



**AUDIT CONTRACT**

Mr. Curole announced that the Legislative Auditor had conducted a bid for the new CPA firm to conduct audits of the South Lafourche Levee District files. The low bidder was Griffin & Furman, LLC. An Audit Contract was provided by the Louisiana Legislative Auditor, and it was recommended the board authorize General Manager Windell Curole to sign and return the contract by the deadline of May 15, 2020.

**Moved by McNeely Rome and seconded by Mitch Danos, the board unanimously accepted the Audit Contract between the Louisiana Legislative Auditor and Griffin & Furman, LLC to conduct annual audits of the South Lafourche Levee Districts for fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, June 30, 2021 and June 30, 2022.**

**GLPC LOCK OPERATIONS AGREEMENT**

Mr. Curole informed the board that the Greater Lafourche Port Commission had approved a five-year agreement to continue paying payroll expenses for lock operations at a cost of \$200,000 a year and recommended the board accept the agreement.

**Moved by Monty Vegas and seconded by Bob Faulk, the board unanimously accepted, and authorized the board president to sign, the Greater Lafourche Port Commission agreement for Lock Operations' payroll expenses for the next five years, contingent upon GLPC's annual budget and availability of funds.**

**"AFTER THE FACT" PERMIT**

Mr. Curole informed the board that we had submitted an "After-the-Fact" permit for work that was conducted in the Larose Floodgate area involving the replacement of the I-walls that were not previously permitted by the Corps. He added that the Corps does approve of such walls, but that the replacement of the walls took place before we were able to acquire the permit. Our engineer has provided information and we have requested the Corps accept our "After-the-Fact" permit. He added that he did not believe the Corps would ask for changes with the improvements that had been made.

**LEVEE CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES AND PROGRESS**

Mr. Curole stated that he had worked with Engineer Joe Picciola in putting together a report that would explain in layman's terms our techniques and standards of building levees. He added that while we do not build to some of the new Corps' standards, the report explains how we build our levees, and is in a language that is easy to understand. Mr. Curole commended Mr. Picciola on his superior work in putting together the report.

**LEGISLATURE ADVISOR**

Mr. Curole spoke with one advisor and received a proposal. He stated that dollar per dollar the Levee District had spent much more money than the state had for the Larose to Golden Meadow construction projects. In the Special Meeting the board agreed to cease our financial commitment with MAC and consult with a legislature advisor who would seek funding for our projects. The proposal for the advisor would at a cost of \$5,000 per month with a two-year contract. However, either party could terminate the contract at any time. Mr. Curole recommended the board agree to contracting for just one-year and then re-evaluate the need to continue services at the end of that one-year contract.

**On a motion by Monty Vegas and seconded by Keith Guidry, the board unanimously agreed to enter into a one-year contract at a fee of \$5,000.00 per month with Top Drawer Strategies for legislature services, and to allow the president or general manager to sign any and all documents necessary to proceed.**

**GRAND BAYOU FLOOD CONTROL**

Mr. Curole announced that there were two amendments to the agreements for professional services for the Grand Bayou Flood Control project. Those amendments would ensure there were enough funds set aside to complete those projects.

**GIS PROFESSIONAL AGREEMENT – AMENDMENT NO 1, INSPECTION OF WINCHES**

Mr. Curole stated that both TLCD Executive Director Reggie Dupre and Program Manager Mitch Marmande had reviewed Amendment No. 1 with no objections. Mr. Curole further explained that the amendment was for the inspection of winches that had been donated by TLCD for use on the Grand Bayou Flood Control Structure.

**Moved by Bob Faulk and seconded by Roland Guidry, the board unanimously accepted Amendment No. 1 to the GIS Professional Agreement as presented, for the inspection of winches.**

**APTIM PROFESSIONAL AGREEMENT – AMENDMENT NO 2, “ADDITIONAL SERVICES AND REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES”**

Mr. Curole explained that Amendment No. 2 was for additional services as Aptim ends their portion of the Grand Bayou Flood Control project.

