

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDING
OF
SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT
OCTOBER 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, October 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 October 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
 Roland Guidry
 Bob Faulk
 Clarence "CJ" Marts, Jr.
 Mc Neely Rome
 Roland Curole

Board members absent: Monty Vegas
 Keith Guidry
 Mitch Danos

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 Ray Collins; Engineering Personnel Ben Hodson, Neil Angelette, Andre Uzee, Laura Barnes and Clark Capone; MAC Melissa Cloutet; CPRA Daniel Dearmond; Attorney General's Office Doug Cheramie; Dickie Bouvier, and news media.

READING OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the Special Meeting of September 10, 2018 and the Regular Meeting of September 17, 2018 were approved unanimously upon a motion by McNeely Rome and seconded by Bob Faulk.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Callais announced that Monday, November 12th was a state holiday and that the Levee District office would not be open that day. Therefore, the November meeting would be moved to the next day, Tuesday, November 13, 2018.

Moved by Roland Curole and seconded by Clarence Marts, the board unanimously agreed to move the November meeting date to Tuesday, November 13, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

There were no comments from the audience

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

SLIDE PRESENTATION

General Manager Windell Curole showed clips from John Snell's Report on Fox 8 New Orleans, along with a short video clip that his daughter Alex, had put together on the Hurricane of 1893. Mr. Curole then showed a 360 aerial view taken by Engineer Neil Angelette, showing Pump Station No. 4, the Yankee Canal levee and the hurricane levees on the east side of Golden Meadow. Mr. Curole informed the board that the Hurricane Michael in the Gulf was moving quickly and should stay to the east of us.

LAROSE FLOODGATE IMPROVEMENT PHASE 3 – STEEL PARAPET WALL

Mr. Curole stated that the state was not releasing the \$5M for the A-Frame project at the floodgate, but we could still protect the floodgates themselves which were raised to 13 ft. Mr. Curole suggested we could extend that elevation all the way around the control buildings to the I-wall at the estimated cost of \$200,000. Mr. Curole requested the board approve the advertisement of that project.

Moved by Bob Faulk and seconded by Roland Guidry, the board unanimously approved the advertisement of the Larose Floodgate Improvement Ph 3 – Steel Parapet Wall.

SECTION E-SOUTH LEVEE ELEVATION

Mr. Curole stated that Section E-South levee was just south of Clovelly Farms. He added that the area from Clovelly Farms to Breton Canal needed to be elevated. The estimated cost for that project would be around \$500,000. Mr. Curole requested permission to advertise the elevation of the hurricane levee in that area.

Moved by Clarence Marts and seconded by Roland Curole, the board unanimously approved advertising E-South Levee Elevation.

CAPITAL OUTLAY REQUEST

Mr. Curole stated that the Capital Outlay Request was due by Nov. 1, 2018 and requested the board authorize the President to sign documents for submittal. Mr. Curole added that the request would include funding for projects E-North (Clovelly Farms), Golden Meadow Pump Station Wall, the Chouest (Crawfish) Farm Wall, and Larose Floodwall (to match levee heights).

On a motion by Bob Faulk, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously carried, that board authorized the President to sign necessary documents for submitting the Capital Outlay Request.

LEVEE CONSORTIUM MEETING REPORT

Mr. Curole informed the board that a Levee Consortium meeting was held in September. He stated that there was adequate hurricane protection around Lake Pontchartrain and New Orleans areas. He stated that now there was just a small gap between the West Bank and New Orleans at Lafourche Ridge, and if that could be connected, parts of St. Charles and Lafourche would get protection. With the work Terrebonne is doing, when they connect to Morgan City, it will be only the southwestern portion of Louisiana that will not have protection.

FLOOD INSURANCE ISSUES

Mr. Curole stated that last year many people received benefits of preferred risks from their flood insurance. New information is saying that some people are losing that. Some people are reporting that their costs have greatly increased. Mr. Curole added that we are involved with helping the flood insurance coalition that NLLD Director Dwayne Bourgeois was heading. We want to continue to support them.

MEETING WITH GENERAL KAISER

Mr. Curole informed the board that he met with General Kaiser who was in charge of the MS Valley area. Mr. Curole stated that he spoke with Gen. Kaiser regarding the Katrina standards for building earthen levees. Mr. Curole explained that geotechnical people had informed him that our levees were over-designed when first built. They were designed for rivers flooding; not hurricane issues. River levees hold back water for months at a time, whereas hurricane levees have to hold back water only for hours. He stated that our levees were designed stronger than we needed to begin with, and after Hurricane Katrina, the Corps set higher standards. Due to the high cost and amount of time it takes to build the levees to the new standards, we would actually be losing flood protection by complying.

