

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDING
OF
SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT
OCTOBER 12, 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, October 12, 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 October 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 in attendance: Ronald Callais
Roland Guidry
Bob Faulk
Mc Neely Rome
Roland Curole
Keith Guidry

Board members absent: Monty Vegas
Mitch Danos (joined by video)

Also present were: Executive Secretary and General Manager Windell Curole; Administrative Assistant 6 Mary Punch; Levee Board Operations Superintendent Drake Baudoin, MEO-2 Dominick Lerille; Attorney Ryan Collins; Engineering Personnel Joe Picciola, Neil Angelette, Brandon Arceneaux, Mitch Marmande, Laura Barnes, John Picciola (Zoom); CPRA Daniel Dearmond (joined by video); Parish President Archie Chaisson, Public Works Director Dillon Barrone; LPC Daniel Lorraine; Millage Management Kristyn Childers; and news media.

READING OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the September 14, 2020 Regular Meeting were approved unanimously upon a motion by McNeely Rome and seconded by Bob Faulk.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

RESCIND RESOLUTION 07-2020, ADOPTION OF 2020 MILLAGE RATES

President Callais announced that the Levee District had been notified by the assessor's office that a substantial adjustment to watercraft had to be made; therefore Resolution 07-2020 that was approved at the September meeting would need to be rescinded in order to adopt the correct adjusted millage.

Moved by Roland Guidry and seconded by Roland Curole, the board unanimously agreed to rescind Resolution 07-2020 for the adoption of millages for the year 2020.

ADOPT REVISED ADJUSTED MILLAGE RATES: RESOLUTION 2020-09

President Callais read Resolution 09-2020 and took a roll call vote to adopt the following:

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE 'ADJUSTED MAXIMUM' AUTHORIZED RATE AFTER REASSESSMENT FOR ALL PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION BY THE SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT FOR TAX YEAR 2020.

RESOLUTION NO.: 09-2020

MOTION: Roland Guidry

SECOND: Keith Guidry

SECTION 1: BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of the South Lafourche Levee District of the Parish of Lafourche, Louisiana held a public, in a public meeting held on October 12, 2020, which meeting

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 14, 2020 REGULAR MEETING

was conducted in accordance with the Open Meetings Law, that the following millages are hereby levied on the 2020 tax roll on all property subject to taxation by South Lafourche Levee District:

	<u>MILLAGE</u>
Ad Valorem (1047 007):	4.860 mills
Construction and Maintenance (1047 086):	5.000 mills

SECTION 2: BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of the South Lafourche Levee District of the Parish of Lafourche, Louisiana that the proper administrative officials of the Parish of Lafourche, State of Louisiana, be and they are hereby empowered, authorized, and directed to spread said taxes, as hereinabove set forth, upon the assessment roll of said Parish for the year 2020 and to make the collection of the taxes imposed for and on behalf of the taxing authority, according to law, and that the taxes herein levied shall become a permanent lien and privilege on all property subject to taxation as herein set forth, and collection thereof shall be enforceable in the manner provided by law.

The foregoing resolution was read in full; the roll was called on the adoption thereof, and the resolution was adopted by the following votes:

YEAS: 6
NAYS: 0
ABSTAINED: 0
ABSENT: 2

RESOLUTION 2020-08, DOMINICK LERILLE

President Callais announced that SLLD employee Dominick Lerille, along with another witness, had performed an act of heroics when he jumped into Bayou Lafourche to rescue motorists whose car had entered the water. President Callais read and presented the following resolution to Mr. Lerille:

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-08

WHEREAS, Dominick Lerille has been employed with the South Lafourche Levee District for the past two years; and

WHEREAS, Dominick Lerille, on August 21, 2020 viewed a motor vehicle in the middle of Bayou Lafourche and immediately went to investigate; and

WHEREAS, Dominick Lerille, without thought or concern for his own safety, did plunge into the waters to rescue occupants of the vehicle; and

WHEREAS, Dominick Lerille risked his own life to rescue another when the vehicle suddenly plummeted under water; and

WHEREAS, Dominick Lerille sought and pulled to safety the occupant that was trapped inside when the vehicle sank to the bottom of Bayou Lafourche;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Commissioners of the South Lafourche Levee District, with the greatest honor, does commend Dominick P. Lerille for his selfless act of heroics in the rescue of the occupants of a vehicle that was submerged in Bayou Lafourche on August 21, 2020.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED on this 12th day of October 2020.

At the request of General Manager Windell Curole, Mr. Lerille gave account of the event that took place.

THE PASSING OF CLARENCE "CJ" MARTS JR

President Callais announced that former commissioner CJ Marts had passed away. He stated that the Levee District would have a presentation at a later date when the Marts family would be able to attend. He further stated that it was his understanding that Mr. CJ's son, Brian Marts, would be filling the vacant position on the SLLD board once the governor confirmed the appointment.

