

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDING
OF
SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT
JULY 12, 2021**

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 12, 2021 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 in attendance: Ronald Callais
Roland Guidry
Brian Marts
Mc Neely Rome
Roland Curole
Keith Guidry
Brett DeRoche

Board members absent: Monty Vegas
Mitch Danos

Also present were: Executive Secretary and General Manager Windell Curole; Administrative Assistant 6 Mary Punch; Administrative Assistant 3 Amy Gisclair; Attorney Ryan Collins; Engineering Personnel Joe Picciola, Neil Angelette, Stevie Smith, Mitch Marmande, Laura Barnes; Gallagher Insurance Tommy Landry and Luke Landry; Attorney General's Office Doug Cheramie; LPC Daniel Lorraine; and news media.

READING OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the June 12, 2021 Regular Meeting were approved unanimously upon a motion by Keith Guidry and seconded by McNeely Rome.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO MEET JULY 14, 2021

President Callais announced that the Executive Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday, July 15th had been postponed due to illnesses of some attendees. The meeting would be rescheduled, and attendees would be contacted.

President Callais announced the passing of former board member and Vice President, Mrs. Lula Auenson. He stated that Mrs. Auenson had served on the board for many years and was a great asset to the board. General Manager Windell Curole added that Mrs. Auenson had worked for the Town of Golden Meadow for many years and successfully brought that experience to the board. Her work while serving on the board, was to be commended.

President Callais informed the board that Vice President Keith Guidry's mom had also passed away and offered his condolences to Mr. Guidry and his family.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

There were no comments from the audience.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

SLIDE PRESENTATION

General Manager Windell Curole began his presentation discussing the recent rainfalls that have hindered grass cutting and dirt work. He showed slides of past hurricanes, Danny in 1997 and Cindy in 2005, and compared them with the recent storm, Claudette, that became a hurricane after it made landfall.

Mr. Curole moved on to Flood Insurance Maps and showed the top 20 flood elevations that occurred from storms ranging from 1893 through 2012. He also addressed the top 10 storms that occurred in the Gulf of Mexico. He explained that those numbers were used to determine the Larose to Golden Meadow's levee elevation with 16 ft. on the south end and 13 ft. on the north end. He stated that in speaking with consultants who helped develop the maps, he learned that they work with rainfall flooding and storm surge floods. Mr. Curole also learned that with our levee system, the storm surge floods showed zero flooding inside our system from 100-year storm. And from the rainfall water levels inside the levee system, some areas allow building below sea level. A brief discussion on the FEMA maps and Flood Insurance Program continued.

Progress photos showed work at C-North near Mr. Paul Dufrene's farm. Mr. Curole explained that elevation of the levee went from 18 ft. on the south end and dropped to 13 ft. near the farm. The C-North project would raise the section of levee from the intersection of the farm to the farm's access bridge to an elevation between 14 ft. and 16 ft.

Other slides included C-North pipeline walls that were at a +13 ft. The C-South project was underway where levees would be brought to 18 ft. Mr. Curole showed slides of marsh and terraces that were a joint effort of Ducks Unlimited, ConocoPhillips, CPRA, Lafourche Parish, and the South Lafourche Levee District. He explained that we had around 10 miles of levee where the toe of the levee was now protected by either marsh creation and/or marsh terraces. He explained the work going on with the building of the terraces.

Mr. Curole showed photos of B-North levee near the shooting range and explained that even with a dirt berm at the range, stray bullets were crossing onto the levee and damaged both contractor and SLLD equipment. He explained that we maintain the grass at times when the range is closed. However, every few years when we go back to raise the levee height, we are again faced with the possibility that our employees or contractors could be shot. Mr. Curole showed slides of bullet holes in contract and SLLD equipment. Other slides showed areas marked where workers heard the whizzing by of the bullets and saw dust fly on the levee. Mr. Curole turned the floor over to Engineer Neil Angelette who showed slides of the area where bullets had been found. Mr. Angelette stated that they had scanned the entire side slope of the levee behind the range with detectors to try to find bullets. They found 110 potential spots with 71 bullets recovered. They believed they had another 39 bullets that had not been recovered as of the time of the meeting. Mr. Angelette had brought the recovered bullets to the meeting and passed one around so the board could examine it. For comparison, Mr. Angelette also investigated a test plot hundreds of feet north of the shooting range and found one bullet. Mr. Curole stated that we would continue to work with the owners to insure no accidental shootings take place.

