

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDING
OF
SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT
APRIL 13, 2020**

In accordance with Section 4 of Proclamation No. JBE 2020-30 the Board of Commissioners of the South Lafourche Levee District conducted its meeting by teleconference at its regular meeting place, 17904 Highway 3235, Galliano, Louisiana, on Monday, April 13, 2020 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 April was called to order by President Ronald Callais.

President Callais directed the secretary to call roll.

Board members present by phone:

- Ronald Callais
- Roland Guidry
- Bob Faulk
- Monty Vegas
- Mitch Danos
- Clarence "CJ" Marts, Jr.
- Mc Neely Rome
- Roland Curole
- Keith Guidry

Board members absent: None

Also present by teleconference 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 Joe Picciola, John Picciola, Neil Angelette, Stevie Smith, Mitch Marmande, Laura Barnes; CPRA Daniel Dearmond; TLCD Director Reggie Dupre; TLCD Attorney Jacob Degate; District 53 Representative Tanner McGee; and Oneal Malbrough.

READING OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the March 16, 2020 Regular Meeting were approved unanimously upon a motion by Monty Vegas and seconded by Clarence Marts.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

EMERGENCY DECLARATION FOR COVID-19

President Callais read Resolution 2020-05 and adopted as follows:

Moved by Commissioner Roland Guidry, seconded by Commissioner Bob Faulk, and unanimously carried:

Moved by Commissioner Roland Guidry, seconded by Commissioner Bob Faulk, and unanimously carried:

RESOLUTION 2020-05

EMERGENCY DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY – STAY AT HOME ORDER ISSUED FOR COVID-19,
PROCLAMATION NUMBER 33 JBE 2020

WHEREAS, in an effort to reduce and limit the spread of the coronavirus in Louisiana, on March 23, 2020, Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards issued a "Stay at Home" directive (Executive Order 33 JBE 2020) to all non-essential businesses and,

WHEREAS, the South Lafourche Levee District is considered essential due to its flood protection and drainage responsibilities and is therefore exempt from the "Stay at Home" directive.

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 13, 2020 REGULAR MEETING

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Lafourche Levee District will continue to operate in its full capacity while taking the following extraordinary precautions due to the highly contagious coronavirus (COVID-19):

- Office staff: All office staff will attempt to work remotely, if possible. We will have an employee present at our office for most working hours. We will conduct all bids, pre-bids, bid openings and scheduled monthly meetings according to recent COVID-19 directives from the state.
- Operations and construction personnel: We will continue to work all maintenance, inspection and construction projects within the state directive concerning the coronavirus. We offer paid hours to our employees who have life-threatening conditions (over 65 or have underlying health conditions) in respect to the coronavirus who choose to remain at home.
- Contractors: Contractors are urged to continue working but will not be penalized if work is halted because of State directives. The decision to stop work on any project must have the concurrence of the engineer managing said project.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this declaration shall be made effective March 23, 2020 and remain so until such time that the Governor of the State of Louisiana terminates the “Stay at Home” directive.

I, Windell Curole, Executive Secretary of the South Lafourche Levee District, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by the Board of Commissioners at a regular meeting held on April 13, 2020.

GIVEN UNDER MY OFFICIAL SIGNATURE AND SEAL OF OFFICE THIS 13th DAY OF April 2020

ALBL WORKSHOP - CANCELLED

President Callais announced that the ALBL Workshop scheduled for May 6-7, 2020 had been cancelled.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

There were no comments from the audience.

GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT

FPI SPARE PUMP - AWARD REPAIRS TO LOWEST QUOTE

General Manager Windell Curole announced that quotes had been received for the repairs of the spare pump with the low quote coming in at \$34,490.00 from Boland Marine in New Orleans. We recommend the board accept the quote for repairs.

Moved by McNeely Rome and seconded by Mitch Danos, the board unanimously agreed to award the repairs to the FPI spare pump to Boland Marine at the quote cost of \$34,490.00.

BOAT LAUNCH LEASE AGREEMENT, REACH K & L

Mr. Curole announced that the lease agreement for the boat launch that would benefit Reach K & L had been signed.

