

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDING  
OF  
SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT  
DECEMBER 10, 2019**

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, December 10, 2019 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 in attendance: Ronald Callais  
Roland Guidry  
Bob Faulk  
Monty Vegas  
Mitch Danos  
Mc Neely Rome  
Roland Curole  
Keith Guidry

Board members absent: Clarence "CJ" Marts, Jr.

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, Ryan Collins; Engineering Personnel Ben Hodson, Marc Picciola, Neil Angelette, John Plaisance, Mitch Marmande, Brandon Arceneaux, Nic Matherne, Kevin DeZarn, Laura Barnes; CPRA Daniel Dearmond; TLCD Executive Director Reggie Dupre; Attorney General's Office Doug Cheramie; and news media.

**READING OF THE MINUTES**

**The minutes of the November 18, 2019 Regular Meeting were approved unanimously upon a motion by Keith Guidry and seconded by Roland Curole.**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**RECAP OF ALBL CONFERENCE**

President Callais commented on the ALBL Conference that was attended the past week. He stated that they had a very good meeting with a great format. Election and re-election of officers for the coming year stayed mostly the same.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

**REALIGNMENT OF LA 1 PROJECT – LIQUIDATED DAMAGES**

Vice-President Keith Guidry announced that the Executive Committee had met this morning with SLLD engineers and representatives of Byron E. Talbot, contractor for LA Hwy 1 Realignment project, to discuss liquidated damages. After a group discussion, there was a recommendation by the SLLD engineers to stay with the change order as presented.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

There were no comments from the audience.

**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

**SLIDE PRESENTATION**

General Manager Windell Curole presented slides of the Larose Floodgate A-Frame project, updates on the Reach K Marsh Mitigation project, Reach L project, C-South near Pump Station No. 2 where the levee height is near 18 ft., and B-North levee elevation just south of Bason. Other slides included B-North Marsh Creation, A-East erosion abatement with sheet piles, and Yankee Canal levee before during and after construction.

**AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE CEA BETWEEN NLLD, SLLD AND TLCD REGARDING MTG REACHES K & L IN LAFOURCHE PARISH**

Mr. Curole stated that TLCD Executive Director Reggie Dupre explained the shifting of funds at the last meeting and presented an amendment to the agreement for Morganza's Reaches K & L. Mr. Curole recommended the board authorize the execution of the amendment to the CEA between the three levee districts.

**Moved by Monty Vegas and seconded by Keith Guidry, the board unanimously agreed to authorize the execution of Amendment No. 1 to the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between North Lafourche, South Lafourche and Terrebonne Levee District.**

**A-EAST SHEET PILE REPLACEMENT BID OPENING**

Mr. Curole informed the board that sheet piles located in Section A-East had been damaged during Hurricane Barry and needed to be replaced. He added that a claim would be filed with FEMA, and if accepted, we could receive up to 75% reimbursement for the cost. Mr. Curole stated that advertisements were currently running for the bid of materials and equipment with operator, but that the bid opening date was Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>. He requested the board authorize, upon engineers' approval, the acceptance of the low bids for the equipment with operator, and for the materials for the A-East sheet pile replacements.

**Moved by Roland Curole, seconded by Roland Guidry and unanimously accepted, the board authorized the acceptance and awarding of the low bid for excavator with operator, and low bid for sheet piles for the A-East Sheet pile Replacement project, contingent upon engineer's approval.**

**STATE LEEVE INSPECTION REPORT**

Other than needing more grass on top of the levee and some unwanted vegetation at the toe, as mentioned by the state in their latest report, Mr. Curole stated the state found nothing major in their inspection that could cause flood issues.

**WATERSHED INITIATIVE PRE-APPLICATION**

Mr. Curole announced that the Watershed Initiative Pre-Application was a proposal to do two water control structures by building them up to handle a higher level of storm protection. Mr. Reggie Dupre added that there would be a briefing at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> in Gray to discuss that issue. Mr. Curole recommended the board authorize the SLLD to apply.

