

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDING
OF
SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT
JULY 11, 2022**

The Board of Commissioners of the South Lafourche Levee District met in a regular session at its regular meeting place, 17751 Highway 3235, Galliano, Louisiana, on Monday, July 11, 2022, 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 March was called to order by President Keith Guidry. Commissioner Roland Guidry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Guidry directed the secretary to call roll.

Board members in attendance: Keith Guidry
Ronald Callais
Roland Curole
Brett DeRoche
Roland Guidry
Brian Marts
Mc Neely Rome

Board members absent: Mitch Danos
Monty Vegas

Also present 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 Ryan Collins; Engineering Personnel Joe Picciola, Neil Angelette, John Plaisance, Laura Barnes, Stevie Smith, CPRA Daniel Dearmond; LPC Daniel Lorraine; and news media.

READING OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the June 13, 2022, 2022, Regular Meeting were approved unanimously upon a motion by McNeely Rome and seconded by Brett DeRoche.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

FUNCTION HONORING WINDELL CUROLE

President Guidry stated that he and Vice President Ronald Callais attended a function in St. Bernard Parish in which General Manager Windell Curole was honored.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairman Ronald Callais stated that the Executive Committee had met earlier that same day with Parish President Archie Chaisson to discuss drainage issues. The parish does not pay for operation and maintenance in South Lafourche, but does pay in the rest of the parish. Mr. Chaisson reconfirmed that the parish would continue to pay fuel costs for the pumping stations. A proposal was being prepared that would combine all drainage taxes into one fund and distribute among North Lafourche and South Lafourche Levee Districts, as well as parish projects. President Chaisson suggested he would solve the problem. The Committee also discussed the funding for the Larose Lock Project which currently had \$15M in reserve from various sources. However, our engineers have suggested that the estimate may rise to \$25 million.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Councilman Daniel Lorraine announced that it was good that the parish would continue to pay fuel costs for the pump stations. However, the parish is paying both fuel and maintenance costs for all other pumping stations north of the Intracoastal. A brief discussion pursued.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

SLIDE PRESENTATION

General Manager Windell Curole began his presentation with a sign that was placed on a fence in Galliano when rights of way were taken to begin the elevation of levees in 2010. The sign read, "Thanks Truc, Ronald and Windell for screwing your people and levees." Mr. Curole stated that even though it may not be popular, always we must continue to do everything possible to protect our community from the encroaching Gulf of Mexico.

Other slides were of recent work to replace fill on both sides of the LOOP wall which was now at 17 ft., and the wall at the Leon Theriot lock that had been reinforced at the base after areas had been wash out during Hurricane Ida. Mr. Curole showed slides of A-East where 130 mph winds on the open water caused damage to sheet piles and the levee toe during Hurricane Ida. Material was being placed on those areas, and later rocks would be added for extra stability. Sheet piles that were not severely damaged had also been replaced to help protect against wave action.

Mr. Curole presented a drawing from GIS Engineering of the location where a siphon would be installed near Breton Canal. Another drawing, also provided by GIS Engineering, showed the location of the D-North Ramp project.

Other repairs around the levee system included slides from D-South near Yankee Canal, and the floodwall near Chouest's Crawfish Farm where Hesco Baskets were used.

The west side of the levee system showed terraces that were damaged and thers that were not affected by Ida. Also in the slides were levee improvements along B-North where the levee was at an 18 ft. elevation.

Mr. Curole ended his presentation with photos showing the annual hurricane exercise of barrier closures where the levee employees are trained to close and reopen the flood control barriers on Hwy 3235, Delta Farms Road and LA 1 highway.

UPCOMING AUDIT, LATE JULY/EARLY AUGUST (LETTER ENCLOSED)

Mr. Curole presented a letter from the auditors stating their intention to conduct the annual audit. No board action was required.

ADMINISTRATVIE/FINANCIAL POLICIES – ADOPT ALL POLICIES

Mr. Curole stated that the Federal Funds policy was approved at the last meeting in order to satisfy an audit requirement. He presented a compilation of financial policies that covered how the levee district handled its finances and requested the board approve as presented.

Moved by Roland Guidry, seconded by Brian Marts and unanimously approved, the board accepted the Financial Policies as presented.

LEVEE REPAIRS ADJACENT TO LEON THERIOT LOCK AND LOOP T-WALL

Mr. Curole stated that slides were shown and discussed during his presentation.

