

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDING  
OF  
SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT  
SEPTEMBER 9, 2024**

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, September 9, 2024, 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 September was called to order by President Keith Guidry. Commissioner Brian Marts led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Guidry directed the secretary to call roll.

Board members in attendance: Keith Guidry  
Roland Curole  
Mitch Danos  
Brian Marts  
Mc Neely Rome  
Scott Theriot  
Monty Vegas

Board members absent: Brett DeRoche

Also present were:

Executive Director Nicholas Matherne

Executive Assistant Mary Punch

Administrative Assistant Amy Gisclair

Operations Manager Drake Baudoin

Engineering Personnel:

Joe Picciola, Picciola & Associates

Sandy Guidry, Angelette Design

John Plaisance, GIS Engineering

Morgan DeGruise, GIS Engineering

Melanie Caillouet, All South Consulting Engineers

CPRD Daniel Dearmond

Doug Cheramie, State Attorney General

Robert Theriot

News media

**READING OF THE MINUTES**

**The minutes of the August 12, 2024, Regular Meeting were approved unanimously upon a motion by Monty Vegas and seconded by Roland Curole.**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**CONSIDER AND ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2024.05 FOR THE MILLAGE RATES FOR THE YEAR 2024**

President Guidry read the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO.: 2024.05

MOTION: J. McNeely Rome

SECOND: Mitch Danos

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following millage(s) are hereby levied on the 2024 tax roll on all property subject to taxation by the South Lafourche Levee District:

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED 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 2024, 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: 7  
NAYS: 0  
ABSTAINED: 0  
ABSENT: 2

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 3, 2024**

Executive Director Nic Matherne reported on the following items that were discussed during the Sep. 3, 2024 Executive Committee Meeting:

- Collision on E- North
  - Two dump trucks collided due to poor visibility with dust resulting in one death and one serious injury.
- Millage Rates
  - Options were discussed and a recommendation to the board was made to adopt the millage rates of 4.86 and 5.00.
- Mississippi River Commission Comments
  - Mr. Matherne delivered comments at the Aug. 23<sup>rd</sup> MRC. A coordination meeting was scheduled for Sep 4<sup>th</sup> to discuss a unified path forward for both Larose to Golden Meadow and Morganza to the Gulf levee systems.
- Status Meeting with USACE
  - After a coordination meeting, a status update meeting would be held with the Corps to discuss a path forward on updated 100-year elevations for the Larose to Golden Meadow system.
- Mississippi Valley Flood Control Association
  - Mr. Matherne will be discussing recent developments in the WRDA bill during his upcoming meeting with Congressional delegates in Washington, DC.
- CEA with State of Louisiana – Capital Outlay – Gage Data Monitoring System
  - A CEA was forthcoming from the State of Louisiana to receive funding in the amount of \$400,000. Funds are to be used for the new water level monitoring system at all pump stations and floodgates.
- Purchase of Bush Hog
  - With the purchase of a new tractor, there was a need to purchase a new bush hog. The cost was within the spending authority of the Executive Director. The Committee agreed to the purchase.
- Employee Health Insurance Premium Year 2025
  - Health Insurance premiums increased by 6.65%, or \$43,806.90 from last year's premium. The Committee agreed to continue paying the employees' share of premiums.
- Limestone Road
  - After completion of levee work last year, the limestone road at D-North Levee near the Allain property would be repaired soon to bring it back to pre-construction condition.

### AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Mr. Robert Theriot announced that there would be a Shrimp Boil Off on October 5<sup>th</sup> provided by the Rotary Club of Golden Meadow.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Matherne gave a quick update on Hurricane Francine and its proposed storm track.

**COLLISION ON E- NORTH**

General Manager Nic Matherne reported that two dump trucks collided on Monday August 26<sup>th</sup> which resulted in one death and one serious injury. Mr. Matherne gave details leading up to the crash that occurred near E-North.

**USACE SEMI-QUANTITATIVE RISK ASSESSMENT**

Mr. Matherne reported that a team from the Corps had visited the previous week to perform the Semi-Quantitative Risk Assessment. He explained that this was all part of our effort to become re-certified and reinstated into the Rehabilitation Inspection Program.

**LAROSE TO GOLDEN MEADOW STATUS MEETING WITH USACE**

Mr. Matherne stated that he would meet with the Corps in October at the New Orleans District to go over the results of the risk assessment and would report back to the board.