D-SOUTH LEVEE ELEVATION

Mr. Curole stated that SBL Construction had started work on the embankment portion of Section D-South Levee Elevation project, and that all was going well.

PURCHASE OF NEW DOZER ON STATE CONTRACT

Mr. Curole informed the board that the levee district had purchased a new dozer that had previously been approved by the Board. He explained that the dozer was purchased on State Contract for a little over \$217,000 with trade-in of the old dozer.

ENGINEERING REPORT

OFFICE OF COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION

Mr. Daniel Dearmond stated he had nothing to report.

CORPS OF ENGINEERS

There was no one in attendance from the Corps.

PROJECT ENGINEERS

PICCIOLA & ASSOCIATES

Engineer Joe Picciola gave the following report:

- **Larose Floodgate Improvement and Protection – A Frame and I Wall**

Sealevel Construction, Inc is the Contractor. The contractor is currently pouring the concrete I wall on the east side. All that remains is rip rap on bayou bank line, site dress out and cleanup.

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 9 in the amount of \$139,108.17.

- Pay Request No. 9 in the amount of \$139,108.17

Moved by Monty Vegas, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 9 in the amount of \$139,108.17.

- **Section E-South Grading and Shaping-Ph 2**

Low Land Construction Co., Inc. was the low bidder. The contractor is currently on-site, moving material on the levee section. They have graded, shaped and compacted roughly 4,000 linear ft. of levee thus far. Another 4,000 linear ft. has been completed to +13 elevation.

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 4 in the amount of \$94,465.62.

- Pay Request No. 4 in the amount of \$94,465.62

Moved by Roland Guidry, seconded by Bob Faulk and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 4 in the amount of \$94,465.62.

- **Section E-North Levee Improvements**

We have received approval from State for the plans/specifications. We received bids on April 8th at 10 am. The low bidder was GIS in the amount of \$686,074.52. We recommend awarding, contingent upon State acceptance.

Moved by Clarence Marts, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board awarded the Section E-North Levee Improvements project to low bidder Grand Isle Shipyard in the amount of \$686,074.52.

- **Section D-South Interim Levee Improvements**

SBL Construction, LLC was the low bidder in the amount of \$582,501.37. The Notice to Proceed was issued on March 19th. The land bridge is complete and contractor is currently working on the excavating and hauling material.

The contractor has submitted Pay Applications No. 1 in the amount of \$94,337.30.

- Pay Request No. 1 in the amount of \$94,337.30

Moved by Roland Curole, seconded by Keith Guidry and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 1 in the amount of \$94,337.30.

- **Section F Levee Improvements**

Field Surveying is complete. The Project Plans are complete and are being sent to the State CPRA for approval.

- **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. We received comments on the Project Plans and Design Calculations from the State. The comments are incorporated, and the Project Plans are complete.

GIS ENGINEERING, LLC

Engineer John Plaisance reported the following:

- **Bayou Lafourche Water Level Control**

We continue to work on getting the permit through the Corps.

- **Section D-South Crawfish Farm Floodwall**

GIS continues to work on the final design of the floodwall. The unbalanced load calculated by the geotechnical engineer was larger than anticipated. Several options and cost are being worked on to present to the Client.

Eustis Engineering is currently providing geotechnical data to complete the Final Design Phase.

- **Grand Bayou Flood Control Structure**

We received bids on April 1, 2020, but they were all over the budgeted estimate. Ms. Laura Barnes stated that three competitive bids were received. However, the lowest bid was around \$6M over the engineers' estimated budget for this project. She explained that they had been in discussions with the contractors and agencies, and that Mr. Mitch Marmande would be providing four (4) resolutions. Mr. Mitch Marmande offered four (4) motions as follows:

Motion to reject all bids on the Grand Bayou Floodgate Project, as recommended by the project manager, engineers and administration, on the basis that all bids exceeded the budgeted amount for the project, was made by McNeely Rome, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously carried.