**Moved by McNeely Rome and seconded by Bob Faulk, the board unanimously accepted Amendment No. 2 for additional services to the APTIM Professional Agreement as presented.**

**ENGINEERING REPORT**

**OFFICE OF COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION**

Mr. Daniel Dearmond gave an update on outstanding agreements as follows: We are still waiting on the final internal review to complete the amendment of TE-0154 which will allow funding of the Golden Meadow Pump Station Floodwall project.

Also, currently in internal review is the amendment to the GOMESA agreement which will allocate \$1M toward the D-South Crawfish Farm Floodwall.

**CORPS OF ENGINEERS**

There was no one in attendance from the Corps.

**PROJECT ENGINEERS**

**PICCIOLA & ASSOCIATES**

Ben Hodson gave the following report:

- **Larose Floodgate Improvement and Protection – A Frame and I Wall**  
Sealevel Construction, Inc. is the contractor. The contractor is substantially complete with the Project as of April 9<sup>th</sup>. All that remains is minor punch list items.

The contractor has submitted Pay Applications No. 10 in the amount of \$128,052.40.

**Moved by Keith Guidry, seconded by Mitch Danos and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 10 in the amount of \$128,052.40.**

- **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 sections. They have graded, shaped, and compacted roughly 10,000 linear feet of levee thus far.

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 5 in the amount of \$57,000.00

**Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Roland Guidry and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 5 in the amount of \$57,000.00.**

- **Section E-North Levee Improvements**  
We received bids on April 8<sup>th</sup>. Grand Isle Shipyard, Inc. was the low bidder in the amount of \$686,074.52. The contractor documents are complete, and we held the Pre-Construction Meeting on Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. The Notice to Proceed is set for Monday, May 11.

- **Section D-South Levee Improvements**  
SBL Construction, LLC was the low bidder in the amount of \$582,501.37. The contractor is currently working on excavating and hauling material.

The contractor has submitted Pay Applications No. 2 in the amount of \$29,339.07.

**Moved by Bob Faulk, seconded by Monty Vegas and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 2 in the amount of \$29,339.07.**

- **Section D-South Levee Grading and Shaping**  
We received bids on April 8<sup>th</sup>. SBL Construction, LLC was the low bidder in the amount of \$100,000.00. The contract documents are complete. The Notice to Proceed was issued for Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>.

- **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 Laura Barnes reported the following:

- **Bayou Lafourche Water Level Control**  
We are still waiting on Corp permits. Topographic surveys are scheduled to begin at the end of May.
- **Section D-South Floodwall Improvements**  
We are working on the final design. The unbalanced load calculated from Geotech was quite a bit higher than originally anticipated, which has increased the cost of construction. John Plaisance and Windell Curole have had conversations on that and have concluded that we would limit this project to just elevating the two sheet pile walls that are bracing against the existing concrete walls up to an 18 ft. elevation. We plan to begin advertising at the end of May.
- **Grand Bayou Floodgate Structure**  
We had pre-bid meetings last Thursday for each of the two separate projects including the Floodwall and Receiving Structure, and the Barge Floodgate Structure. Bid openings are scheduled for next Tuesday. All the original bidders were still interested and did participate in the pre-bid meetings.
- **D-North Ramp**  
We have completed the topographic surveys of the project site and are putting the plans and specs together. We anticipate advertising for bid at end of June.

**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. 34 in the amount of \$57,000.00.

**Moved by McNeely Rome and seconded by Roland Guidry, the board unanimously approved Pay Request No. 34 in the amount of \$57,000.00.**

We are also recommending approval of an additional 42,000 cubic yards of material for the completion work behind the levee district property and the island excavation in Golden Meadow. This would be at the previously negotiated price of \$3 per cubic yard for a total of \$126,000.

**Moved by Roland Curole and seconded by Bob Faulk, the board unanimously approved the addition of 42,000 cubic yards of material for the completion work at the previously negotiated price of \$3 per cubic yard for a total of \$126,000.**

- **C-South Levee Improvements**  
Bids were received on April 9, 2020 for the levee improvements to C-South and were reviewed at the last regular meeting. The Base Bid and Alternate Bid No. 1 have been awarded to Grand Isle Shipyard, LLC in the amount \$1,523,004.21. Contracts for the project are currently being signed.
- **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)

- Mitch Marmande stated that he had nothing to report other than to thank Attorney Ray Collins and General Manager Windell Curole for their help with bid law the previous week.

