

**SPECIAL MEETING  
OF  
SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT  
JUNE 29, 2016**

The Board of Commissioners of the South Lafourche Levee District met in a special session at the South Lafourche Levee District main office located at 17904 Hwy 3235, Galliano, LA, on Monday, July 6, 2015, pursuant to the provisions of a notice of special session duly promulgated and posted in accordance with the law.

The meeting was called to order by President Ronald Callais.

Board Members Present:                    Ronald Callais  
    Robert Eymard, Sr.  
    Mitch Danos  
    Clarence Marts, Jr.  
    Keith Guidry  
    Roland Curole  
    Bob Faulk  
    McNeely Rome  
    Monty Vegas

Board Members Absent:                    None

Others Present:                            Windell Curole, SLLD  
    Mary Punch, SLLD  
    Amy Gisclair, SLLD  
    Drake Baudoin, SLLD  
    Ray Collins, Attorney for SLLD

President Ronald Callais called the meeting to order. Vice President Clarence Marts lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Administrative Assistant Mary Punch called the roll.

**APPROVAL OF AMENDED BUDGET FOR FY 2016**

The board was presented with the amended budget for fiscal year 2016. General Manager Windell Curole briefed the board and answered questions. One typo was noted as reading \$2,000 instead of \$200,000 in the Revenue Sources section.

**With one amendment to change \$2,000 to \$200,000 as a revenue source from Lock Personnel-GLPC, a motion was made by Roland Curole, seconded by Bobby Eymard and unanimously approved to accept the Amended Budget for FY2016.**

**REVIEW, ACCEPTANCE AND APPROVAL OF INSURANCE RENEWALS**

Commissioner Monty Vegas announced that insurance policies were up for renewal. He presented a report on quotes received and briefly went over each item, answering any questions the board had.

Attorney Ray Collins reported that he was asked if the board could self-insure any of the policies. He stated that it would not be a wise move and that only certain larger corporations were allowed by law to self-insure. Mr. Collins stated that the law did not require we go out for quotes on insurances, but that he recommended the board continue to do so to avoid any conflict with the insurance agencies.

**Moved by Bob Faulk, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously accepted, the board accepted all policy renewals as presented.**

**EMPLOYEES' PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS – SIX MONTH REVIEW**

Commissioner Monty Vegas explained the process of evaluating the employees annual. He stated that with the new percentage system in place, several employees had not scored high enough to achieve the usual 4% pay increase. Since this was the first time using the new system, the employees who did not score in the high range were given six months to improve their work ethics and were re-evaluated at the end of the six months. All employees had improved scores and would start earning the additional percentage effective July 1, 2016. In further discussions, after initially speaking with employees, they were not happy with the new pay system, but after hearing they had one chance to bring their score up,

positive attitudes and improved work ethics were evident.

**On a motion by Monty Vegas, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously accepted, the board authorized the six month pay increases according to each employee's evaluation score.**

**LOOP BRINE STORAGE RESERVOIR – LETTER OF NO OBJECTION**

Mr. Curole presented a permit request for drilling near the LOOP brine storage reservoir and stated that the Corps had no issue with the request. Mr. Curole recommended issuing a letter of no objection.

**On a motion by Roland Curole, seconded by Keith Guidry and unanimously accepted, the board approved the following permit request:**

**LOOP LLC**

**FILE No. : 21957-001-01**

**LOCATION:** Lafourche Parish, LA; Galliano; near Lat. 29° 27' 15.0" and Long. 90° 15' 18.4"; Refer to Figure 1 and 2

**DESCRIPTION:** We expect to drill ten (10), 4-inch diameter borings to depths of up to 75 feet on and adjacent to the LOOP BSR. Eight of the proposed borings locations are within 1500 feet of the levee toe as shown on Figure 2. Soil boring will be drilled using a truck-mounted drill rig. Upon completion, the boring will be backfilled fill depth with cement-bentonite grout. A typical soil boring cross section is shown on Figure 3.

**CONTRACTOR/VENDOR PAY SCHEDULE & POLICY**

Mr. Curole explained that we had been giving small contractors a lot of work which had become very important to the contractors since there wasn't much work available in other areas. With the small contracts accumulating, we sometimes see one contractor making \$100,000 on a SLLD project, even though we continually use the lowest quote for the project. To ensure that these contracts are properly issued, laws were set in place. We want to make sure we are following the law so I've asked Mary Punch and Drake Baudoin to reassess how we award to the small contractors. Mr. Curole stated that every week he and Mr. Baudoin go over the week's spending, and if a contract is over \$150,000, is put out for public bid.

Attorney Ray Collins added that the law stated when doing a public works contract, anything \$150,000 and above must go out for public bid. Under \$150,000, there are no rules so there is a lot of play between \$0 and \$150,000 when hiring contractors for public contracts. The only requirement is when it is over \$50,000 the contractor must be a licensed contractor. After speaking with Ms. Mary Punch about the issue, Mr. Collins stated that he did some research. He informed the board that between \$0 and \$150,000 we were not required to quote or put it out to bid, but at the same time you want to avoid the appearance of impropriety. Mr. Collins said he understood Mr. Baudoin's concerns in needing to expedite the work and move on to the next project, and quotes could slow or halt certain projects. Mr. Collins added that at the same time you are working with taxpayer funds and you want to be fair to the public. To avoid the Levee District from being accused of favoring one contractor over another, it is best to obtain quotes. Under the law, if there are known issues with the contractor who offered the lowest quote, we are not obligated to award to him, noting on his quote our valid concerns for not going with that contractor. A lengthy discussion pursued. The result was concurrence that the present system was extremely fair to both the taxpayer and the contractor.

In addition, all contractors must have Commercial Liability and Workman's Compensation insurances before doing any work for the SLLD. Mr. Collins stated that he was working to obtain proper insurance requirements that would meet all contractor and SLLD needs.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Attorney Ray Collins requested the board amend the agenda and add item "Adams Class Action Lawsuit".

**Moved by Bobby Eymard and seconded by Roland Curole the roll was call as followed: With 9 Yea's, 0 Nay's, 0 Absent and 0 Abstained, the "Adams Class Action Lawsuit" was added to the agenda for discussion.**

Mr. Collins announced that a decision was received on the Adams Class Action lawsuit and that the SLLD's

argument that no compensation was due was rejected. Mr. Collins explained the decision in detail and then recommended the board authorize Attorney Loulan Pitre to file a writ to the Supreme Court in the Adams' case.

**Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Mitch Danos and unanimously accepted, the board agreed to authorize Attorney Loulan Pitre to file a writ in the Adams Class Action Lawsuit.**

Commissioner Roland Curole questioned whether the board would be hiring a replacement for Mrs. Katherine Richardelle. General Manager Windell Curole informed the board that no replacement would be made at this time, and that the extra work was now being distributed with Administrative Assistant Amy Gisclair taking over the majority of the work. He added that time-saving techniques were being implemented that should reduce the work load.

Commissioner Clarence Marts questioned the building of a mechanic's shop. Mr. Curole responded that Mr. Baudoin had met with the engineers to start the design of the building.

**With nothing more to discuss the meeting was unanimously adjourned on a motion by McNeely Rome, and seconded by Bob Faulk.**

Respectfully submitted,

s/Windell A. Curole, Executive Secretary