Motion authorizing administration to direct the engineers to split the project into two(2) separate projects/bids- one for the Grand Bayou Receiving Structure and one for the Grand Bayou Barge Structure, in an effort to hopefully reduce costs by attracting more bidders and thereby getting increased competitive bidding, was made by Keith Guidry, seconded by Clarence Marts, and unanimously carried.

Motion authorizing administration to request the engineers to prepare two(2) new bid packages for these two(2) separate projects/ bids and to begin the advertising of these two(2) separate projects/bids immediately upon completion of the necessary bid packages, in order to attain the increase flood protection as soon as possible, given the upcoming hurricane season, was made by Clarence Marts, seconded by Monty Vegas, and unanimously carried.

Motion to award the two (2) projects to the low qualified bidders on each project, if within the budget or additional funding is provided by CPRA and/or TLCD, NLLD, (SLLD will not be responsible for any direct funding to this project), and authorizing the administration and/or the President to sign all necessary documents, upon approval by legal, administration, project management, engineering and the recommendation of CPRA, was made by Clarence Marts, seconded by Roland Curole, and unanimously carried.

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. 33 in the amount of \$265,683.32.

- Pay Request No. 33 in the amount of \$265,683.32

Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Keith Guidry and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 33 in the amount of \$265,683.32.

- **C-South Levee Improvements**

Review of bids received on April 9, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. We received seven (7) bids. We recommend awarding the base bid along with whatever alternate bid management chooses.

Mr. Curole requested the board approve the base bid and allow the Board President and General Manager to work with engineering to determine whether the budget would fit any alternates.

After a brief discussion, it was recommended that Grand Isle Shipyard be awarded the base bid of \$996,804.94, and Alternate Bid No. 1 in the amount of \$526,199.27 for a total of \$1,523,004.21.

Moved by Clarence Marts and seconded by Keith Guidry, the board unanimously agreed to award the Base Bid and Alternate No. 1 Bid only to Grand Isle Shipyard for a total bid price of \$1,523,004.21.

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

Plans and specifications for the levee construction from Apache Farm to Grand Bayou, including options for the Bayou L’Bleu structure, are currently being revised based on the available budget.

MORGANZA TO THE GULF

DELTA COAST CONSULTANTS

Program Manager Report (Mitch Marmande)

Mr. Marmande stated he had nothing further to report.

ALL SOUTH CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Engineer Report (Stevie Smith)

- **Reach K Reshaping**

Plans and specifications for Phase 1 (From lower end to first water control structure) are complete.

The TLCD and others have requested SLLD to declare an emergency regarding Reach K. This item is up for consideration today.

Representative Tanner McGee was asked to address the need for the Emergency Declaration, Resolution No. 2020-04. Rep. McGee explained that the area in and around Point Aux Chenes was weakened due to Hurricane Barry, and rehabilitation work needed to be completed before the upcoming 2020 hurricane season.

Mr. Stevie Smith informed the board that Terrebonne Levee’s board took action at their last meeting and requested the South Lafourche Levee adopt the declaration.

President Callais questioned whether the other entities involved were in support of the declaration. TLCD’s attorney, Jacob Degate responded that TLCD was in support. TLCD Executive Director Reggie Dupre responded that he spoke with NLLD’s Director, Dwayne Bourgeois, and that they were also in support of the declaration.

Moved by Commissioner Bob Faulk, seconded by Commissioner Monty Vegas, and unanimously carried:

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-04

*DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY – IMMINENT THREAT OF FLOODING DUE TO
DAMAGE TO REACH K LEVEE*

WHEREAS, the South Lafourche Levee District (SLLD) acknowledges the severity of the continuing flood threat as a direct result of Hurricane Barry and the damage caused by its landfall along the Louisiana coast, and

WHEREAS, Hurricane Barry caused severe damage to the Reach K Levee, including overwashing and eroding over 3000’ of this levee, and

WHEREAS, as a result of the damage to the Reach K levee the community of Point Aux Chenes suffered severe damage from Hurricane Barry including the flooding of several homes, and

WHEREAS, the eroded section of levee exposes the communities of Point Aux Chenes, Montegut, and Bourg to the severe risk of flooding during the imminently approaching hurricane season, and

