

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDING
OF
SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT
JANUARY 8, 2018**

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, January 8, 2018 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; Attorney Tyler Breaux; Engineering Personnel Ben Hodson, Neil Angelette, Stevie Smith, Mitch Marmande, Laura Barnes; Dustin Malbrough; MAC Melissa Cloutet and Roland Guidry; CPRA Daniel Dearmond; Attorney General's Office Doug Cheramie; LPC Daniel Lorraine; Lori Leblanc of Lori Leblanc, LLC, Beau Bourque with Resource Environmental Solutions; Dickie Bouvier, and news media.

President Callais announced that a vote was needed to amend the agenda to add two items; Election of Officers and Reach K Access Road Letter of Acceptance.

Moved by Monty Vegas and seconded by Clarence Marts, the board, by roll call vote of 9 Yeas, 0 Nays, 0 Absent and 0 Abstained, approved the amending of the agenda to add 'Election of Officers for 2018'.

Moved by Roland Curole and seconded by Keith Guidry, the board, by roll call vote of 9 Yeas, 0 Nays, 0 Absent and 0 Abstained, approved the amending of the agenda to add 'Reach K Access Road, Letter of Acceptance'.

READING OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the December 11, 2017 Regular Meeting were approved unanimously upon a motion by Keith Guidry and seconded by Bobby Eymard.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President Ronald Callais opened the floor to the nomination of President. Commissioner Monty Vegas made a motion to re-elect all officers as currently standing. No other nominations were made.

On a motion by Monty Vegas and seconded by Bobby Eymard, the board unanimously approved the nominations of Ronald Callais for President, Clarence Marts for Vice President, and Windell Curole

for Executive Secretary of the South Lafourche Levee District Board of Commissioners for the year 2018.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

There were no comments from the audience.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

SLIDE PRESENTATION

General Manager Windell Curole presented slides of levee elevations, projects completed in 2017, and current projects. He showed slides of terraces and marsh areas that had grown significantly and would help abate erosion from wave action. Other slides shown were of on-going work on the Morganza Reach K project.

Mr. Curole explained that a barge structure was planned to close the canal at Grand Bayou, but that it would cost over \$20M. Terrebonne Levee District and Terrebonne Parish Government were considering using a submersible barge to close the canal which would cost around \$1.5M, plus the cost of the barge. He stated that we would work with Terrebonne to get right-of-ways and contracts for the work, and Terrebonne would supply the funding. Mr. Curole then announced that All South Consulting Engineers were the engineers on the project and requested that the board authorize President Callais to sign an agreement with All South to pay for the engineering to obtain permits, contingent upon Terrebonne Levee District's and the other partners' approvals.

Moved by McNeely Rome and seconded by Mitch Danos, the board unanimously agreed, upon the contingency of the support and approval from the other entities involved, to enter into an agreement with All South Consulting Engineers for the permits to install the submersible barge structure at Grand Bayou.

CORPS AUTHORIZATION

Mr. Curole reminded the board that the hurricane protection system was authorized by Congress in 1965. Over the past several years since Katrina our funding, along with some State funding, had gone to maintain and improve the levee system. Mr. Curole explained that those improvements had caused a problem for the Corps since we did not go through Congress before making those changes. We were written up by the Corps because our levees were above 13 feet federal authorization. Mr. Curole stated that he had met with the Corps to discuss acceptance of our work for our levee system. The Corps had suggested to us to leave the Corps system, but some of our Congressional people had said to wait. He explained that by not being part of the Corps system, we would not have to follow their design as closely. But it also meant that, while we had been part of the key infrastructure in protecting roads, which had allowed the federal government to collect on average, \$6B each year, we would not be eligible to receive any federal funds for future levee improvements.

PROJECTS COMPLETE 2017

Mr. Curole reviewed projects that had been completed in 2017 siting the Larose Floodwall, Yankee Canal Levee, Delta Farms Road Corps project, Pump Station No. 4, D-South Berm and A-East Berm.

