He stated that he would like to get some elevation on those structures, possibly with Hesco Baskets or dirt, and requested the board amend the Haul In contract to allow spending up to \$150,000 to close those gaps before Weeks Marine starts work.

On a motion by Clarence Marts, seconded by Mitch Danos and unanimously accepted, the board approved amending the Reach K Haul In contract, and authorized President Ronald Callais and General Manager Windell Curole, to sign documents necessary to increase

spending up to \$150,000 for the elevation and gap closures, contingent upon weight information received from Program Manager Mitch Marmande.

Due to the low bid which allowed possible additional funding for other projects, Mr. Curole recommended the board authorize President Callais to sign any and all documents needed to complete the design of the floodgate on Grand Bayou and to finish Reach L Water Control Structure.

Moved by Bob Faulk, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously accepted, the board authorized engineering firms, CB&I and Angelette-Picciola, to move the Grand Bayou Floodgate, Reach L Water Control Structure, and Reach L Levee to Final Design.

Mr. Dupre gave an update on the future spending of projects, and expected possible funds remaining to completely close the gap between Cut-Off and Pointe-Aux-Chene. Mr. Marmande will provide a report of the remaining State funds available.

MERCER BOAT LAUNCH

Mr. Curole announced that the SLLD had issued a Letter of No Objection giving rights to the parish to operate and handle a designated portion of the Mercer Family property currently subject to the SLLD's permanent levee right-of-way. The letter stated that the permit to use the boat launch was contingent upon a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between LPG and SLLD. Mr. Daniel Lorraine added that the council would meet tomorrow night.

RECENT RAINFALL EVENT

Levee Superintendent Drake Baudoin stated that there was two inches of rain on Monday and 5.5 inches on Tuesday. Mr. Curole added that the borrow canal was at a - 6.5' and -7.2' before the rain started and we were pumping when the first two inches of rain fell so we continued to pump. About four hours after the 5.5 inches of rain stopped, the borrow canal water elevation rose from -6.5' to -5', and from -7.2' to - 4.8'. We were still -4.8' below sea level. The water was unable to get to the back quickly enough to avoid some flooding in low areas.

PUMP STATION NO. 7 PUMP REPAIRS

Mr. Curole had spoken to the board about the pump repairs earlier in the slide presentation, and recommended the board authorize President Callais to spend \$10,367.00 as quoted by Bollinger Shipyards for repairs and replacement parts.

Moved by Mitch Danos, seconded by Monty Vegas and unanimously accepted, the board authorized the spending of \$10,367.00 as quoted by Bollinger Shipyard for repairs and replacement parts.

FILE ROOM REPAIRS

Mr. Curole informed the board that the ground had settled and that the file room had sustained some rain damage that needed repairing. He estimated the costs for repairs to be approximately \$5,000 and recommended the board authorize hiring the lowest quote once received.

Moved by Bob Faulk, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board authorized spending up to \$5,000 for repairs to the back file room of the SLLD office building.

ENGINEERING REPORT

OFFICE OF COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION

Mr. Daniel Dearmond stated that regarding the Reach K & L at the Apache property, the design crew will be submitting their final comments this week. It will then go to the Office of Community Development. Their review should take about two weeks, and if all goes well, we are looking at around July 12th for advertising for bids.

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:

- **Elevation of LA Highway 3235 at Larose Crossing in Larose, LA**
Bids were received on Thursday, March 16th. LA Contracting Enterprise, LLC was the low bidder. We are awaiting approval from LA DOTD before awarding the project.
- **Mechanic Shop**
Foret Contracting Group, LLC is the contractor. The building is being erected. Interior build out should begin this week.

The contractor has submitted Pay Application no. 5 in the amount of \$46,764.00.

- Pay Request No. 5 in the amount of \$ 46,764.00

Moved by Monty Vegas, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 5 in the amount of \$46,764.00.

- **A-East Small Dredge Project**
Bids were received on Monday May 31, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. Magnolia Dredge & Dry Dock, LLC was the low bidder in the amount of \$212,825.00.

Moved by Mitch Danos, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously accepted, the board approved the awarding of the A-East Small Dredge Project to low bid Magnolia Dredge & Dry Dock, LLC in the amount of \$212,825.00.

- **Larose Floodgate Improvement Area Ph 3-East: Storm Drain Pipe**
Bids were received on June 6, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. Sampey General Contractors, Inc. was the low bidder in the amount of \$40,628.00.

Moved by Keith Guidry, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board approved the awarding of the Larose Floodgate Improvement Area Ph 3-East; Storm Drain Pipe Project to low bid Sampey General Contractors, Inc. in the amount of 40,628.00.

J. WAYNE PLAISANCE, INC.

Engineer André Uzee reported the following:

- **Bayou Lafourche Water Level Control**
Mr. Uzee deferred the Bayou Water Level Control to Mr. Windell Curole to report. Mr. Curole reported that SLLD had previously mitigated everything inside and underneath the levee system. However, DNR and the Corps were now telling us that we have to mitigate, which is in contrast to the spirit of the 1985 agreement. The Corps wants us to make sure the CO² levels in the waterbody next to A-East are high enough. Mr. Curole stated that he had sent a letter to DNR and the Corps telling them that we believe we have mitigated everything, stop slowing us down and allow us to do our work. If there is another reason why they are not issuing the permits, then they should tell us so we can take address that issue. Mr. Curole further stated that since we had already mitigated, it could not be an environmental issue. He added that we would continue to work towards obtaining those permits and using whatever recourse we needed to in order to get the matter resolved.
- **Pump Station No. 4 Upgrades**
This project should be out to bid before next board meeting.

