

OFFICIAL PROCEEDING
OF
SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT
JULY 10, 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, July 10, 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 July 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; Attorney Tyler Breau; Engineering Personnel André Uzee, Joe Picciola, Neil Angelette, Stevie Smith, Hilary Thibodeaux; CPRA Daniel Dearmond; Lori Leblanc Melissa Cloutet; Mary Elise Schlesinger with Senator John Kennedy; Doug Cheramie with Louisiana State Attorney General Jeff Landry; and news media.

READING OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the June 12, 2017 Regular Meeting were approved unanimously upon a motion by Bob Faulk and seconded by McNeely Rome.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Callais announced 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 discussed the cost of the recent Class Action Suit to the levee district and explained that the amount of money that was paid in the settlement was taken from future projects to protect the community from flooding. He stated that it was a disservice to the taxpayers who had supported the SLLD in their levee improvements, and that both the landowner and the taxpayer must be treated fairly. Mr. Curole then showed slides of flooding in Mandeville and Grand Isle, and high water around the levee system due to Tropical Storm Cindy.

CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT

Mr. Curole the Class Action Lawsuit during the slide presentation.

UPDATED EMERGENCY OPERATIONS MANUAL, 2017

Mr. Curole presented the updated Emergency Operations Manual for 2017.

LETTER ON MITIGATION

Mr. Curole presented letter to DNR and the Corps on mitigation. Mr. Curole stated that the intent of the letter was to provide documented information from 1987 to DNR and the Corps of our right to provide services to the public and not spend time and money on mitigation that had already been paid for and performed.

408 COALITION – WASHINGTON, DC TRIP

Mr. Curole stated that he had traveled to DC with the 408 Coalition group in where he attended up to 16 meetings in one day. He added that people from all over the country attended the meetings and were having the same issues with the 408 permitting.

TROPICAL STORM CINDY

Mr. Curole covered Tropical Storm Cindy during the slide presentation.

AUCTION TO SELL USED EQUIPMENT

Mr. Curole announced that the levee district would be using Licensed Auctioneer, Tad Gaspard, to auction the used equipment that was no longer needed and taking up space. Mr. Curole explained that we would put a minimum price on large items to insure that we received at least that price.

ENGINEERING REPORT

OFFICE OF COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION

Mr. Daniel Dearmond stated that we are very close to bidding Reach L. Engineers are addressing comments from the Louisiana Office of Community Development. We anticipate being ready to advertise for bids the week of July 31st.

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**
LA Contracting Enterprise, LLC is the Contractor. LA DOTD has issues a permit. We have scheduled a Pre-Construction meeting with the Contractor for this project on Friday, July 14th.
- **Maintenance Shop**
Foret Contracting Group, LLC is the Contractor. Interior build out is underway. The contractor has submitted a Pay Application No. 6 in the amount of \$83,263.09.

Moved by Monty Vegas seconded by Clarence Marts and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 6 in the amount of \$83,263.09.
- **A-East Small Dredge Project**
Bids were received on May 31, 2017 at 10:00am. Magnolia Dredge & Dry Dock, LLC was the low bidder in the amount of \$212,825.00. We have completed Contract Document and are currently scheduling a Pre-Construction Meeting.
- **Larose Floodgate Improvement Area Ph 3-East: Storm Drain Pipe**
Bids were received on June 6, 2017 at 10:00am. Sampey General Contractors, Inc. was the low bidder on the amount of \$40,628.00. We have competed Contract Documents and have issued the Notice to Proceed for today.

J. WAYNE PLAISANCE, INC.

In the absence of Engineer John Plaisance, Mr. Andre Uzee reported the following:

- **Bayou Lafourche Water Level Control**
We still have not heard anything on the permit status. Mr. Curole added that the next step would be to request a meeting with the Secretary, and after that, we would go to court.
- **Pump Station No. 4 Upgrades**
We are currently waiting on electrical drawings to complete the package, which we should have shortly.

LEVEE IMPROVEMENTS – ANGELETTE-PICCIOLA, LLC

Engineer Neil Angelette reported the following:

- **B-North & B-South Levee Improvements**
The contractor, Pontchartrain Partners, LLC, is proceeding with construction on the project. We are recommending approval of Pay Request No. 2 in the amount of \$292,940.59.