WHEREAS, the SLLD, in partnership with the Terrebonne Levee and Conservation District (TLCD), the Lafourche Parish Government (LPG), the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government (TPCG), and the North Lafourche Conservation and Levee District (NLLD), jointly responded to this disaster with interim flood protection measures, and

WHEREAS, the interim protection measures are not substantial enough to provide protection for the imminently approaching hurricane season as there are still significant gaps in the Reach K levee that expose the citizens of both Lafourche and Terrebonne Parishes to damage from flood events, and

WHEREAS, the SLLD, in partnership with the agencies listed above has developed a low cost, efficient plan to provide that protection to these residents that can be implemented immediately, and

WHEREAS, in order to provide this protection and prevent damage to residents, businesses, and other interest in the area before the peak of hurricane season, it is imperative that the work begin immediately,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the SLLD hereby declares a state of emergency due to the imminent threat of flooding associated with the damage to the Reach K Levee and the severe risk to the community of Point Aux Chenes from flooding during the imminently approaching hurricane season; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in order to respond to this emergency, the SLLD authorizes its General Manager and Board President to take any and all actions necessary to implement that plan, including soliciting and awarding quotes, bids, and related matters to accomplish this work to fix the damages to Reach K and eliminate the immediate flood risk.

I, Windell A. Curole, Executive Secretary of the South Lafourche Levee District, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by the Board of Commissioners at a regular meeting held on April 13, 2020.

GIVEN UNDER MY OFFICIAL SIGNATURE AND SEAL OF OFFICE THIS 13th DAY OF April, 2020.

- **Authorize SLLD Board President to award repairs to low bidder**
Mr. Curole explained that authorization was included in Resolution 2020-04 for the Emergency Declaration.
- **Amendment to FEMA Management Contract – Reach K, Hurricane Barry**
 - Add \$15,000 to FEMA Management Contract price associated with Hurricane Barry.

Moved by Roland Guidry, seconded by McNeely Rome, the board authorized the additional costs of \$15,000 to the FEMA Management Contract for All South Consulting Engineers.

- **Reach K Marsh Mitigation**
Dredging was completed by March 18, 2020. The contractor has dredged approximately 248,890 cubic yards. The plan quantity was 287,000.

There is a 28-day settlement period required to allow the material to dewater and settle. This period will end on April 14, 2020.

At that time, the contractor has to submit a new survey to determine if he has met elevation requirements.

If the board chooses to declare an emergency, the schedule is as follows:

April 14	Solicit Quotes
April 20	Receive Quotes
April 21	Contract Award
May 11	Contractor mobilizes to site

Phase 2 includes lifting tie in levee close to floodgate to 9.5'. This phase is in design and will be ready for advertisement on March. This phase will also include hauling 55,000 yards of material on site to replace material lost in Hurricane Barry.

Phase 3 includes reshaping work north of the first water control structure. These plans will be developed after bidding for Phase 1 and Phase 2.

- Pay Request No. 2 in the amount of \$1,127,131.25 (Coast Dredging)

Moved by Bob Faulk and seconded by Roland Curole, the board unanimously approved Pay Request No. 2 in the amount of \$1,127,131.25 to contractor Coastal Dredging.

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

Chairman Mitch Danos announced that no permit requests were received for review, and that none interfered with the levee.

BOARD ATTORNEY

Attorney Ray Collins stated 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 Monty Vegas, seconded by Mitch Danos, and unanimously carried, the board approved the payment of the invoices as presented.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

HIRING OF WADE RODRIGUEZ

Commissioner Monty Vegas announced that the position of Navigational Lock Operator 1 had been filled by Wade Rodriguez. This position was left vacant by the recent retirement of Ronald Cheramie.

SUMMER LAORER 2020

Commissioner Monty Vegas announced that one summer laborer was needed to help with grass cutting.

Moved by Mitch Danos and seconded by McNeely Rome, the board unanimously agreed to hire one or more, as needed, summer laborers for grass cutting and odd jobs as directed by supervision.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no new business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

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

/s/Ronald Callais, President

/s/Windell A. Curole, Executive Secretary