FLOOD INSURANCE UPDATE

Mr. Curole stated that he and some of the engineers had met with Dr. Joseph Suhayda who was a retired modeler and geographer from LSU. Dr. Suhayda worked with us on the Biggert-Waters Act in 2008 to help reduce flood insurance premiums. Mr. Curole stated that today's outlook for Louisiana's flood insurance program did not look good for the consumers.

DEBRIS COST TO DATE – HURRICANE IDA, \$7 M

Dynamic Invoices:

2021588 in the amount of \$84,951.14

2021608 in the amount of \$27,220.83

Mr. Curole stated that the cost for debris removal would be slightly under \$7M after receiving the final two invoices, less retainage. He requested permission to pay those invoices and to request the third draw on the bond loan to cover the two invoices totaling \$112,171.97.

Moved by McNeely Rome and seconded by Roland Curole, the board unanimously approved the payment of Dynamic Invoices 2021588 in the amount of \$84,951.14 and 2021608 in the amount of \$27,220.83, along with Draw #3 to cover those expenses.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS MANUAL

Mr. Curole presented the updated 2022 Emergency Operations Manual. After a brief discussion of the updates, Mr. Curole requested the board accept the manual as presented.

Moved by Roland Curole and seconded by Brian Marts, the board unanimously accepted the updated 2022 Emergency Operations Manual as presented.

MOTION TO AMEND AGENDA

Mr. Curole requested a roll call vote to amend the agenda and add "Repairs to Pump #1 at Pump Station No. 7".

With 7 yays, 0 nays, 2 absent and 0 abstained, a motion was approved to amend the agenda and add "Repairs to Pump #1 at Pump Station No. 7".

REPAIRS TO PUMP #1 AT PUMP STATION NO. 7

Mr. Curole informed the board that Pump #1 was in need of repair and briefly discussed the conditions. He requested the board allow the levee district to go out for quotes for the inspection of the pump and quotes or bids for the repairs.

Moved by Ronald Callais and seconded by Brett DeRoche, the board unanimously authorized the general manager to seek quotes for the inspection of Pump #1 at Pump Station No. 7, and upon receipt of the inspection, to either accept quotes, or advertise to bid for repairs.

ENGINEERING REPORT

OFFICE OF COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION

Mr. Daniel Dearmond briefed the board on plans and specs that were needed for review.

CORPS OF ENGINEERS

There was no one in attendance from the Corps.

PROJECT ENGINEERS

PICCIOLA & ASSOCIATES

Engineer Joe Picciola gave the following report:

- **Section F Levee Improvements**

Onshore Materials, LLC is the Contractor. The contractor is substantially complete and has presented a Clear Lien Certificate.

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 14 (Retainage) in the amount of \$125,158.63.

- Pay Request No. 14 in the amount of \$125,158.63

Moved by Roland Guidry, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 14 in the amount of \$125,158.63.

- **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**

Outer Limit Contractors, LLC is the Contractor. The contractor is complete with the project.

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 11 in the amount of \$52,135.00.

Moved by Ronald Callais, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 11 in the amount of \$52,135.00.

- **Hurricane Ida Storm Damage Repairs to Pump Stations and Floodgates (GIS)**

Grand Isle Shipyard, LLC is the Contractor. We held the Pre-Construction meeting on November 30th. The Notice to Proceed was issued on December 6, 2021. The contractor is complete with the sheet metal work on Pump Station No. 1, 4, 7, 8 & 2. They are currently working on electrical component replacement on Pump Stations No. 1, 6, 4, 7, 8 & 2.

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 1 in the amount of \$700,626.02.

Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Brett DeRoche and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 1 in the amount of \$700,626.02.

The contractor has also submitted Change Order No. 1 for additional electrical work not part of the scope of work for project. Increase in contract price of \$10,404.00 and no additional time.

Moved by Brett DeRoche, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously accepted, the board approved Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$10,404.00.

- **Hurricane Ida Storm Damage Repairs to Main Office and Mechanic Shop**

Frisco Industrial Contractor, LLC is the Contractor. The Notice to Proceed on the mechanic shop was issued on May 31, 2022. They are currently on site prepping to begin repair of the building walls.

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 1 in the amount of \$72,856.84.

Moved by Ronald Callais, seconded by Roland Guidry and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 1 in the amount of \$72,856.84.

- **Repairs to Leon Theriot Lock Floodwall and LOOP Floodwall**

We expect to receive bids on July 11, 2022 at 10:00am and have a recommendation to award at the meeting.