**ALL SOUTH CONSULTING ENGINEERS**

Engineer Report (Stevie Smith)

- **Reach K Marsh Mitigations**

Contractor provided survey of site in Marsh. Survey indicated several areas that required more material to be pumped in.

Contractor re-mobilized dredge to site on April 18, 2020. Contractor has been pumping material since that time. Dredging should be completed by Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>.

- **Reach K RESHAPING**

Low Land began hauling material to the tie-in section on Tuesday, April 21, 2020. As of 4/29/2020, 5,300 CY (vehicular measure) have been delivered to date.

Project bid was held on Monday, April 20, 2020. Low Land was the low bidder. As a result of receiving the pre-construction survey date, final revisions to project template was completed on 4/29/2020. Final pricing and contract execution are being performed. Work is anticipated to start on 5/11/2020.

Phase 3 includes reshaping work north of the first water control structure. The surveying portion of this project has been coordinated to be performed.

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

Chairman Mitch Danos announced that one permit request was received for review, and that it would not interfere with the levee.

**On a motion of Mitch Danos, seconded by Keith Guidry and unanimously carried, the board approved Letters of No Objection for the following requests:**

**1. LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & DEVELOPMENT**

**LOCATION:** Lafourche Parish, LA; All work to occur on the floodside, across, and on the protected side of the Larose to Golden Meadow – West – Section A, B, and C Levees in Golden Meadow, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana. Project Coordinates (beginning): 29-15-32.860", -90-12-56.340"; Project Coordinates (ending): 29-23-26.230", -90-15-58.000".

**DESCRIPTION:** Approved to mill, patch, and overlay Louisiana Highway 1 from the Louisiana Highway 1 Bridge to the Falgout Lane in Lafourche Parish. Additional work includes installation of drainage structures, guardrails, handicapped curb ramps, and striping. No excavation will exceed 4.51-feet deep and the largest will be 56-feet long by 4.875-feet wide. All work will be done in existing Right-of-Way. The closest work location will be across the centerline of the levee. Project No. H.013225

**BOARD ATTORNEY**

Attorney Ray Collins deferred to Mr. Curole to report on a legislative bill.

Mr. Curole reminded the board that we recently had issues with liquidated damages concerning the swing gate project on LA 1 in Golden Meadow with contractor Byron E Talbot. We had to negotiate an agreement due to a judgement that was made in the New Orleans area. On that same day there was another judgment that went just the opposite. Since we must go with the low bidder, the only way we have to ensure they get the job completed on time is to enforce liquidated damages. With Attorneys Ray Collins and Jacob Degate, along with Mr. Dupre and Mr. Marmande all working together, we were able to come up with some legislation that passed through the committee that Representative Jerome Zeringue chairs. To make the bill as strong as possible, they had to continue to negotiate with the attorneys, along with Mr. Dupre, Mr. Marmande and with those on the contractors' side. They have come up with a really good bill that I believe strengthens our position on enforcing liquidated damages as a tool to get the needed flood protection constructed as needed.

Mr. Collins stated that liquidated damages had always been governed by the contract between the public body and the contractor. It had never been provided for in statutory law. He stated that what our attorneys were doing now, would be to include in the depository section of the contract law, a definition of liquidated damages. They would also be revising a statute and adding language. Mr. Collins read the language that would be added and explained in greater detail. A lengthy discussion pursued.

**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 Keith Guidry, and unanimously carried, the board approved the payment of the invoices as presented.**

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**Hiring of Laborers**

Chairman Monty Vegas announced that two employees had been hired for the temporary positions of Summer Laborers.

**Changes to Drug Testing Policy**

Chairman Monty Vegas announced that language to the drug testing policy had been updated and requested the board approve those changes as presented.

**Moved by Monty Vegas and seconded by Bob Faulk, the board unanimously approved updates to the Drug-Free Workplace Policy.**

**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 Bob Faulk and seconded by Monty Vegas.**

s/Ronald Callais, President

s/Windell A. Curole, Executive Secretary