Mr. Curole showed slides of B-North area with more marsh and terraces offering protection for the toe of the levee. Slides of the land bridge behind the SLLD office building showed erosion around the culverts. Mr. Curole explained that the culverts installed were not long enough and that they would be adding extensions to those culverts to resolve that issue.

Mr. Curole explained that on B-South levee, there had been an island off the bank of the Golden Meadow Park. The island was removed and would be used to raise the levee from Pump Station No. 1 by the park to the corner of the levee. Mr. Curole showed a slide of the discharge area for PS No. 1 and pointed out the boat launch that was leased from LL&E by the Parish.

Remaining slides showed the progress made at the Golden Meadow Floodwall, the D-South "Crawfish Farm" Floodwall, and the Larose Floodwall. All work was progressing to satisfaction. Mr. Curole showed slides of the spare pump that was recently rebuilt, spare engine and spare PTOs that are being held in storage and are immediately available to repair any pumping breakdown.

Slides showed progress of marsh mitigation at Reach L and the barge installation at Grand Bayou. Mr. Curole informed the board that the levee on Reach L was now up to 8 ft. and 10 ft. elevations. This area is much more protected than last year.

NFIP MAPPING

Mr. Curole covered NFIP Mapping during his slide presentation.

NEW ORLEANS CORPS LEVEE STANDARDS DISCUSSION

Mr. Curole informed the board that on July 2nd, he and Engineer Joe Picciola met with the Chief of Engineering at the Corps' office to discuss levee standards. He said the focus was to have the Corps understand that we do not have the amount of money necessary to build levees to post-Katrina standards, but we can afford to build successful levees with the standard we use. He continued in saying with everything there was a risk, but our method of building levees had proven successful. Mr. Picciola added that he felt the Corps was receptive to our methods and ideas.

GRAND BAYOU FLOODGATE UPDATE

Mr. Curole covered Grand Bayou Floodgate Update during his slide presentation.

RIGHT-OF-WAY EXTENSIONS

Mr. Curole stated that two extensions to right-of-way agreements, Clovelly and LL&E Farm, were presented and approved at the June meeting. Both agreements had been extended.

FY 2021 AUDIT QUESTIONNAIRE

Mr. Curole presented the FY 2021 Audit Questionnaire and recommended the board pass a resolution to accept.

On a motion by Keith Guidry and seconded by Brian Marts, the board unanimously adopted the FY 2021 Audit Questionnaire and authorized the Board President, Treasurer and General Manager to sign.

AUTHORIZE BOARD PRESIDENT TO ACCEPT HIGHEST BID FOR SALE OF USED SURPLUS SHEET PILES

Mr. Curole announced that the advertisement to sell used surplus sheet piles had been authorized at the June meeting. The advertisement would appear in the paper in the coming week with the bid opening at the end of the month. Mr. Curole requested the board authorize President Ronald Callais or General Manager Windell Curole to accept the highest bid for the sheet piles.

Moved by Roland Curole and seconded by Roland Guidry, the board authorized President Ronald Callais or General Manager Windell Curole to accept the highest bid for used surplus sheet piles at the bid opening.

ENGINEERING REPORT

OFFICE OF COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION

Mr. Daniel Dearmond was not in attendance.

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-North Levee Improvements**

Grand Isle Shipyard, Inc. is the contractor. The contractor is currently on-site hauling borrow material on the levee section.

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 14 in the amount of \$45,347.15.

Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Brett DeRoche and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 14 in the amount of \$45,347.15.

- **Section F Levee Improvements**

Onshore Materials, LLC is the Contractor. The contractor is currently on-site hauling borrow material on the levee section.

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 4 in the amount of \$30,066.55.

Moved by Keith Guidry, seconded by Brain Marts and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 4 in the amount of \$30,066.55.

- **Golden Meadow Pump Station Floodwall**

Sealevel Construction, Inc. is the Contractor. The project is in substantial completion. Sealevel is working on the punch list items. The certificate of substantial completion is on the agenda for your approval.

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 9 in the amount of \$129,027.10.