Bids came in much higher than anticipated with the lowest bid at over \$500,000. The estimate was \$250,000. A brief discussion pursued on possibly breaking the project into two with the most urgent being completed first. Mr. Curole recommended the board authorize President Guidry to move forward with one or both projects based on engineers' recommendation.

On a motion by Ronald Callais and seconded by Roland Curole, the board unanimously authorized the president to move forward based upon the engineers' recommendation.

- **UPDATE ON BY-PASS ROAD AT HWY 3235 AND LA 24 IN LAROSE**

We gave Mr. Curole an estimate of quantities and simple plat on what was needed when closing the flood protection barrier. Mr. Curole explained that signage was needed when closing the highway to direct traffic, but that it was expensive and could be lost with each storm. Mr. Curole had requested Engineer Joe Picciola provide an estimate to place a by-pass road for when the closures occurred instead.

- **Section E-North Update**

We have submitted plans to CPRA and have been in discussion with Mr. Curole on funding issues. We will be short on funds with the estimate at \$3.5M for the entire project. Mr. Curole added that there was some money remaining on Section F that could possibly be transferred to E-North.

- **Section D-North Update**

We have reviewed the area north of the tin fence with Drake and there's potential to get some material on the outside of the levee from the borrow pit that we have the right-of-way on, but it is subject to title influences and is hard to get to. Mr. Curole requested the engineers do a survey of the pit to see if there would be enough material to use on the crown of D-North, and at what cost.

GIS ENGINEERING, LLC

Engineer John Plaisance reported the following:

- **A-East Bayou Water Retention – GIS# 39130-1251/1252**

USACE issued the permit for the project on November 29, 2021. GIS is coordinating with DNR to extend that previously issued permit.

GIS is coordinating with pipeline and utility companies to satisfy requirements necessary to cross their pipelines. Three of the seven prospective agreements have been signed. Phillips 66 has informed us that an agreement will not be necessary.

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 Floodwall Improvements – GIS# 39130-1215/1216**

Phase 1

The project is complete.

Hurricane Ida Efforts

Current Hurricane Ida related work for the project is complete and GIS continues to provide information and coordinate with AllSouth as needed for the ongoing FEMA claim.

Phase 2

Sealevel was given Notice to Proceed on January 17, 2022.

Sealevel has completed removal of the existing concrete t-wall and installation of the new braced floodwall. Discharge pipes have been reinstalled, with touch-up painting in progress and concrete scour mat work remaining.

Anticipated construction completion date is July 15, 2022.

Phase 2A

A quote from Sealevel was provided to tie in the D-South Floodwall to the adjacent levee sections. After review, SLLD determined that the cost was too expensive at this time. SLLD completed installing Hesco baskets along the tie-in's as temporary protection.

- **D-North Ramp – GIS# 39130-1249/1250**

GIS is currently working on a new design package to rebid the project without the asphalt work, with the intent to open the project up to additional bidders.

Moved by Ronald Callais and seconded by Roland Curole, the board authorized GIS Engineering to advertise for bid the D-North Ramp, GIS#39130-1249/1250.

- **Grand Bayou Flood Control Structure – GIS# 39130-1238/1239**

Barge Gate (Sealevel – Conrad)

The project is complete.

We are submitting Pay Application No. 15 in the amount of \$104,427.60 for final retainage.

Moved by McNeely Rome and seconded by Brett DeRoche, the board unanimously approved Pay Application No. 15 in the amount of \$104,427.60 to Sealevel Construction.

- **Reconnection of Breton Canal to Bayou Lafourche – GIS# 39130-1329**

GIS Engineering continues with the Final Design Phase inclusive of plans, specifications, any required permits, surveys and cost estimate.

Topographic surveys and cross sections have been completed.

The last construction cost estimate (with 15% Contingency) was \$543,000.

- **Lefort Lane Sink Hole Repairs – GIS# 39130-1166**

Notice to Proceed was issued to SBL Construction on 01/17/2022.

SBL has constructed the structure and backfilled the hole. All work is complete.

SLLD will pay the withheld funds of \$500.00.

We are submitting Pay Application No. 2 in the amount of \$500.00 for retainage.

Moved by Roland Curole and seconded by Brian Marts, the board unanimously approved Pay Application No. 2 in the amount of \$500.00 for retainage.

LEEVE IMPROVEMENTS – ANGELETTE-PICCIOLA, LLC

Engineer Neil Angelette reported the following:

- **C-South Levee Improvements**

The contractor, Grand Isle Shipyard, LLC, is continuing with construction on the project to raise the levee to +18' from Pump Station No. 2 to the Apache Farm Levee.

