

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDING
OF
SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT
FEBRUARY 10, 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, February 10, 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 February 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
 Mc Neely Rome
 Roland Curole
 Keith Guidry

Board members absent: Clarence "CJ" Marts, Jr.

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, Marc Picciola, Neil Angelette, John Plaisance, Stevie Smith, Mitch Marmande, Nic Matherne; CPRA Daniel Dearmond; TLCD Reggie Dupre; LPC Daniel Lorraine; and news media.

READING OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the January 13, 2020 Regular Meeting were approved unanimously upon a motion by Bob Faulk and seconded by Roland Guidry.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

OPEN MEETINGS SEMINAR

President Callais announced that an Open Meetings Seminar would be held on Wednesday, March 4th at 6:00 p.m. at the Lafourche Parish Government Complex in Mathews. The meeting was not a requirement, but available to those who wanted to attend.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

There were no comments from the audience.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**SLIDE PRESENTATION**

General Manager Windell Curole presented slides beginning with aerial shots, provided by Engineer Joe Picciola, of the Larose Floodgate A-Frame project, and ground shots which showed the progress being made on the floodwalls. Mr. Curole explained that the walls would be at 13 ft. elevation when complete, replacing the 8ft level of protection.

Mr. Curole showed a rendition of the future floodgate conversion to a lock in Larose. He stated that the largest advantage to the locking system would be to control the high water in Golden Meadow while allowing boat traffic. He further explained that there were times the water in Larose was so high the floodgate could not be opened at all which hindered the boating and fishing industries, thus affecting the economy. The additional gate that would make up the lock would provide for a locking system so boats would be able to get through the bayou even when water levels were high. It would work the same as the lock in Golden Meadow. Mr. Curole stated that the parish had received \$5M in GOMESA funding that would be put towards the lock conversion. Additional funding of \$12M through Capital Outlay was requested. A brief discussion pursued.

Mr. Curole presented slides of work from the east and west sides of the levee system and explained each projects location and the progress being made. Those slides included C-South near Bully Camp where the levee will be raised to 18 ft. Aerial slides of MTG Reach K & L mitigation and SLLD C-South levee were provided by All South Consulting Engineer Stevie Smith. Mr. Curole showed slides of B-North Ducks Unlimited and ConocoPhillips marsh containment and the new area created from overflow. Final slides showed the areas of E-South on the east side levee near Pump Station No. 6 where the LAMP map for flood insurance indicated low areas. Mr. Curole explained that dirt had been placed on the levee previously, and that it was now being shaped and would be at a 14 ft. elevation.

APPROVAL OF 2020 PRIORITY PROJECTS

Mr. Curole announced that Vice President Keith Guidry had provided the board with a list of projects in priority at the last meeting, and recommended the board accept those projects and funding as submitted.

Moved by Keith Guidry and seconded by Monty Vegas, the board unanimously approve the 2020 Priority Projects as submitted.

FTS OUTDOOR SHOOTING RANGE

Mr. Curole stated that there had been a few issues with the shooting range on Hwy 3235 in Cut Off. SLLD employees found bullets on the levee, and the contractors working in that area had reported hearing bullets go by, which forced them to shut down work for fear of injury. He further stated that attorney Ray Collins would meet to discuss the issue with the firing range owners.

PERMIT RECEIVED, YANKEE CANAL LEVEE

Mr. Curole announced that the Corps' permit was received on the Yankee Canal levee project that was completed 4 years ago.

LPG GOMESA FUNDS – CASH AVAILABLE

Mr. Curole explained that the parish had sold a bond and there would be \$5M available for the Larose Lock, as discussed earlier during the slide presentation.

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Mr. Curole stated that after speaking with the nominating entities, it looked as though the board members would be re-nominated for the upcoming term.

MARSH CREATION, SECTION C-SOUTH VICINITY

Mr. Curole stated that the mitigation for Reach K was progressing well.

CLOVELLY FARMS ACCESS

Mr. Curole announced that according to the flood insurance map, there were areas that were low in Section E-North. He stated that we were working with Clovelly Farms to obtain an access location to move heavy equipment onto the job site.

LAROSE LOCK AND WATERLEVEL IN GOLDEN MEADOW

Mr. Curole explained that the bayou bank in Larose was high, but low in Golden Meadow, so managing water levels had been difficult. A lock in Larose would prevent excessive amounts of water traveling down Bayou Lafourche from flooding streets and highways in low areas.

John Plaisance stated that the Town of Golden Meadow, along with SLLD's participation, was trying to raise the town's floodwall. In addition, DOTD was in the process of overlaying LA 1 from the Jr. High School, south. Water stays on the road during high tide in that area. DOTD was made aware of this situation and said they would work on rectifying the problem. A brief discussion pursued on how that work might be accomplished.