BUDGET MANAGEMENT

Mr. Curole explained that SLLD had completed a lot of projects because the funding had been available at that time. Our financial situation had now changed, mainly because of the \$3M lawsuit, so we must reduce our flood protection work. He explained that we had been working with office staff to see where we could economize and determine how much money it would take just to operate. He added that local contract projects would have to come to a halt for now, but that after a few months we should see improvement. Mr. Curole also explained that as of now, the current Capital Outlay funding was provided at a 75/25 cost share with the levee district paying the bulk of the project costs. He stated that we had spent so much money on projects, that we now had a large credit with the state. He further explained that if the state could come up with \$17M, the South Lafourche Levee District would not have to come up with any money for approved projects up to the \$17M. Mr. Curole informed the board that he was working to get more money in the state budget for the levee district.

Mr. Curole requested that the Executive Committee meet to discuss the Elevation of LA 1 in Golden Meadow project. President Callais recommended a meeting date be set.

2018 PROJECTS

Mr. Curole described the projects on the west side from Golden Meadow Park to Apache Farm. He added that he felt we could use SLLD employees to do a lot of the work which would cut down on costs.

LEVEE ELEVATION SURVEY

Mr. Curole requested the board authorize the president to hire an engineering firm to survey the levee. He added that there was no money in budget now, but we would watch the finances closely and do the survey at a later date when adequate funds were available.

Moved by Mitch Danos, seconded by Bob Faulk and unanimously approved, the board authorized President Ronald Callais to hire an engineering firm to conduct a levee elevation survey once funding was available.

REACH K (MORGANZA TO THE GULF)

Mr. Curole stated this was discussed earlier in the meeting.

REACH L (MORGANZA TO THE GULF)

Mr. Curole stated that they were moving forward with the construction of Reach L and would be working to get the right-of-ways for that project. He added that CPRA would be heading up the project with Adam Ledet as the program manager.

EXCAVATOR LEASE PURCHASE

Mr. Curole explained that Caterpillar had an excavator on State Contract. He stated that our old excavator was in bad shape and that we were currently renting one by the month. He further explained that we could do a lease purchase with Caterpillar at a lesser cost that we were paying for the rental. He requested the board authorize President Callais to consider either purchasing or doing a lease purchase agreement on State Contract with Caterpillar, and sell or trade-in the old excavator. President Callais assigned the excavator discussion to the Maintenance and Equipment Committee for review and to report back to the board with their decision.

Moved by Clarence Marts and seconded by Bobby Eymard, the board unanimously agreed to allow the Maintenance and Equipment Committee to review and recommend the purchase or lease purchase of a Caterpillar excavator, and to sell or offer as trade-in to Caterpillar, the old excavator that is no longer in commission.

LA 1 COALITION – 2018 MEMBERSHIP DUES, \$1,000

Mr. Curole announced that the Levee District had partnered with LA 1 Coalition for several years. He presented a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the \$1,000 membership renewal for 2018. Mr. Curole requested the board authorize him to sign the 2018 CEA and make payment to renew the membership.

Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Mitch Danos and unanimously accepted, the board authorized General Manager Windell Curole to sign the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with LA 1 Coalition for the 2018 membership renewal donation of \$1,000.

ENGINEERING REPORT

OFFICE OF COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION

Mr. Daniel Dearmond reminded the board that Reach L project had been awarded to Phylway. A pre-construction meeting was held before the holidays, and a Notice to Proceed would be issued soon.

Mr. Dearman announced that Public hearing would be held tomorrow at 6:30p at the Houma Civic Center to discuss CPRA's Annual Plan in an effort to obtain public comments. He added that comments could also be inputted through CPRA's website.

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 32335 at Larose Crossing in Larose, LA**

LA Contracting Enterprise, LLC is the contractor., The contractor has completed the first phase of the project which involved elevating the southbound lanes of Highway 3235 and a portion of Highway 24. Currently the northbound lanes of Hwy 3235 are closed. They are currently pile driving for the floodwall.

- Pay Request No. 4 in the amount of \$ 107,939.47

Moved by Monty Vegas, seconded by Clarence Marts and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 4 in the amount of \$107,939.47.