Moved by Roland Curole, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 2 in the amount of \$292,940.60.
- **C-South Levee Improvements**
RLB Contracting, Inc., is mobilizing in equipment and expects to begin construction in 2 weeks.
- **Larose Floodwall Elevation, Ph 1 & 2**
The project is nearing completion with only a few minor touch-up items remaining. We are recommending substantial completion as of June 30, 2017, and we are also recommending approval of Pay Request No. 16 in the amount of \$112,343.08.

Moved by Bob Faulk, seconded by Bobby Eymard and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 16 in the amount of \$112,343.08.
- **Section F Improvements**
We received bids for hauled in embankment material for Section F in June 26, 2017. The project has been awarded to the low bidder, Onshore Materials, LLC for \$430,400. The estimated project cost was \$420,000. Contracts are currently being signed.
- **Morganza to the Gulf, Reach L**
We received authorization to begin the design phase for the levee portion of this project, and we are finalizing the review on the preliminary design report of the structure with Delta Coast Consultants.

MORGANZA TO THE GULF

DELTA COAST CONSULTANTS (MITCH MARMANDE)

Program Manager Mitch Marmande reported the following:

- **Update on Reach K Mitigation Project**
We've arrived at a solution to work around the water control structures which are on the SLLD's mitigation project which is also on Reach K. TLCD will utilize its own dirt contract to supply us with approximately \$27,000 worth of material. This will result in an 8 ft. section that will transition down to the levee allowing us to drive over the structures. The water control structures are supported by two bulkheads. We will actually build a levee section between the two bulkheads and the water control structures will have to be replaced at a later date.

Dike construction is a problem at this time. TLCD had been using their equipment to build containment dikes, but is moving out. I will get with All South Consulting Contractors and North Lafourche Levee to come up with a solution to contract another buggy to continue the dike work.

ALL SOUTH CONSULTING ENGINEERS (STEVIE SMITH)

Engineer Stevie Smith reported the following:

Update on Morganza to the Gulf Reach K & L

- **Reach K Haul In**
 - Award to Low Land Construction for \$643,794.91
 - Notice to Proceed Aug. 15, 2016
 - Total Contract quantity increase via a couple of change orders to 70,000 cubic yards.
 - Contractor completed hauling week of April 17th.
 - Contractor performing final touch ups and additional access road work.

- **Reach K On Site Excavation Section**
 - SLLD awarded job to Weeks Marine at last month's meeting. Contract paperwork moving between contractor and SLLD
 - Pre-construction meeting will be in July, and notice to proceed should be in August
 - Dike work underway

- **Reach K Marsh Mitigation**
 - Geotech work is complete
 - Additional survey work to begin next week as well

CB & I ENGINEERS (Hilary Thibodeaux)

Engineer Hilary Thibodeaux reported the following:

- **Grand Bayou Floodgate Structure**

We are currently working out a couple of issues on the amendments for this project. Mr. Curole reminded the board of the three gate options for the project. The option with one large gate opening was selected.

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 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 Keith Guidry, seconded by Bobby Eymard, and unanimously carried, the board approved the payment of the invoices as presented.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

PROPOSAL TO ALLOW EMPLOYEES TO USE PERSONAL CELL PHONES FOR AGENCY BUSINESS

Mr. Vegas explained that employees would be given the option to use their personal cell phones for agency use, and would receive a \$25 per month compensation which would amount to a significant savings to the board.

UPDATES TO PERSONNEL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

Mr. Vegas presented proposed changes to the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual and requested that those changes be accepted.

Moved by Monty Vega, seconded by Mitch Danos and unanimously agreed upon, the board accepted the changes to the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual as presented.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

RENEWAL OF POLICIES

Chairman Bobby Eymard announced that the committee had reviewed and accepted the quotes presented. He added that there was a total savings of over \$33,000 from the previous year.

Moved by Bobby Eymard, seconded by Monty and unanimously accepted, the board authorized the payment of insurance policy renewal quotes as received.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business up for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Mary Elise Schlesinger introduced herself as a representative for Senator John Kennedy.

Mr. Doug Cheramie, representative for Attorney General Jeff Landry, stated that Mr. Landry was happy to serve as the state's Attorney General, and offered their assistance, if needed.

President Callais stated that he was asked by someone in the public why the SLLD cut into the levee during hurricane season. Mr. Curole explained the need to get the work done because we have to work during hurricane season in order to provide the highest level of protection possible for the community. He continued by saying they had calculated the risk, but that the levee was restored immediately once the barges were safely across.

With no further business to discuss, the board unanimously adjourned the meeting on a motion of Bobby Eymard and seconded by Keith Guidry.

s/ Ronald Callais, President

s/ Windell A. Curole, Executive Secretary