- **Yankee Canal & section A-East Erosion Repairs**

We are currently advertising to receive bids on Thursday, August 4, 2022, for this project.

- **C-South Hurricane Ida Repairs**

The contractor, Compeaux & Sons Construction, LLC is continuing work on the project, and we are recommending approval for Invoice #1066 in the amount of \$26,355.00.

Moved by Ronald Callais and seconded by Brian Marts, the board unanimously agreed to pay Compeaux & Sons' invoice #1066 in the amount of \$26,355.00.

- **B-South Hurricane Ida Repairs**

The contractor, Compeaux & Sons Construction, LLC is continuing work on the project, and we are recommending approval for Invoice #1067 in the amount of \$79,485.00.

Moved by Ronald Callais, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 1067 in the amount of \$79,485.00.

- **Larose Floodweall Vessel Impact Barrier**

This project is in the permit phase. We are waiting on the final approval on the permits from USACE and DNR. We are proposing a series of timber pile clusters on the outside of the Larose Floodwall in the Intracoastal Canal.

- **Section F Berm**

We are working on the final design at this time. We will have an alternate bid for improvements that will help the levee district manage their finances and possibly be able to move some of the money to Section E-North as discussed earlier. We will be submitting plans and specs to the state this week.

MORGANZA TO THE GULF

DELTA COAST CONSULTANTS

Program Manager Report (Mitch Marmande)

- No one from Delta Coast was in attendance.

ALL SOUTH CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Engineer Report (Stevie Smith)

Mr. Smith stated that he had nothing to report.

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

Chairman Mitch Danos announced that two permit requests were received for review, and that neither interfered with the levee.

On a motion of Ronald Callais, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously carried, the board approved Letters of No Objection for the following requests:

1. **BIG JIM SEAFOOD**

CUP NO: P20220074

LOCATION: Lafourche Parish, LA; Lat. 29-14-56.45"N, Long. -90-14-1.996W (See Plats for additional project coordinates); Leeville 70357

DESCRIPTION: Proposal to implement and operate an Alternative Oyster Culture Farm using twelve Shellevators (submersible pontoon barges) resting on the water bottom. Approx. 0.05 acres of water bottom may be impacted as a result of the proposed activity.

REVISED: Project location was changed to Bayou Pierre et Lee. Total shellevators reduced from 12 to 4.

2. **DELATTE, DANIEL, JR**

CUP NO: P20220354

LOCATION: Lafourche Parish, LA; Lat. 29-33-12.34"n / Long. -90-20-57.15"W; 13938 E Main St. Larose, LA 70373

DESCRIPTION: Proposes to install (6) 3 pile clusters 5' from original bulkhead and a 5' x 20' boat dock. Approximately 0.01 acres of waterbottoms may be impacted as a result of the proposed activities.

BOARD ATTORNEY

Attorney Ryan Collins reported that they were trying to resolve the issue with the bridge in Golden Meadow. He stated that he would inform Mr. Marco Picciola on the final outcome, and recommend the board give the board president the authority to sign any documentation needed to resolve this matter.

Moved by Ronald Callais, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously approved, the board authorized the board president to sign any agreements or other documents necessary to move forward in resolving the matter with the bridge in Golden Meadow, La. owned by the Picciola family.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

INVOICES

In the absence of Commissioner Monty Vegas, President Guidry announced that the Finance Committee had reviewed the invoices and recommended they be paid.

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

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

In the absence of Commissioner Monty Vegas, Mr. Curole stated that the Personnel Committee had met earlier that morning and reviewed and agreed up the proposed pay scale for the levee district. Mr. Curole stated that the new pay plan would offer a more competitive salary for our employees. Four employees would be affected by the new plan and would receive increases to bring them to the new pay levels.

Also discussed was the freezing of the 5% share paid by the employees for medical insurance. He stated that previously the board had agreed to increase the percentage by an additional 5% each year up to the full 25%, but after researching similar entities, the board agreed to freeze that increase for the coming year, and to review it annually.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

POLICY RENEWAL

Commissioner Roland Guidry presented a spreadsheet of premiums for insurance policies that were up for renewal. He recommended the board accept those renewals as presented.

Moved by Roland Guidry and seconded by Brian Marts, the board unanimously agreed to renew all insurance policies as presented.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

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 Ronald Callais.

/s/Keith Guidry, President

/s/Windell A. Curole, Executive Secretary