

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

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, July 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 July was called to order by President Ronald Callais. Commissioner Roland Guidry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Callais directed the secretary to call roll.

Board members present: 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 were: Executive Secretary and General Manager Windell Curole; Administrative Assistant 6 Mary Punch; Levee Board Operations Superintendent Drake Baudoin; Attorney Ryan Collins; Engineering Personnel Joe Picciola, Neil Angelette, Stevie Smith, CPRA Daniel Dearmond; State Representative Joseph Orgeron, and news media.

READING OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the June 8, 2020 Regular Meeting were approved unanimously upon a motion by Keith Guidry and seconded by McNeely Rome.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Callais stated that he had nothing to report

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

JOSEPH ORGERON

President Callais recognized representative-elect Mr. Joseph Orgeron and offered the floor for his comments.

Mr. Orgeron thanked everyone for their support in his successful election of State Representative to District No. 54. He stated that as Representative, he would work with the board to ensure the needs are met to accomplish flood protection goals of the South Lafourche Levee District.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

SLIDE PRESENTATION

General Manager Windell Curole presented photos of the sector gates in at the lock in Golden Meadow that had been removed several years earlier for maintenance and to add an extension to the height of the gate. Mr. Curole explained that we started having issues with the original gates about six months earlier

when performing greasing and routine maintenance of the gates. After consulting with Levee District engineers, it was determined that the gates should be removed to address any necessary repairs and to perform the 10-year maintenance.

Mr. Curole showed photos of the flood control barriers on LA 1 in Golden Meadow, and Hwy 3235 in Larose where SLLD employees recently conducted closure drills. He added that both road closures were accomplished as designed.

Mr. Curole informed the board that SLLD employees were removing and burning small trees along the levee which caused a small grass fire. The fire department responded to our call with their small water truck and extinguished the fire.

Mr. Curole then proceeded with slides showing progress and updates of various sections around the ring levee. The presentation concluded with aerial slides of Reach K and Grand Bayou areas.

SEPTEMBER MEETING DATE FOR MILLAGE APPROVALS

Mr. Curole announced that due to delays in reassessments, we would likely need to either postpone the September meeting by one week to September 21st or call a special meeting on September 28th. He explained that it would depend on when the assessor completed the reassessment of properties which should be early August. He also added that there were several steps in the process that were time-sensitive in order to pass the resolution for millages according to the Legislative Auditor's guidelines. Mr. Curole stated that the board would be notified by the SLLD office as soon as the date was secured.

FY2020 AUDIT QUESTIONNAIRE

Mr. Curole informed the board that an Audit Questionnaire had been completed for the upcoming FY2020 audit which needed to be approved by the board, and signed by the Board President, Treasurer, and Secretary. He recommended the board accept and authorize the signing of the questionnaire.

Moved by Roland Guidry and seconded by McNeely Rome, the board unanimously accepted and authorized the Board President, Treasurer and Secretary to sign the Audit Questionnaire Form for FY2020.

REMOVAL AND REPAIR OF SECTOR GATES AT ORIGINAL GOLDEN MEADOW FLOODGATE

Mr. Curole spoke of this item during the slide presentation and requested the board approve the removal, repairs and maintenance of the gates. Mr. Curole recommended the board authorize the advertisement, and to allow the Board President to sign any and all documents necessary for the work performed in the sector gate removal, repairs and maintenance.

Moved by Roland Curole and seconded by Roland Guidry, the board unanimously approved the advertisement and acceptance of the responsible low bid to remove, repair and perform 10-year maintenance of the sector gates on the original Golden Meadow Floodgate, and to authorize the Board President to sign any and all documents necessary to accomplish the work.

GOLDEN MEADOW PUMP STATION FLOODWALL

Mr. Curole explained that the levee adjacent to the floodwall at the Golden Meadow Pump Station was at +17 ft. elevation, but that the wall itself was only at +13 ft. He further explained that money was obligated through the state for that project, but that it would be a month before it would become available. He stated that he would like to get started on the floodwall to have it ready for 2021 hurricane season. Mr. Curole announced that it was unlawful to advertise without having the funding available for the work, but that the SLLD did have adequate funding in its reserves. Once the money from the state was available, any money that might have been spent from SLLD funds would be replaced. Mr. Curole requested the board approve the advertisement for public bid of the project.