Neil Angelette added that the parish had addressed the worst of the problems, years ago. There were sections of the road on Hwy 308 across from Golden Meadow where the tide would get to a +1 and bayou water would get into people's yards trying to work its way to the back. With CDBG funding Neil's firm worked with the parish two years ago to raise the road to a little over a +2 elevation which made a tremendous difference.

CONOCOPHILLIPS RIGHT-OF-WAY

Mr. Curole explained that the project location was near Pump Station No. 4 near Yankee Canal. He explained that, according to the flood insurance map, the levee was low between the Chouest's crawfish pond pump station and our pump station. ConocoPhillips said they would allow us to take dirt from their property, which was the old borrow canal, and use it to raise that portion of levee to a +16 elevation. The agreement was sent to ConocoPhillips last week and would be forthcoming.

NATIONAL LEVEE STANDARDS

Mr. Curole explained that we receive bad ratings on the National Levee Standards because the Corps says we're not building to their standards. He explained that our standards were successfully stopping the water, and that Mr. Mitch Marmande and Mr. Dwayne Bourgeois were currently working with the Corps to try to ease the standards to some degree on the Morganza levee project. He added that hopefully, the Corps would accept cost efficient levee construction. All entities should have the ability to build cost-effective levees that work.

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:

- **LA 1 Highway Realignment and Floodwall at Levee Crossing, Golden Meadow, LA**
Byron E. Talbot Contractor, Inc. is the contractor. They are complete with the project and the Lien Period has expired. The Clear Lien Certificate was presented to us in January. By contract we have forty-five (45) days to remit payment (March 1st). BET is disputing the assessment of \$61,000.00 in liquidated damages. We are scheduling a meeting with BET, Ray and the District.

Moved by Roland Guidry and seconded by Monty Vegas, the board unanimously agreed to authorize President Ronald Callais, upon the board attorney's recommendation, to sign any and all documents necessary for the resolution of the assessment of liquidated damages in the completion of the LA 1 Highway Realignment and Floodwall project.

- **Larose Floodgate Improvement and Protection – A Frame and I Wall**

Sealevel Construction, Inc. is the contractor. The contractor is currently driving sheet piles and fabricating the A-Frames on the job site.

- Pay Request No. 7 in the amount of \$414,548.41

Moved by Mitch Danos, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 7 in the amount of \$414,548.41.

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

Low Land Construction, Co. Inc., was the low bidder. The Notice to Proceed was issued on December 2, 2019. The contractor is currently on-site moving material on the levee section.

- Pay Request No. 2 in the amount of \$11,400.00

Moved by Roland Curole, seconded by Roland Guidry and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 2 in the amount of \$11,400.00.

- **Section E-North Levee Improvements**

The project surveying and plans/specifications are complete. We have received approval from the State for the plans/specifications. We are planning to begin advertising for bids soon.

- **Section D-South Interim Levee Improvements**

SLB Construction, LLC was the low bidder in the amount of \$582,501.37. The contract documents are being processed. We are awaiting approval of Right of Ways prior to proceeding.

- **Section F Levee Improvements**

Field Surveying is complete. We are currently working on the Project Plans. We will be meeting with District Management soon to discuss proceeding with the advertisement for bids.

- **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 are finalizing plans now for submittal to the state for approval.

GIS ENGINEERING, LLC

Engineer John Plaisance reported the following:

- **Bayou Lafourche Water Level Control**

We are in discussions with the Corps and progressing, but still have not received the permit.

- **Section D-South Floodwall Improvements**

We will meet with Mr. Windell Curole this week to discuss the height the budget will allow for the floodwall.

- **Grand Bayou Flood Control**

We are scheduled to receive bids on March 18th for this project.

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. Work is being scheduled to complete the additional authorized work prior to the start of hurricane season.

- **C-South Levee Improvements (Bason to Apache)**

We are requesting approval to being advertising the raise the levee from Bason Pump Station to Apache Farm. This section is currently at an elevation of +13' with a proposed improvement to +18' for an estimated cost of \$1,094,000.00

Moved by Monty Vegas and seconded by Bob Faulk, the board unanimously approved the advertising for bid, Section C-South Levee Improvements.

- **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 reviewed.

MORGANZA TO THE GULF

DELTA COAST CONSULTANTS

Program Manager Report (Mitch Marmande)

- We met to discuss how we will move forward with reshaping the dredge material on Reach K. We have a solid plan to shape the entire length of levee to 9 ft. We will finalize this thru CPRA and hopefully get the contract out soon. We will add more materials to the mitigation project if needed. It should take another 12 months to expend the remaining \$2.8M budget which will be used for shaping the levee from Point-Aux-Chene to the end of the canal.