FREE TRADE ZONE, PORT FOURCHON - RISERS

General Manager Windell Curole requested Parish President Archie Chaisson explain the Free Trade Zone at Port Fourchon concerning the risers.

President Chaisson reported the following: We assembled all the taxing districts, mainly in south Lafourche. He stated that he met with Chouest and Bollinger staff regarding a set of risers in Port Fourchon. All the risers go offshore, connect to the ocean floor to bring oil and gas up. There was a constitutional amendment on the ballot last year that would have exempted a lot of items that go offshore from being taxed, ad valorem wise. That constitutional amendment failed. Across the coast people are starting to create these Free Trade Zones or Foreign Trade Zones to exempt certain properties from being taxed. There are 13 FTZs spread across this parish already. There is one at C-Port already and they are requesting we expand the boundaries to include the Expert Riser facility so that risers could be exempt from ad valorem taxes. Approximately 750,000 risers have already been moved to Houma by Transocean where they have a FTZ that was created early last year. Parishes are now competing against each other with the FTZs so that is posing another set of issues. Each taxing district needs to decide whether it's worth the risk of losing businesses to try to hold on to their millage on these products.

Mr. Chaisson continued describing the options and possible outcomes. A lengthy discussion pursued. Afterwards Mr. Chaisson recommended the board authorize the General Manager or Board President to sign a letter authorizing the decision of an agreement that would be available in December. Mr. Curole further recommended that the board president be given the authority to decide which option would work best for the South Lafourche Levee District, and to allow himself or the general manager to sign any necessary documents or agreements at that time.

Moved by McNeely Rome and seconded by Keith Guidry, the board unanimously agreed to give authority to the Board President to decide whether in favor or against expanding the Free Trade Zone for local businesses, and for he or the general manager to sign any agreements or documents necessary in implementing the decision.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Vice President Keith Guidry announced that the Executive Committee had meet on Oct. 6, 2020 to discuss the construction delays on Section D-South. Mr. Guidry stated that they would review again at the end of the month and submit a report back to the board on the progress.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

There were no comments from the audience.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

SLIDE PRESENTATION

General Manager Windell Curole presented slides of areas that flooded with Hurricane Juan in October 1985. Mr. Curole stated that many people today were not around or don't remember the flooding produced by Juan. It has taken continuous work, from that time to now, to avoid flooding again. Hurricane Hilda in October 1964 spawned a tornado that killed 23 people in Larose. The Cheniere Hurricane of 1893 was also in October. It's important to remember that October can still be a very active hurricane month.

Mr. Curole stated that the media always goes to Fourchon and the LA 1 highway south of the lock, but no one sees the water that comes over the road at Delta Farms, and would be in the neighborhood if it were not for the swing gate across Delta Farms Road in Larose. Mr. Curole showed several areas around the system where the water was high from Tropical Storm Beta, and the flood control measures that were in place to help avoid flooding.

Mr. Curole continued the presentation with photos of projects currently under construction, as well as others that would be starting soon.

RESTORE OR RETREAT 2021 ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION OF \$500

Mr. Curole presented the annual contribution to Restore or Retreat and requested the board approve the \$500 annual contribution for the year 2021.

Moved by McNeely Rome and seconded by Roland Curole, the board unanimously authorized General Manager Windell Curole to renew the agreement and contribution in the amount of \$500.00 to Restore or Retreat.

FLOODGATE AND LOCK OPERATIONS

Mr. Curole stated that this was explained during the slideshow.

LEON THERIOR LOCK OPERATING DURING MAINTANCE WORK

Mr. Curole stated that once the south gate is removed for maintenance at a shipyard, the lock would only work as a floodgate. With construction estimated to begin in November, we are anticipating the work to last approximately 90 days with completion in February 2021. All mariners should be award that navigation will be impacted more than normal until the gates are repaired and re-installed.

CAPITAL OUTLAY REQUEST

Mr. Curole announced that we would be requesting \$7.5M through Capital Outlay to help fund the Larose Lock along with A-East Levee and Section F Berm. Mr. Curole requested authority to make the request through Capital Outlay.

Moved by Keith Guidry and seconded by Roland Curole, the board agreed unanimously to authorize General Manager to request \$7.5M through Capital Outlay to be used for construction of the Larose Navigational Lock, Section A-East Levee Improvements and Section F Berm Improvements.

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:

- **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.

The contactor has submitted Change Order No. 1 to add 24 additional days to the contract. He has also submitted Pay Application No. 10 in the amount of \$19,000.00.

- Pay Request No. 10 in the amount of \$19,000.00

Moved by Roland Curole, seconded by Roland Guidry and unanimously accepted, the board approved Change Order No. 1 to add 24 additional days to the contract.