Moved by McNeely Rome and seconded by Keith Guidry, the board unanimously approved the advertisement and acceptance of low bid for the Golden Meadow Pump Station Floodwall project. In addition, the board authorized the board president or general manager to sign any and all documents necessary for the construction of the project.

GOLDEN MEADOW BOAT LAUNCH RAMP ELEVATION TO 18 FT

Mr. Curole stated that the ramp at the Golden Meadow Boat Launch was approximately 3 ft. lower than the levee on either side. He stated that during a storm, Hesco baskets would need to be set in place across the road. He explained that estimates to raise the ramp from 15 ft. to 18 ft., not including asphalt, would be near \$100,000. He added that if additional funding became available at a later date, we could go back with asphalt at that time.

Moved by Roland Curole and seconded by McNeely Rome, the board unanimously authorized the General Manager to receive and accept lowest quote, or advertise and accept low bid for the Golden Meadow Boat Launch Ramp Elevation to 18 ft. In addition, the board authorized the board president or general manager to sign any and all documents necessary for the construction of the project.

BASON BOAT LAUNCH RAMP TO 18 FT ELEVATION

Mr. Curole stated that the Bason Boat Launch Ramp was 3 ft. to 4 ft. lower than the levee and recommended the board approve advertising and accepting of low bid for that project.

Moved by Roland Curole and seconded by Bob Faulk, the board unanimously authorized the advertising, acceptance and awarding of contract for the Bason Boat Launch Ramp Elevation to 18 ft., upon engineers' recommendation. In addition, the board authorized the board president or general manager to sign any documents necessary for the construction of the project.

D-SOUTH AMENDMENT TO ACCESS AND CANAL EXCAVATION PERMIT

Mr. Curole explained that ConocoPhillips would allow us to have extra right-of-way from 30 to 80 ft., but requested we sign an agreement. Mr. Curole recommended the board approve the D-South Amendment to Access and Canal Excavation Permit agreement.

Moved by Keith Guidry and seconded by Roland Guidry, the board unanimously authorized the Board President to sign the Amendment to Access and Canal Excavation Permit agreement which would allow the "Haul Route" to be changed to the right-of-way line on the amendment document.

CAPITAL OUTLAY: \$4M CASH; \$1.8M BOND FUNDS

Mr. Curole explained that Capital Outlay was signed by the governor and that SLLD was awarded \$4M in cash, and \$1.8M in bond funds. He added that the funds would get us close to where we needed to be in our construction.

EXTENSION OF NAQUIN'S BOAT DOCK LEASE TO TWO YEARS

Mr. Curole stated that the contractor for the MTG's Grand Bayou Floodgate would be using the Naquin family's boat dock for accessing the project. North Lafourche and Terrebonne Levee Districts are paying for the boat lease and have sent letters requesting the one-year lease be extended to a two-year lease. Mr. Curole stated that it would take at least two years to complete the project and recommended the board agree to locking in the two-year lease for the boat launch.

Commissioner Clarence Marts questioned the protocol for people who walk over the levee to fish in the Grand Bois side of north Larose. Mr. Curole responded that typically, if someone crosses the levee on foot and no harm is done, we investigate. However, if a landowner has a complaint, we would then call the proper authorities to investigate. He added that we do not allow vehicles on the levee or motorized vehicles in the borrow canal.

President Callais reminded Commissioner Marts that until the governor appointed a replacement, Mr. Marts could continue to serve on the board.

Moved by Keith Guidry and seconded by Roland Guidry, the board unanimously approved the one-year extension of the Naquin Boat Dock Lease to two years.

HONORING OF FORMER COMMISSIONER CLARENCE "CJ" MARTS, JR

President Callais officially recognized Commissioner Clarence Marts and read Resolution 2020-06 that was passed at the June meeting. He then presented Mr. Marts with a wall plaque honoring his years of service to the Board, and a desk name plate.