PUMP REPAIRS REPORT

Mr. Curole stated that the SLLD had been repairing pumps for years. Some of the early repairs were not lasting as long as we would have liked. We are attempting now to get all the pumps back in good condition. Today, we have two pumps that are down. One is due to a bowl liner that needed replacing after the contractor did repairs. We are requesting the contractor absorb some of the cost. The second pump had bearing problems with cavitation which could cost around \$30,000 to \$40,000 to repair. Mr. Curole was optimistic that after this year, the pumps would be where we'd like them to be.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES PERMIT

Mr. Curole reminded the board that we had recently obtained the DNR's draft permit for the Bayou Lafourche Water Level Control. He added that DNR still wanted us to do mitigation should water quality issues occur. Mr. Curole presented an amendment to DNR's request on the permit.

ACCEPTANCE OF FY2018 FINANCIAL REPORT (AUDIT)

Mr. Curole presented the Fiscal Year 2018 Financial Report that was received from the auditors, Broussard & Broussard. Mr. Curole announced that everything went well and that there were no issues and no findings. He recommended the board accept the report as presented.

On a motion by McNeely Rome and seconded by Roland Curole, the board unanimously accepted the FY2018 Financial Report.

PROPOSED "TOBACCO-FREE WORKPLACE" POLICY

Mr. Curole remarked that the State had passed its own smoke-free policy for all public places in the "Louisiana Smoke-free Air Act" (ACT 815). He stated that it would be good to pass our own policy in the workplace. He presented the Tobacco-Free Workplace Policy to the board and recommended they accept it.

Moved by Clarence Marts and seconded by Roland Guidry, the board unanimously approved and accepted the "Tobacco-Free Workplace" Policy as presented.

ENGINEERING REPORT

OFFICE OF COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION

Mr. Daniel Dearmond stated that he nothing to report. Mr. Curole requested that Mr. Dearmond update the board on Reach L, Apache Farm, at the next meeting.

CORPS OF ENGINEERS

There was no one in attendance from the Corps.

PROJECT ENGINEERS

PICCIOLA & ASSOCIATES

Engineer Joe Picciola gave the following report:

- **LA 1 Highway Re-alignment at Levee Crossing, two miles south of Golden Meadow, LA**
 - Award contract, contingent upon concurrence of State FP&C

We accepted bids on Tuesday, October 2, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. Byron E. Talbot contractor, Inc. was the low bidder in the amount of \$2,484,155.30. We recommend awarding to them pending approval of Louisiana Facility Planning & Control

Moved by Clarence Marts, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board agreed to award the contract of La 1 Hwy and Floodwall Realignment, Golden Meadow, to the low bidder Byron E. Talbot Contractor, Inc., contingent upon acceptance of Louisiana Facility Planning & Control, and to allow the President and/or General Manager to sign any documents necessary for the construction of this project.

Mr. Curole added that we were asking DOTD to provide \$500,000 towards this project since the SLLD would be correcting road issues that were not to State highway code.

J. WAYNE PLAISANCE, INC.

Engineer John Plaisance reported the following:

- **Bayou Lafourche Water Level Control**

We are still working on the permit. The Corps has asked for more geotechnical information which we will update and send to them.
- **Pump Station No. 4 Upgrades**

I have a letter ready for Mr. Curole with six different options to choose from. John Plaisance is reviewing the letter now and I will have it to Mr. Curole soon.

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 of Pay Request No. 17 in the amount of \$204,028.07.

- Pay Request No. 17, \$204,028.07

Moved by Roland Curole, seconded by Roland Guidry and unanimously accepted, the board approval of Pay Request No. 17 in the amount of \$204,028.07.

Mr. Curole added that Pontchartrain Partners was willing to dredge the remaining material from the canal to the edge of the levee for future use. After speaking with Engineer Neil Angelette, Mr. Curole stated that we could use the contractor on a month by month basis as long as we have available funding. The contractor was willing to dredge the material at \$3.00 per cubic yard at this time. A change order will be submitted at the next meeting.

Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board agreed to allow the President and General Manager to negotiate with Pontchartrain Partners, LLC on a month by month basis for the excavation of additional material from the canal at B-North & B-South to be used for future projects.

- **C-South Levee Improvements**

The contractor, RLB Contracting, Inc., is continuing with construction on this project. We are recommending approval of Pay Request No. 13 in the amount of \$316,021.68.

- Pay Request No. 13, \$316,021.68

Moved by Bob Faulk, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously accepted, the board approval of Pay Request No. 13 in the amount of \$316,021.68.

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

We are currently discussing with Delta Coast and the Levee District the timing of the first phase on the project to begin levee construction from Apache Farm to Bayou L’Bleu and on options for the bayou structure.