ALL SOUTH CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Engineer Report (Stevie Smith)

Reach K Marsh Mitigation

- Contractor began dredging on 1/25/2020. Average dredging rate is approximately 6,800 CY/Day.
- Dredging is estimated at approximately 40 days. Contractor hopes to increase production to approximately 7,500 CY/Day.
- Change Order proposed for 16 days of high water that affected building containment dikes efficiently. Change Order would extend contract time to 2/22/2020.

Moved by Keith Guidry, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously accepted, the board approved Change Order No. 1 to add 16 days to contract and extend completion of project to 02/22/2020.

- Projected to complete dredging on 3/4/2020 and may be adjusted pending Contractor's ability to increase dredge production rates further.

Reach K Reshaping (Phase I)

- Plans and Specs are under review by CPRA.
- This project focuses on shaping the levee between the starting location for Access Road (Phase II) and the southern water control.
- ASCE hopes to start advertising this project within the next few weeks.

Reach K Reshaping (Phase II)

- Plans and Specs are under design.
- This project focuses on shaping and elevating the levee between the floodgate and the starting location for Reshaping (Phase I).

Amend Agenda to add item

Mr. Windell Curole made a request to amend the agenda to add “Naquin Boat Launch”.

Upon a motion by McNeely Rome and seconded by Mitch Danos, a roll call vote was taken. With 8 Yeas, 0 Nays, 1 Absent and 0 Abstained, the board unanimously agreed to amend the agenda and add Naquin Boat Launch.

NAQUIN BOAT LAUNCH

Mr. Curole stated that Mr. Naquin’s private boat launch located behind his house would be beneficial to contractors if we were able to rent the dock. Mr. Reggie Dupre added that renting the dock could offer a better deal on contracts. Mr. Curole suggested the board authorize President Callais, upon recommendation of Mitch Marmande and TLCD, to enter into an agreement to rent the Naquin Boat Launch with the understanding that North Lafourche and Terrebonne Levee Districts would be responsible for the cost.

Moved by Mitch Danos, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously approved, the board authorized President Callais, upon recommendation of Delta Coast’s Program Manager Mitch Marmande and Terrebonne Levee and Conservation District, to enter into an agreement to rent the Naquin Boat Launch with the understanding that North Lafourche Levee District and Terrebonne Levee and Conservation District would be responsible for the cost.

APTIM ENGINEERS

Nic Matherne reported the following:

- **Grand Bayou Floodgate Structure**
We transferred the bid documents to GIS and will be available to assist them, if needed.

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

Chairman Mitch Danos announced that two (2) permit requests were received for review, and that neither interfered with the levee.

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

1. GREATER LAFOURCHE PORT COMMISSION

CUP NO: P20191239

LOCATION: Lafourche Parish, LA; Lat 29-25-28.00N / Long -90-17-31.00W; Section 16, 17, 18, 18 T19S R21E; Section 35, 37 T19S R21E; 18276 West Main Street (nearby LA 1) Galliano, 70354

DESCRIPTION: Proposed construction of South Lafourche Airport Connector Road and a new bridge. The connector road will be constructed between LA 3235 and LA 1. The bridge will be a vertical lift span bridge that crosses Bayou Lafourche. In addition to the new connector road the bridge, the applicant will also make improvements to relocated intersections, signage, drainage, pedestrian facilities and landscaping. Approximately 14,546 cu material will be excavated and placed onsite. Approximately 6,667 cy of material will be excavated and hauled offsite. Approximately 192 cy of concrete, 6,589 cy of crushed stone, 2,267 cy of rock, 3,337 cy of sand and 20,842 cy of soil will be hauled in to be used as fill material. 13.5 acres consisting of upland, non-vegetated water bottoms, and vegetated wetlands will be impacted by the proposed activities.

2. KEY OPERATING COMPANY

CUP NO: P20191048

LOCATION: Lafourche Parish, LA; POB @ Lat 29-27-35.56N / Long -90-24-50.55W; POE @ Lat 29-28-26.503N / Long -90-23-13.265W; Section 35 & 36 T18S R20E; Section 2 & 3 T19S R20E;

DESCRIPTION: Proposal to install two 3-inch flowlines (12,616ft) to serve the Exxon Fee No. 001 well location within the Pointe Aux Chenes WMA in Lafourche Parish, Louisiana. Approximately 10,281 ft of line will be installed via trenching, and approximately 2,335 ft of line will be installed via horizontal directional drilling. Approximately 3,090 cy native material will be displaced via jetting, and approximately 267 cy of native material will be excavated and temporarily placed onsite. Approximately 1.2 acres of non-vegetated water bottoms will be impacted by the proposed activities.

BOARD ATTORNEY

Attorney Ryan Collins stated that Ray Collins would meet with both parties of the issues previously discussed (shooting range and Byron E. Talbot Contractor) and would have either a recommendation or a resolution by the next meeting date.

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.

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 McNeely Rome and seconded by Roland Guidry.

s/Ronald Callais, President

s/Windell A. Curole, Executive Secretary