Mr. Marts addressed the commissioners offering his appreciation to be a part of the SLLD Board. He voiced his appreciation to President Callais, and other board members, both current and past, who have worked so hard to accomplish the results we have today.

ENGINEERING REPORT

OFFICE OF COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION

Mr. Daniel Dearmond updated the board on various agreements:

- D-South Crawfish Farm Floodwall (BA-0247)
 - CPRA has reviewed the plans and specs, and is waiting on the final design report and final review

- E-North, Amendment No. 1 (BA-0231)
 - CPRA is waiting on SLLD to provide feedback
- D-North Ramp (BA-0246)
 - Waiting on final comments from CPRA

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 substantially complete and has presented a Clear Lien Certificate.

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 12 (Request for Retainage) in the amount of \$121,739.41

- Pay Request No. 12 in the amount of \$121,739.47

Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Keith Guidry and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 12 in the amount of \$121,739.47.

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

Low Land Construction Co., Inc. is the contractor. The contractor is currently on-site moving material on the levee section. They are approximately 60% complete with the project at this time.

The contractor submitted Pay Application No. 7 in the amount of \$38,000.00

- Pay Request No. 7 in the amount of \$38,000.00

Moved by Roland Curole, seconded by Bob Faulk and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 7 in the amount of \$38,000.00.

- **Section E-North Levee Improvements**

Grand Isle Shipyard, Inc. is the contractor. The contractor is currently on-site prepping the borrow area and haul route.

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No 2 in the amount of \$48,156.98.

Moved by Roland Guidry, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 2 in the amount of \$48,156.98.

- **Section D-South Interim Levee Improvements** (ConocoPhillips)

SBL Construction LLC is the contractor. The contractor is currently working on the excavating and hauling material. The contractor is falling behind on the project schedule he is currently 17% complete with 58% of the contract time elapsed. We have met with him concerning this and we are asking that he provide a plan of action for getting back on schedule in writing.

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 4 in the amount of \$45,315.21

Moved by Roland Guidry, seconded by Keith Guidry and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 4 in the amount of \$45,315.21.

- **Section D-South Levee Grading and Shaping**

SBL Construction, LLC is the contractor. The contractor is currently working in grading and shaping material.

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 2 in the amount of \$4,950.00.

Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Bob Faulk and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 2 in the amount of \$4,950.00.

- **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. CPRA is in the process of signing the agreement with the Levee District. We are requesting authorization to advertise for bids.

Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Keith Guidry and unanimously accepted, the board approved authorization to advertise for bids.

GIS ENGINEERING, LLC

Engineer John Plaisance reported the following:

- **A-East Bayou Water Retention – GIS# 39130-1251/1252**
We are continuing to wait on USACE to issue the permit.
GIS is finalizing the survey
GIS began meeting with LOOP to acquire a permit/permission requirement necessary to cross their pipelines
- **Section D-South Floodwall Improvements – GIS# 39130-1215/1216**
GIS coordinates with CPRA in providing additional information required to review Phase 1. The second phase is in final design and will include increasing the current concrete T-wall section to elevation +18' by constructing a new braced sheet pile wall and replacing sections of the discharge pipes passing through the concrete wall.
- **Grand Bayou Flood Control Structure – GIS# 39130-1238/1239**
Notice of award for both contracts was sent to Sealevel Construction, Inc. on June 10th.
Pre-Construction meeting was held on July 1st at SLLD office and the Notice to Proceed was issued to Sealevel Construction.
- **Golden Meadow Boat Launch Ramp – GIS# 39130-1166**
GIS has completed the final design to raise the ramp over the levee to elevation +18'.
The plans incorporate a possible cellular grid and geotextile fabric that would stabilize the aggregate slope.
The final set of plans and quantities has been sent to SLLD. GIS was requested to obtain quotes from local contractors.
- **D-North Ramp – GIS#39130-1249/1250**
GIS is coordinating with LOOP on relocations of fiber optic line.
Opinion of probable construction cost has been completed
Final design of plans and specifications is in 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. 36 in the amount of \$57,000.00.