MORGANZA TO THE GULF

DELTA COAST CONSULTANTS

Program Manager Report (Mitch Marmande)

Not in attendance

- **Update on Reach K Mitigation Project**

ALL SOUTH CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Engineer Report (Clark Capone)

Update on Morganza to the Gulf Reach K & L

- **Reach K On Site Excavation Section**

Contractor has dredged approximately 1.0 million cubic yards of the 1.2 million plan quantity material from Grand Bayou (83.33%).

This is a 2 year project ending in October 2019. They are well ahead of schedule possibly finishing in November of 2018. This means they were given two years to do the work and will complete it in only one year.

SLLD Board approved Change order No. 2 which adds additional material to the contract at least month’s meeting pending approval from CPRA. Still waiting on approval from CPRA.

Contractor submitted Invoice No. 11 at the end of the week. ASCE will have over to SLLD later this week.

- **Reach K Marsh Mitigation**

Plans and specifications are ready for advertisement and bidding.

Waiting on CPRA to release project for bidding, CPRA is waiting for the Reach L contractor to advance further along in his project due to the Reach K Marsh Mitigation project and Reach L project being in the same area.

CPRA is aiming for the construction to begin around April/May of 2019.

APTIM ENGINEERS

Laura Barnes reported the following:

- **Grand Bayou Floodgate Structure**

Continued with 95% design. Experiencing delays with CPRA requests of geotech to do additional testing. Working to mitigate these efforts. Geotech is verifying limits to provide to All South regarding construction limits and additional dredging efforts. On tract to submit in October.

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

In the absence of Chairman Mitch Danos, General Manager Windell Curole announced that one permit request was received for review, and that it was a Levee District project.

Mr. Curole explained that the permit was for an extension on the current permit for the Levee District.

Moved by Roland Guidry, seconded by Roland Curole, and unanimously carried, the board approved the following request for extension:

1. SOUTH LAFOURCE LEVEE DISTRICT

CUP NO: P20160820 (Extended)

LOCATION: Lafourche Parish, LA; Lat. 29-34-15.81N, Long. 90-22-53.76W; Sec 45, T17S-R20E; Bayou Lafourche, East Main Street, Larose, LA

DESCRIPTION: Proposed installation of fill for levee elevation, construction of a concrete I-wall, and installation of steel sheet pile and H-pile. Approx. 2,732 cu. yds. of hauled in topsoil/dirt, 3,844 cu. yds. of light weight aggregate and 484 cu. yds. of rip-rap material will be required for project activities. Approx. 0.19 ac. of fresh marsh, 0.10 ac. of non-vegetated water bottom, and 0.13 ac of upland habitat may be impacted as a result of this proposed activity.

BOARD ATTORNEY

Attorney Ray Collins had nothing to report

FINANCE COMMITTEE

INVOICES

In the absence of Commissioner Monty Vegas, Vice President Clarence Marts announced that the Finance Committee had reviewed the invoices and recommended they be paid.

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

OLD BUSINESS

General Manager Windell Curole requested that the agenda be amended to add "Resolution 18-06", regarding the return of funds to Lafourche Parish Drainage District No. 1.

Moved by McNeely Rome and seconded by Bob Faulk, with a roll call vote of 6 Yays, 0 Nays, 3 Absent and 0 Abstained, the board unanimously agreed to amend the agenda to add "Resolution 18-06" to Old Business.

On a motion by McNeely Rome and seconded by Bob Faulk, the board unanimously accepted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 18-06

WHEREAS, the South Lafourche Levee District (Levee District) had a letter agreement to receive \$100,000 for maintenance of Levee District pumping stations to assist the Lafourche Parish Government (Parish) in its drainage responsibility; and

WHEREAS, the Lafourche Parish Drainage District No. 1 (Drainage District) had passed a resolution to provide \$50,000 for maintenance and \$50,000 for fuel; and

WHEREAS, given the discrepancy existing in this matter, the South Lafourche Levee District's General Manager has requested that the \$50,000 earmarked for fuel usage be returned to the Drainage District and requests that it be reallocated and earmarked for maintenance.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE KNOWN that the South Lafourche Levee District does hereby return to the Lafourche Parish Drainage District No. 1, \$50,000 that was intended for payment of fuel.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. McNeely Rome suggested the Levee District prepare a small dedication ceremony for the new sign in November and invite the Dick Guidry family. General Manager Windell Curole responded that he and Mr. Rome would get together to decide on a date so Mr. Rome could start contacting the Guidry family.

Mr. Bob Faulk announced the French Food Festival that would take place later in the month at the Larose Civic Center.

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

s/Ronald Callais, President

s/Windell A. Curole, Executive Secretary