**On a motion by Mitch Danos, seconded by McNeely Rome, and unanimously accepted, the board authorized the South Lafourche Levee District to apply for the Watershed Initiative.**

**GOMESA FUNDING LEGISLATION**

Mr. Curole stated that he was in a group who went to Washington, DC to try to change the percentage of funding received from 37% to 50%, and to remove the \$500M cap. The proposal did get approval from the committee. It will now move for approval of the entire Senate.

**BOARD MEMBER APPOINTMENTS**

Mr. Curole stated that the board's president had spoken with all those who nominate our board members to the governor. President Callais added that he had spoken with everyone, except for Archie Chaisson who he spoke with prior to the election, and everyone agreed to reappoint our current board members when the time came.

**APTIM ENGINEERING CONTRACT – AMENDMENT NO. 2**

Mr. Curole stated that after speaking with Mr. Mitch Marmande prior to the meeting, it was recommended we skip Amendment No. 2.

**AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR GRAND BAYOU FLOODGATE**

Mr. Curole recommended the board authorize President Callais to award the Construction Management Services based on the recommendation of the North Lafourche, South Lafourche and Terrebonne Levee District directors' scoring sheet.

**Moved by Bob Faulk and seconded by McNeely Rome, the board authorized the board president to award the Construction Management Services based on the recommendation of the North Lafourche, South Lafourche and Terrebonne Levee District directors' scoring sheet.**

**AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR PUBLIC BID THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE GRAND BAYOU FLOODGATE**

Mr. Curole requested the board authorize for public bid, the construction of the Grand Bayou Floodgate.

**Moved by Monty Vegas and seconded by Mitch Danos, the board, upon concurrence with CPRA, authorized the advertising for public bid, the construction of the Grand Bayou Floodgate.**

**PURCHASE OF NEW SERVER FOR MAIN OFFICE**

Mr. Curole stated that the office server was becoming obsolete and needed to be replaced at the quoted cost of \$5,380.36. There was no objection from the board.

**RESTORE OR RETREAT 2020 ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION OF \$500**

Mr. Curole requested the board authorize the annual contribution of \$500.00 to Restore or Retreat.

**Moved by Keith Guidry and seconded by Roland Curole, the board authorized the annual contribution to Restore or Retreat in the amount of \$500.00.**

**ENGINEERING REPORT**

**OFFICE OF COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION**

Mr. Daniel Dearmond reported the following:

- **CPRA Open Forum**  
CPRA will hold a public meeting to discuss their Annual Plan. The open forum will be held at the Terrebonne Civic Center on Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> with the doors opening at 5:30 p.m. The presentation will begin at 6:00 p.m. with public comments after. CPRA will describe every dollar that will be spent for the next fiscal year starting July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.
- **MTG Pump Station Sheet Pile Wall**  
The sheet pile wall at MTG pump station near Apache has lots of seepage. We've held meetings with the landowner, and I've sent emails to Executive Director Bren Haase on this matter. We have not heard back on a resolution yet.

Attorney Ray Collins added that the landowner had reached out to him, and that he had serious concerns. He added that the seepage was so bad, the landowner was having to use his private pump to extract the water. Mr. Curole added that this was not normal maintenance, and that when the sheet pile wall and the rest of the project gets turned over to us, it would be a problem. Mr. Dearmond stated that we needed to have a meeting with SLLD, TLCD and CPRA. Our issues are different from the landowner's. We need to see if we can reject the turn-over if those issues are not resolved. A lengthy discussion pursued.

**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 Realignment and Floodwall at Levee Crossing, Golden Meadow, LA**  
Byron E. Talbot contractor, Inc. is the contractor. They are complete with the project and the lien period has expired. The final balance change order and retainage payment is presented for approval.
  - Change Order No. 1 for a deduction of \$24,673.13 and eight (8) days of contract time
  - Pay Request No. 10 in the amount of \$13,686.25
  - Pay Request No. 11 in the amount of \$122,974.11 (retainage)

**Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Mitch Danos and unanimously accepted, the board approved Change Order No. 1 for a deduction of \$24,673.13 and to add eight days to the contract time.**