Moved by Roland Curole, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously accepted, the board accepted Substantial Completion and approved Pay Request No. 9 in the amount of \$129,027.10.

- **Larose Lock Project**

Project Plans and Specifications are complete. They have been submitted to US Army Corps of Engineers and CPRA for approval.

- **Section D-South Interim Levee Improvements – Phase III**

Project Plans are complete and approved by CPRA. We accepted bids on June 29th. The low bidder was Onshore Materials, LLC in the amount of \$414,098.50. General Manager Windell Curole recommended the board reject all bids. He explained that the bids came in over the estimated amount and felt the project could be done in-house at a much lower cost.

Moved by Roland Guidry, seconded by Keith Guidry and unanimously accepted, the board rejected all bids received on June 29, 2021, for Section D-South Levee Improvements, Phase III project.

GIS ENGINEERING, LLC

Engineer John Plaisance reported the following:

- **A-East Bayou Lafourche Water Retention**

We are still waiting on USACE to issue the permit.

GIS is coordinating with pipeline companies to satisfy requirements necessary to cross their pipelines. Two of the seven prospective agreements have been signed.

GIS has developed servitude requirements for the project and forwarded the proposed maps to the SLLD attorney.

Plans and specifications for the project have been completed. We can begin advertising for bids once the permitting and land issues are resolved.

- **D-South Crawfish Farm Floodwall Improvements**

Construction contract for Phase I awarded to Sealevel Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$1,648,822.00. Full Notice to Proceed issued for May 14, 2021; contract time will end November 9, 2021.

Sealevel has procured material and is fabricating floodwall components. Sealevel has mobilized to the site, began saw-cutting new H-pile locations, and is making preparations for H-pile installations.

Pay Request No. 1 in the amount of \$500,113.25.

Moved by Roland Guidry, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 1 in the amount of \$500,113.25.

CPRA provided comments on the final design package for Phase II. We are addressing those comments and will resubmit to CPRA by July 9.

- **Section D-North Ramp**

The original bids were received on April 22, 2021. The low bid was substantially higher than the estimate and budget. SLLD rejected all bids. GIS has continued the process of separating the work

into two distinct projects. The first project will have a contractor excavate the levee material from the borrow pit. The second project will put the material in place and repave the road. We are scheduled to receive quotes for Phase I on July 13, 2021.

- **Grand Bayou Flood Control Structure**

Floodwall & Receiving Structure

- Completed underwater fabric and rip rap installations.
- Completed cut-off wall sheet pile and cap plate installations.
- The cans (shims) were installed on the two required landing piles that were slightly below plan tolerances.
- Grouting on the west jacket/seal tube completed and the east side is nearly complete.
- Assisted with Barge Gate installations on Monday, June 28th (same Contractor for both Contracts).
- West side settlement period is over, with the completion of the west floodwall work now beginning.
- Timberwork and timber pile installations continue.
- Change Order No. 10 will credit the contract \$7,827.00 to cover additional cost for the Barge Gate contract.

Moved by Keith Guidry, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board accepted Change Order No. 10 for credit in the amount of \$7,827.00.

- Pay Request No. 19 in the amount of \$445,831.78.

Moved by Brian Marts, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 19 in the amount of \$445,831.78.

Barge Gate

- Gate was transported to the site and delivered on June 27th, followed by the successful installation on June 28th.
- Installed the locking device receiving sockets on both the east and west jackets, with both the opening and pull cables connected.
- Braced the pivot pile to the floodwall.
- The mooring pile and rubber bumper, as well as the plumb/battered pull pile structure was installed.
- Pay Request No. 9 in the amount of \$816,603.63.

Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Brett DeRoche and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 9 in the amount of \$816,603.63.

- Change Order No. 2 in the amount of \$7,827.00 is being balanced with a credit from the Floodwall & Receiving Structure contract.

Moved by Keith Guidry, seconded by Brian Marts and unanimously accepted, the board accepted Change Order No. 2 in the amount of \$7,827.00.

Hurricane Delta/Zeta

- There are no additional hurricane related items pending.
- Hurricane Delta: All Hurricane Delta work is complete, and GIS continues to assist All South by providing additional information as requested by FEMA.
- Hurricane Zeta: Limestone access road and laydown yard repairs are nearly complete, with the remainder of the in-contract limestone to be installed at a later date. Access road maintenance is being performed as needed.
- Hurricane Zeta: GIS continues to assist All South, providing additional information as requested by FEMA.