LEEVE IMPROVEMENTS – ANGELETTE-PICCIOLA, LLC

Engineer Neil Angelette reported the following:

- **B-North & B-South Levee Improvements**
Pontchartrain Partners, LLC, is currently mobilizing in equipment for the project. Construction is expected to begin in the next 1 to 2 weeks.
- **C-South Levee Improvements**
The Notice to Proceed has been issued to the contractor, RLB Contracting, Inc., and they are currently mobilizing in equipment.
- **Larose Floodwall Elevation, Ph 1 & 2**
 - Pay Request No. 15 in the amount of \$ 153,417.75

Moved by Bob Faulk, seconded by Mitch Danos and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 15 in the amount of \$153,417.75.

- **Section F Improvements**
We are currently advertising to receive bids for hauled in embankment material for Section F and Section A-West. Bids will be received on June 26, 2017 with an estimated project cost of \$1,430,000. We are recommending that the board give President Callais the authority to award the Section F bid if it is within the District's budget.

Moved by Keith Guidry and seconded by Clarence Marts, the board unanimously authorized President Ronald Callais to immediately award the low bid from the June 26, 2017 bid opening of Section F, to the lowest bidder as long as it fits in the South Lafourche Levee District's budget.

- **Morganza to the Gulf, Reach L**
We have completed the report on the preliminary design phase for the levee portion of this project, and we are currently reviewing the preliminary design report on the structure with Delta Coast Consultants.

MORGANZA TO THE GULF

DELTA COAST CONSULTANTS

Program Manager Report (Mitch Marmande)

- **Update on Reach Mitigation Project**
Everything in my report was covered earlier. We will be moving TLCD's marsh buggy out and will contract another marsh buggy to take over.

ALL SOUTH CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Engineer Report (Stevie Smith)

- **Reach K Haul In**
 - Awarded to Low Land Construction for \$643,794.91
 - Notice to Proceed Aug 15, 2016
 - Total contract quantity increased via a couple of change orders to 70,000 cubic yards
 - Contractor completed hauling week of April 17th
 - Contractor performing final tough ups and additional access road work
- **Reach K On Site Excavation Section**
Bid Opening was Friday
- **Reach K Marsh Mitigation**
 - Geotech work is complete. Survey
 - Additional survey work to begin next week as well.

- **Reach K Access Road**

- Awarding of Project – Awarded under General Manager’s section.
- Amendment to engineering contract for resident project inspection services
Mr. Stevie Smith explained that the amendment would provide for construction inspection services at an estimated cost of \$350,000. Mr. Marmande recommended the amendment be approved contingent on his review.

Moved by Bob Faulk, seconded by Mitch Danos and unanimously accepted, the board approved the amendment to the engineering contract for resident project inspection services, contingent upon the review of Program Manager Mitch Marmande, and authorized President Ronald Callais to sign.

CB & I ENGINEERS (Hilary Thibodaux)

- **Grand Bayou Floodgate Structure**

We have provided a draft amendment to Mitch Marmande for review for our contract to proceed with preliminary and final design on Grand Bayou Flood Gate.

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

General Manager Windell Curole announced that one permit request was received, and that Attorney Ray Collins was reviewing it. He explained that the permit was for seismic work in Hackberry Bay. Mr. Collins added that everything was good, but that he would be adding additional insurance requirements and certification language to the permit. Mr. Curole recommended issuing a Letter of No Objections after the language was inserted by Mr. Collins.

Moved by Mitch Danos and seconded by McNeely Rome, the board unanimously agreed to issue a Letter of No Objection for the Permit request for Seismic work in Hackberry Bay upon the insertion of additional language by Attorney Ray Collins.

BOARD ATTORNEY

Attorney Ray Collins stated that the board would need to enter into Executive Session later.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Commissioner Monty Vegas announced that the Committee met earlier and recommended a promotion for Mobile Equipment Operator 1 Rage Thibodaux, to Mobile Equipment Operator 2.

On a motion by Monty Vegas, seconded by Keith Guidry and unanimously accepted, the board agreed to promote Rage Thibodaux from Mobile Equipment Operator 1 to Mobile Equipment Operator 2.

Mr. Vegas announced that an additional temporary laborer had been hired with prior approval.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

RENEWAL OF POLICIES

Chairman Bobby Eymard announced that the Committee had reviewed the insurance quotes and found one quote unclear. They decided to defer the acceptance of the quotes to the July meeting in order to obtain further information.

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 CJ, and unanimously carried, the board approved the payment of the invoices as presented.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Dupre invited the board to the Coastal Protection and Restoration Day in Houma on Jun 27th at 3:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Houma Civic Center. The event was being co-sponsored by the Terrebonne Parish Government and Terrebonne Levee District.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Callais announced that the board would go into Executive Session to discuss legal matters concerning Class Action lawsuits.

Under the direction of President Ronald Callais, a motion was made by Monty Vegas to enter into Executive Session with a second by Clarence Marts and a unanimous agreement from the board.

Moved by Mitch Danos, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously approved, the board exited Executive Session and re-entered Regular Session.

A motion was made by Keith Guidry, seconded by McNeely Rome, and passed by vote of 9 to 0, as follows:

To authorize the executive director to pay the amounts owing under the Judgment in the matters *entitled Jason Adams et al. versus South Lafourche Levee District consolidated with 5 Chers, Inc. v. South Lafourche Levee District*, upon receiving the advice of Loulan J. Pitre, Jr., lead appellate counsel in these consolidated matters, that he has reached agreement with counsel for the plaintiffs in these matters as to the amounts owing under the Judgment these matters consistent with the rulings of the courts.

With no further business to discuss, the board unanimously adjourned the meeting on a motion of Bob Faulk and seconded by McNeely Rome.

Ronald Callais, President

Windell A. Curole, Executive Secretary