Moved by Keith Guidry, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 36 in the amount of \$57,000.00.

- **C-South Levee Improvements**
The contractor, Grand Isle Shipyard, LLC, is continuing with construction on this project. We are recommending approval of Pay Request No. 2 in the amount of \$92,460.15.

Moved by Roland Guidry, seconded by Bob Faulk and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 2 in the amount of \$92,460.15.

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

Plans and specifications for the levee construction from Apache Farms to Grand Bayou, including options for the Bayou L’Bleu structure, are currently being revised to submit to the Levee District for review in August.

MORGANZA TO THE GULF

ALL SOUTH CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Engineer Report (Stevie Smith)

- **Reach K Marsh Mitigation**

Contractor completed dredging operations week of May 11th. Contractor dredged the entire quantity (289,000 cubic yards).

Contractor has dredged dikes and removed most of his equipment from site.

Contract is currently in clear lien period.

- **Reach K Reshaping**

Low Land began hauling material to Tie-In section on Tuesday, April 21, 2020. To date, 5,452 CY (vehicular measure) have been delivered to this project area. This work was temporarily halted from 5/8/2020 to 5/27/2020 so that contractor can haul to the shaping project site. Contractor was able to accumulate enough material prior to Tropical Storm Cristobal in order to elevate the existing levee to approximately a +10.0’ elevation.

On Phase 2 Shaping, immediately prior to Tropical Storm Cristobal, Low Land deployed HESCO baskets into “the gap” as well as dug a temporary borrow ditch on the protected side berm in order to generate material to create a ridge in the most vulnerable area. After passing of the storm, Contractor has begun to move the stockpile material previously hauled to the site and place the material in “the gap” as well as removing the HESCO baskets as he approaches that area. Additionally, an excavator has been working from north to south on the protected side berm accumulating all extra stockpile material and placing it at the center of the levee section.

Phase 3 includes reshaping work north of the first water control structure. The surveying portion of this project has been performed and we are currently reviewing that data. We are expecting to have a bid package available in the next couple weeks to forward to CPRA for review.

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

General Manager Windell Curole announced that six permit requests were received for review, and that none interfered with the levee.

On a motion of Keith Guidry, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously carried, the board approved Letters of No Objection for the following requests, with Nos. 4, 5 & 6 contingent upon Corps comments:

1. **DUET, NORMA F.**

CUP NO: P20200526

LOCATION: Lafourche Parish, LA; Lat. 29-08-50.62, Long. 90-10-49.11; Section 35, T23S-R22E; Campsite L0768; LaButte Lanel shallow water body along Hwy 3090; Foruchon, LA.

DESCRIPTION: Proposal to add limestone to property up to existing rip-rap along water’s edge to prevent erosion caused by tidal flooding. Limestone to provide road access to camp and maintenance for parking area. Approx. 110 cy of crushed stone or gravel required. Approx. 0.14 acre may be impacted by the proposed activity.

2. **GREATER LAFOURCHE PORT COMMISSION**

CUP NO: P20200364

LOCATION: Lafourche Parish, LA; Lat. 29-09-13.69N / Long -90-11-08.39W; Flotation Canal Road.

DESCRIPTION: Proposed maintenance dredging of the existing Flotation Canal and Front Marina. Approximately 100,938 cy of native material will be excavated and pumped into the previously permitted spoil area located just north of the Flotation Canal. Approximately 65 acres of non-vegetated water bottoms may be impacted by the proposed activities.

3. GREATER LAFOURCHE PORT COMMISSION

CUP NO: P20200524

LOCATION: Lafourche Parish, LA; Lat. 29-09-08.80"N / Long -90-10/55.4:W; Section 25 T23S R22E; Flotation Canal Road, Golden Meadow LA 70357

DESCRIPTION: The project proposed to expand an existing 3-bay boat house to add a fourth bay. The boat house extension will be roofed and include placement of pilings, wharf decking and boat lift. There is no dredge nor fill involved. As much as 0.04 acres of estuarine water bottom and water column habitat may be impacted by this project.