LEVEE IMPROVEMENTS – ANGELETTE-PICCIOLA, LLC

Engineer Neil Angelette reported the following:

- **B-North & B-South Levee Improvements**

The contractor, Pontchartrain Partners, LLC, is complete with construction on this project. We are recommending approval of Pay Request No. 39 in the amount of \$82,850.26.

Moved by Brian Marts, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 39 in the amount of \$82,850.26.

- **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. 14 in the amount of \$66,814.04.

Moved by Roland Guidry, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 14 in the amount of \$66,814.04.

- **Larose Floodwall Height Improvement, West End A-Phase 5**

The contractor, Sealevel Construction, Inc. is continuing with construction on this project. We are recommending approval of Pay Request No. 3 in the amount of \$114,623.68.

Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Brett DeRoche and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 3 in the amount of \$114,623.68.

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

We are currently advertising to receive bids on July 29, 2021 for this project.

MORGANZA TO THE GULF

DELTA COAST CONSULTANTS

Program Manager Report (Mitch Marmande)

- We are taking bids on Wednesday on Phase 1 of the Houma Navigational Canal project. This project has an estimated cost of \$400M and will be paid through the Restore Act. It will help us in getting Federal funding for the ICWW Floodgate in Larose. We are currently speaking with our Delegation and will hopefully have the Corps or a private entity start work on the design of that floodgate in the near future. The floodgate, which will be a 250 ft. sector gate, will be located between the LOOP pipeline and North American Shipyard in Larose. Our hopes are that the infrastructure bill will pass and we will be awarded funds from that bill so the project can begin soon. Construction should take two to three years. Independent of the Mississippi River water, the Houma Navigational Canal will stop normal water from getting into the ICWW which in turn with benefit the Larose to Golden Meadow Levee System.

ALL SOUTH CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Engineer Report (Stevie Smith)

Emergency Rehabilitation of Reach K Spoil Material (Phase II)

- Sealevel continues work on the west bank of Grand Bayou. They have completed shaping 100% of the dredge material and have shaped approximately 70% of the trucked/barged material as well.
- No contractor pay application is recommended for approval at this time.

Supply & Deliver Material Lost to Reach K (Hurricane Barry)

- Sealevel has hauled 66,345 CY of the 67,000 CY contract. The remaining contract volume will be used on the tie-in levee portion to cap the levee on the southern end.
- We have two items for approval. Neither affect contract price, but inserts language requested and now required by FEMA and GOHSEP.
 - Amendment No. 4 to provide for new GOHSEP language to the engineering contract
 - Change Order No.3 to amend Sealevel agreement to provide for new GOHSEP language

Moved by Roland Guidry, seconded by Keith Guidry and unanimously accepted, the board approved Amendment No. 4 to the ASCE's Engineering Contract, and Change Order No. 4 to the contractor, SEALEVEL's contract to add new language now required by FEMA and GOHSEP.

- Sealevel Construction, Inc. Pay Application No. 7 in the amount of \$14,250.00 is recommended for approval.

Moved by Keith Guidry, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 7 in the amount of \$14,250.00.

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

In the absence of Chairman Mitch Danos, General Manager Windell Curole announced that no permit requests were received for review.

BOARD ATTORNEY

Attorney Ryan Collins had nothing to report.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

POLICY RENEWALS

Commissioner Roland Guidry announced that the Insurance Committee had recently met and reviewed the quotes for policies that were up for renewal. Mr. Guidry presented the quotes and went over each item. He stated that all quotes were to satisfaction and recommended that the board accept the quotes as presented.

On a motion of Brett DeRoche, seconded by McNeely Rome, and unanimously carried, the board approved the quotes for insurance policy renewals as presented by the Insurance Committee.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

INVOICES

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

On a motion of Keith Guidry, seconded by Brian Marts, and unanimously carried, the board approved the payment of the invoices as presented.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Commissioner Keith Guidry stated that the Personnel Committee Meeting had been postponed.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no new business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

/s/Ronald Callais, President

/s/Windell A. Curole, Executive Secretary