J. WAYNE PLAISANCE, INC.

Engineer John Plaisance was not in attendance. Mr. Windell Curole announced that there was nothing new to report.

LEEVE IMPROVEMENTS – ANGELETTE-PICCIOLA, LLC

Engineer Neil Angelette reported the following:

- **B-North & B-South Levee Improvements**

The contractor, Pontchartrain Partners, LLC, is continuing with construction on this project. We are recommending approval for Pay Request No. 8 in the amount of \$300,478.79.

- Pay Request No. 8 in the amount of \$300,478.79

Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Bob Faulk and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 8 in the amount of \$300,478.79.

- **C-South Levee Improvements**

The contractor, RLB Contracting, Inc., is continuing with construction on this project.

- **Section F Improvements**

The contractor, Onshore Materials, LLC, is continuing with construction on this project. We are recommending approval of their Pay Request No. 5 in the amount of \$24,111.00.

- Pay Request No. 5 in the amount of \$24,111.00

Moved by Roland Curole, seconded by Bobby Eymard and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 5 in the amount of \$24,111.00.

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

We are proceeding with the design phase for the levee portion of this project, and we are coordinating with Delta Coast Consultants and the landowner on options for the final design on the bayou structure.

MORGANZA TO THE GULF

DELTA COAST CONSULTANTS

Program Manager Report (Mitch Marmande)

- **Update on Reach K Mitigation Project**

The mitigation project is continuing, and North Lafourche is still working there.

In regards to Reach L, we spoke earlier about placing a temporary structure in the canal. We want to do whatever we can with the remaining money from the state to close that gap. We are hoping to request authorization to advertise by next meeting. We will be working with Apache to provide some type of access to them so they can cross the canal.

ALL SOUTH CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Engineer Report (Stevie Smith)

Update on Morganza to the Gulf Reach K & L

- **Reach K On Site Excavation Section**
 - Contractor mobilized to site Oct 4th
 - Dredging operations began Oct 5th
 - Complete first pass to station 170+00 (Discovery Pipeline). Approximately 19% of contract time has elapsed.
 - Contractor has moved to north end and is making second pass on East side

- **Reach K Marsh Mitigation**
 - All South has been working with our geotechnical contractor to resolve anticipated settlement issues. Those issues have been resolved.
 - Plans and specifications scheduled to be complete by Jan 30th

- **Reach K Access Road – Letter of Acceptance**

The Letter of Acceptance has been sent out. No further action is required.

APTIM ENGINEERS

Laura Barnes reported the following:

- **Grand Bayou Floodgate Structure**

APTIM has continued with the 30% preliminary design package to be submitted January/February 2018, pending any large scale changes. We will be meeting with Administration in the next couple of weeks to discuss additional design criteria.

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

General Manager Windell Curole announced that one permit request was received for review from LOOP, LLC. Mr. Curole explained that LOOP needed to do cathodic protection work on a pipeline that ran through the levee near the LOOP salt dome. He stated that the Corps had granted their approval and recommended a Letter of No Objection be issued.

Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Mitch Danos and unanimously accepted, the board agreed to issue a Letter of No Objection to LOOP, LLC according to Corps recommendations.

BOARD ATTORNEY

Attorney Tyler Breaux stated he had nothing to report.

Mr. Curole announced that all legal matters with the right-of-way lawsuit were finished.

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

Commissioner Monty Vegas announced that the committee would like to move part-time laborer, Adrian Coupel, to full-time position of Mobile Equipment Operator-1 with a six month probational status.

Moved by Monty Vegas and seconded by Mitch Danos, the board approved the hiring into full time probation status of Mobile Equipment Operator 1, Adrian Coupel.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Curole presented a book proposal about the history of the South Lafourche Levee District from Woody Falgout. Mr. Falgout had teamed up with author Jason Theriot. He explained that Mr. Theriot would do the research for the book at a cost of around \$36,000. He further explained that they were seeking help with the funding for research from anyone who might be willing to help.

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

/s/Ronald Callais, President

/s/Windell A. Curole, Executive Secretary