**Moved by Keith Guidry, seconded by Roland Guidry and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 10 in the amount of \$13,686.25, and Pay Request No. 11, retainage, in the amount of \$122,974.11.**

- **Larose Floodgate Improvement and Protection – Ph 3, A Frame and I Wall**  
Sealevel Construction, Inc. is the contractor. The contractor is currently driving H-Piles and fabricating the A-Frames on the job site.
  - Pay Request No. 5 in the amount of \$192,435.80

**Moved by Roland Curole, seconded by Monty Vegas and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 5 in the amount of \$192,435.80.**

- **Section E-South Grading and Shaping-Ph 2**  
Low Land Construction Co., Inc. was the low bidder. The Notice to Proceed was issued on December 2, 2019. The contractor is currently moving equipment on site.
- **Section E-North Borrow Pit Excavation**  
The project surveying and plans/specifications are complete. We have received approval from the state for the plans/specifications. We are awaiting approval of Rights-of Way prior to advertising for bids.
- **Section D-South Interim Levee Improvements**  
SBL Construction, LLC was the low bidder I the amount of \$582,501.37. The contract documents are being processed. We are awaiting approval of Rights-of-Way prior to proceeding.
- **Section F Levee Improvements**  
Field surveying is complete. We are currently working on the project plans.
- **Section A-East Levee Improvements**  
Field surveying is complete. We will begin working on the project plans soon.
- **Golden Meadow Pump Station Floodwall**  
The preliminary project plans are complete and will be submitted to the SLLD for review later this week.

**GIS ENGINEERING, LLC**

Engineer John Plaisance reported the following:

- **Bayou Lafourche Water Level Control**  
We still do not have a permit from the Corps, but we are in talks with them and making progress.

**LEVEE 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. 30 in the amount of \$169,409.64.

- Pay Request No. 30 in the amount of \$169,409.64

**Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Monty Vegas and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 30 in the amount of \$169,409.64.**

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

Plans and specifications for the levee construction from Apache Farms to Grand Bayou, including options for Bayou L’Bleu structure will be submitted this month to Levee District and the CPRA for approval.

**MORGANZA TO THE GULF**

**DELTA COAST CONSULTANTS**

Program Manager Report (Mitch Marmande)

Most of this project is tied up in FEMA right now. We are examining how much damage we have to the terraces. We will have to use the acreage we’ve created to reposition some of those. We should have something finalized in the next month or so. We will get with CPRA on the seepage issue on the floodwall.

**ALL SOUTH CONSULTING ENGINEERS**

Engineer Report (Brandon Arceneaux)

- **Reach K Marsh Mitigation**

The contractor has completed his containment berm at this time. After a couple weeks of settling, the suction dredge will be mobilized on site. The dredge work should begin after the first of the year.

- **Reach K Levee, Ph 3**

The plans and specifications are being finalized and should be ready for in-house review this week and can be forwarded for review within the next two weeks. This project is from the south levee control structure of Reach K going back toward Terrebonne Parish.

**APTIM ENGINEERS**

Nic Matherne reported the following:

- **Grand Bayou Floodgate Structure**

The IGA with CPRA has been fully executed. Our contract documents are ready to bid as soon as we receive the go ahead to do so.

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

Chairman Mitch Danos announced that no permit requests were received for review.

**BOARD ATTORNEY**

Attorney Ray Collins 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 Mitch Danos, and unanimously carried, the board approved the payment of the invoices as presented.**

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**AUTHORIZE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE TO APPROVE PAY INCREASES FOR YEAR 2020**

Commissioner Monty Vegas announced that the Personnel Committee would meet in a special meeting to review employee evaluations. Mr. Vegas requested the board approve the Personnel Committee to authorize pay increases for the year 2020.

**On a motion of Keith Guidry, seconded by Mitch Danos, and unanimously carried, the board authorized the Personnel Committee to award pay increases in the year 2020.**

Commissioner Monty Vegas stated that the On-Call Policy had been revised to require all SLLD field personnel to be on-call and would become effective Jan. 1, 2020.

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

s/Ronald Callais, President

s/Windell A. Curole, Executive Secretary