Moved by Bob Faulk, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 10 in the amount of \$19,000.00.

- **Section E-North Levee Improvements**

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

The contractor has submitted Pay Application no. 5 in the amount of #11,538.67.

- The contactor has submitted Change Order No. 1 to add 24 additional days to the contract.
- Pay Request No. 5 in the amount of \$11,538.67.

- **Moved by Keith Guidry, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously accepted, the board approved Change Order No. 1 to add 24 additional days to the contract, and Pay Request No. 5 in the amount of \$11,538.67.**
- **Section D-South Interim Levee Improvements, Ph 1**
SBL Construction, LLC is the contractor. The contractor is currently working on the excavating and hauling material.

The contractor has submitted Change Order No. 1 to add 24 additional days to the contract. The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 7 in the amount of \$9,245.23.

- Change Order No. 1 to add 24 additional days to the contract
- Pay Request No. 7 in the amount of \$9,245.23.

Moved by Roland Curole, seconded by Roland Guidry and unanimously accepted, the board approved Change Order No. 1 to add 24 additional days to the contract, and Pay Request No. 7 in the amount of \$9,245.23.

- **Section D-South Interim Levee Improvements, Ph 2**
SBL Construction, LLC is the contractor. The contractor is currently working on the excavating and hauling material.

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 5 in the amount of \$1,800.00

- Change Order No. 1 to add 24 additional days to the contract
- Pay Request No. 7 in the amount of \$9,245.23.

Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Keith Guidry and unanimously accepted, the board approved Change Order No. 1 to add 24 additional days to the contract, and Pay Request No. 5 in the amount of \$1,800.00.

- **Section F Levee Improvements**
Field Surveying is complete. The Project Plans are complete and have been sent to the State FP&C for approval.
- **Golden Meadow Pump Station Floodwall**
We accepted bids on August 18th at 10:00am. Sealevel Construction, Inc. was the low bidder in the amount of \$926,364.00. The Contract Documents are complete and we held a Pre-Construction Meeting to Kick off the project.
- **Maintenance of Section Gates at Leon Theriot Lock Structure:**
We are currently advertising for Bids. We will accept bids on October 20th at 2:00 pm. We are going to allow 90 days on the contract. If all goes well the project should be complete in February (2021).

Mr. Picciola stated that he and LBOS Drake Baudoin met with Mr. Ray Chermie at Mr. Chermie's property during Tropical Storm Beta. He stated the field crew had been working diligently to keep the water in the borrow canal down to -7.5 ft. At that elevation, the outfall canal on Mr. Chermie's property is capable of draining his property. From what we saw, Mr. Picciola said, his property was dry except for maybe a low area that might have held a small amount of water. Mr. Picciola added that he understood Mr. Chermie's concerns, but with the field crew keeping the water in the borrow canal down, and with the culverts in place, he didn't foresee any problems. However, heavy rains could affect Mr. Chermie's property in the low area.

GIS ENGINEERING, LLC

Engineer Laura Barnes reported the following:

- **A-East Bayou Water Retention – GIS #39130-1251/1252**
 - We are still waiting on USACE to issue the permit.
 - GIS has completed the initial topographic survey. Other topography has been identified, and GIS is scheduling that survey.

- GIS continues discussions with LOOP and other pipeline companies to satisfy requirements necessary to cross their pipelines.
- GIS continues to develop the plans and specifications to begin advertising for bids once the permitting issues are resolved.

Ms. Barnes showed a short video of the installation of the temporary barge structure with sandbags at the location of the Grand Bayou Flood Control project. The barge was put into place in anticipation of 7 to 11 ft. storm surge in connection with Hurricane Delta.

- **Section D-South Floodwall – GIS #39130-1215-1216**
 - GIS continues to coordinate with CPRA on the Phase I design package.
 - The second phase design package is being prepared and GIS will coordinate with CPRA for them to review the Phase II design package when the CPRA review of Phase I is complete.
- **Golden Meadow Boat Launch Ramp – GIS #39130-1166**
 - The construction contract was awarded to Low Land Construction Company, Inc., in the amount of \$99,976.00. the Notice to Proceed was issued for September 30, 2020.
- **D-North Ramp – GIS #39130-1249/1250**
 - GIS is coordinating with LOOP on relocation of fiber optic line and provided them with ramp improvements plans that LOOP has requested to use for applying for USACE permit.
 - SLLD is coordinating with property owner to provide a borrow pit on site.
 - GIS has submitted plans and specifications to CPRA for their approval. CPRA provided several comments, including a request for geotechnical analysis. GIS is addressing those comments.
- **Grand Bayou Flood Control Structure – GIS #39130-1238/1239**
 - Floodwall/Receiving Structure
 - Sealevel has completed the dredging at the site of the receiving structure. The wick drain installation for the west levee tie-ins has been completed. The wick drain installation for the east levee has begun.
 - Barge Gate
 - GIS continues to review submittals and RFI's from Sealevel. A Gate Fabrication Preparatory Meeting was held on September 23; barge gate fabrication at Conrad is scheduled to begin in early October.
 - Pay Request No. 2 in the amount of \$747,358.97, Sealevel Construction

Moved by Roland Curole, seconded by Keith Guidry and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 2 in the amount of \$747,358.97 to Sealevel Construction.