4. FENSTERMAKER on behalf of ENTERGY LOUISIANA, LLC

LOCATION: Lafourche Parish, LA; Barataria to Golden Meadow, Sections 23 & 24, T16S-R22E, Section18, T19S-R22E

DESCRIPTION: An emergency use authorization (EUA) was obtained from the Office of Coastal Management for Structures 11, 12, 65, 229, 230 and 233 on May 6, 2020 to repair the failed power supply line support structures (EUA 20-021). During emergency repair operations, structure 14 was replaced rather than structure 12 due to the worsening condition and potential safety concerns. Steel power supply poles and insulator equipment were installed to replace failed structures in order to restore loss of power to customers and correct a potential safety hazard at the following structures:

- Structure 11 (Lat. 29° 23' 6.25" N, Long. 90° 14' 30.52" W)
- Structure 14 (Lat. 29° 23' 10.05" N, Long. 90° 14' 12.82" W)
- Structure 229 (Lat. 29° 40' 30.58" N, Long. 90° 12' 8.76" W)
- Structure 230 (Lat. 29° 40' 34.45" N, Long. 90° 12' 4.96" W)
- Structure 223 (Lat. 29° 40' 46.49" N, Long. 90° 11' 54.49" W)

5. TEXAS EASTERN TRANSMISSION, LP

CUP NO: P20200612

DESCRIPTION: GEOTECHNICAL CORE BORING REQUEST

6. PESCA LLC

CUP NO: P20200339

LOCATION: Vicinity of LA 381+4, near Galliano and Golden Meadow, Louisiana, in Lafourche Parish

DESCRIPTION: Proposed reconstruct an existing levee system on the floodside of the Larose to Golden Meadow HSDRRD Levee

BOARD ATTORNEY

Attorney Ryan Collins stated 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 Keith Guidry, and unanimously carried, the board approved the payment of the invoices as presented.

MAINTENANCE & EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE

DOZER

Commissioner Keith Guidry announced that the Maintenance & Equipment Committee had met earlier to discuss the need to replace a dozer that was no longer operational. Mr. Guidry stated that a quote was received from Doggett for a new John Deere 650K Crawler on State Contract. With trade-in of the old dozer, the final cost for the new dozer would be \$136,215.95. The committee recommended the board approve the purchase of the dozer with trade-in of the old dozer (Inv #327).

On a motion of Keith Guidry, seconded by McNeely Rome, and unanimously carried, the board approved the purchase of a new John Deere 650K Crawler Dozer from Doggett at the State Contract price, after trade-in, of \$136,215.96.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

INSURANCE RENEWALS

Commissioner Roland Guidry announced that the Insurance Committee had met on June 29th to review quotes on renewal of insurance policies. Mr. Guidry reported that due to SLLD's safety record, the workers compensation insurance premium had gone down for a savings to the Levee District of \$36,000. All other quotes for policy renewals were acceptable. He recommended that the board accept all policy renewals as presented.

Moved by Roland Guidry and seconded by Bob Faulk, the board unanimously approved all policy renewals and payments for insurance.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

COVID-19 POLICY

Commissioner Monty Vegas announced that the Mary Punch had researched through the proclamations and Civil Service Rules, and after speaking with a Civil Service representative, was able to put together a guideline for our employees who may be affected by the virus. The policy basically states the procedures to follow should an employee feel he or she may have come in contact with the virus or has contracted the virus. It also lays out the specifics and timeline for Special Leave. Each employee will be given a copy of the policy upon its adoption by the board.

On a motion of Monty Vegas, seconded by Keith Guidry, and unanimously carried, the board approved COVID-19 policy as presented.

OLD BUSINESS

Engineer John Plaisance stated he had one item he forgot to mention in his earlier report. He stated he had an Amendment No. 3 to the D-South Crawfish Farm Floodwall Improvements which covered Phase II of the project. He requested the board approve the amendment as presented.

Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Bob Faulk and unanimously accepted, the board approved GIS Engineering Amendment No. 3 to cover engineering services for Phase II of the D-South Crawfish Farm Floodwall Improvements.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

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

Ronald Callais, President

Windell A. Curole, Executive Secretary