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.
- **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. 5 in the amount of \$152,760.22.
 - Pay Request No. 5 in the amount of \$152,760.22.

Moved by Bob Faulk, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 5 in the amount of \$152,760.22.

- **Morganza to the Gulf, Reach L**
Potential Borrow Site borings were taken last month for the project, the plans and specifications for the levee construction from Apache Farms to Grand Bayou, including options for the Bayou L'Bleu structure, are currently being reviewing by the Levee District.

MORGANZA TO THE GULF

DELTA COAST CONSULTANTS

Program Manager Report (Mitch Marmande)

- Mr. Marmande thanked everyone for working with them during the storm. He reported that he met with staff who would be working with FEMA on storm-related items associated with Hurricane Laura.

ALL SOUTH CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Engineer Report (Brandon Arceneaux)

- **Reach K Marsh Mitigation**
 - Monitoring report has been drafted and will be submitted shortly.
- **Reach K Reshaping – Low Land**
 - The contractor has focused on moving material in to the low gap area over the last month. The contractor has moved all of the material from the southern and northern stockpile areas. Approximately 7,700' of the project area is at or above the design lines and grades and approximately 1,000' of the project area is at the project elevation only due to temporary measures and not constructed in accordance with the project plans and specifications. The contractor still has to make another pass to final shape the project area. This pass will generate a few loads of surplus material that can be moved into any low areas.
- **Reach K Reshaping – Phase 2**
 - Sealevel mobilized the required four (4) dozers and one (1) excavator on Monday, October 5, 2020. They worked for ½ of a day de-grassing approximately 2,000 linear feet to stockpile and then demobilized all equipment in preparation of Hurricane Delta. They will re-mobilize and begin work as soon as conditions allow.
- **Reach K Levee, Ph 3**
 - FEMA has agreed to fund the replacement of approximately 55,000 yards of material on Reach K.
 - All South has prepared a solicitation for delivery of this material. This solicitation is current under review by CPRA. Once they have completed their review, we will proceed to the public bid process.
- ASCE Contract Amendment No. 2 to increase fees by \$138,750 for inspection services of 55K CY.

Moved by McNeely Rome and seconded by Bob Faulk, the board unanimously authorized the approval of ASCE Contract Amendment No. 2 to increase fees by \$138,750 for a total price of \$222,750.

- Change Order No. 3 to increase fees by \$41,245 for Hurricane Laura storm-related FEMA work through Grants Management.

Moved by Bob Faulk and seconded by McNeely Rome, the board unanimously authorized the approval of Change Order No. 3 to increase Grants Management fees by \$41,245.00 for Hurricane Laura storm-related FEMA claims.

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

Chairman Mitch Danos announced that one permit request was received for review, and that it did not interfere 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:

1. CHERAMIE, LOUIS

CUP NO: P20200820

LOCATION: Lafourche Parish, LA; Lat. 29-10-7 N / Long 90-9-9 W; Section 32 T22 R23; Golden Meadow, 70357

DESCRIPTION: Proposal concrete disposal site with container levee(s)3 Approximately 201, 456 cu. yds. of concrete fill material will be placed on site within the proposed pit area. The concrete will be spread on site then allowed to be broken up and placed on site as riprap to build retainer levees. Approximately 7.80 acres of non-vegetated waterbottoms may be impacted as a result of this proposed activity.

BOARD ATTORNEY

Attorney Ryan Collins stated he had nothing to report.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

INVOICES

Commissioner Keith Guidry announced that the Finance Committee had reviewed the invoices and recommended they be paid.

On a motion of McNeely Rome, seconded by Roland Guidry, and unanimously carried, the board approved the payment of the invoices as presented.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

2021 HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUMS FOR EMPLOYEES

Commissioner Roland Guidry announced that the Insurance Committee had received the new premiums for employee health insurance which included a 5.5% increase. He recommended the board pay the additional increase in premiums.

On a motion of Roland Guidry, seconded by Bob Faulk, and unanimously carried, the board agreed to continue paying the total employee health premiums for the year 2021.

OLD BUSINESS

General Manager Windell Curole stated that Engineer Neil Angelette's family was affected by the 1964 Hurricane that spawned the deadly tornado. Mr. Angelette said his family all survived but lost their house. A brief discussion pursued.

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 Roland Guidry.

/s/Ronald Callais, President

/s/Windell A. Curole, Executive Secretary