**MISSISSIPPI VALLEY FLOOD CONTROL ASSOCIATION UPDATE**

Mr. Matherne stated that he would be in Washington, DC on September 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> to meet with Congressional delegates to discuss WRDA bill language.

**CEA WITH STATE OF LOUISIANA – CAPITAL OUTLAY – GAGE DATA MONITORING SYSTEM**

Mr. Matherne explained that a CEA from the State Capital Outlay would allow us to receive funding in the amount of \$400,000. These funds would be used to install a new digital gage system at all six pump stations as well as our floodgate and lock. He explained that the new digital gages could be accessible by anyone through an app. Further, the system would give access to critical information without having to physically go to each location. He recommended the board accept the CEA upon review of the attorney, and to authorize himself and President Keith Guidry to act on all matters pertaining to the agreement, including signing of documents and certifying requests for disbursements through the State.

**On a motion by Mitch Danos and seconded by Brian Marts, the Board unanimously approved the CEA with the State of Louisiana, Capital Outlay, for the \$400,000 funding of a new Gage Data Monitoring System and authorized the Board President and/or Executive Director to sign the agreement and act on all matters pertaining to this project, including certification of State disbursements, contingent upon legal counsel review.**

**ENGINEERING REPORT**

**OFFICE OF COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION**

Mr. Daniel Dearmond 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:

- **Larose Lock Project**  
Project Plans and Specifications are 95% complete. All permitting is complete. We are now preparing the Final Plans and Specifications for Issuance to Bid and Right of Way Plans.
- **Section E-North Levee Improvements Southeast Corner to Northeast Corner**  
Construction Site Specialties, LLC is the contractor. The Notice to Proceed was issued on June 19, 2023. The contractor is on-site moving material when the weather permits. Construction Site Specialties, LLC has submitted Pay Application No. 8 in the amount of \$69,882.00.

**Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Monty Vegas and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 8 in the amount of \$69,882.00.**

- **A-East Interim Levee Improvements**

Project Plans and Specifications are complete. They have been submitted to CPRA for approval. We spoke to CPRA and requested Eustis Engineering provide a proposal for additional geotechnical analysis. Eustis has completed all of the fieldwork and is complete with the engineering analysis. We submitted the engineering analysis to CPRA for review and approval.

- **Repairs to North Gate Structure (LT Lock)**

TLP Construction Co., LLC is the contractor. The Notice to Proceed was issued on July 8, 2024. The project is complete and in the Lien Period.

TLP Construction Co., LLC has submitted Pay Application No. 2 in the amount of \$11,500.00 for Retainage (Approval pending receipt of Clear Lien Certificate).

**Moved by Scott Theriot, seconded by Mitch Danos and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 2 in the amount of \$11,500.00, contingent upon receipt of Clear Lien.**

- **Repairs to Pump No. 1 at Pump Station No. 2**

Boland Marine is the Contractor. The repaired pump was delivered on August 26<sup>th</sup> and installed by Levee District Personnel and Boland Marine.

- **Repairs to Timber Fender at Larose Floodgate**

Project Plans are complete. Crosby is expected to move on site to perform the repairs later this month.

- **Emergency Gate Closure at Larose Floodgate**

We are working on the project plans and designing the winch system.

#### **GIS ENGINEERING, LLC**

Engineer John Plaisance reported the following:

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

USACE issued their permit for the project on November 29, 2021. The USACE permit expires on August 31, 2026. LaDENR issued their permit for the project on March 5, 2024. The LaDENR permit requires that work begin by March 5, 2026.

GIS has coordinated with pipeline and utility companies to acquire Letters of No Objection.

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

Plans and specifications for the project have been completed. We can begin advertising for bids once the servitudes are acquired.

- **D-North Ramp Lift (Material Stockpile) – GIS# 39130-1249/1457**

Outer Limit has excavated 14,621 CY of material from the southwestern bank of the triangular pit.

Pay application No. 1 is being presented to the board for a total of \$170,122.14.

**Moved by Mitch Danos, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 1 in the amount of \$170,122.14.**

- **D-North Ramp Lift – GIS# 39130-1249/1457**

GIS began design of the ramp lift work to EL. +18'. Once the material stockpile project is completed, GIS will finalize the bid package.

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

SLLD has awarded the construction contract to Garden Environments, Inc., in the amount of \$999,000.00.

Dredging of Breton Canal has been completed, surveys are scheduled for this week to confirm depths and slopes.

Dredge material was transported to the stockpile site where dozers began spreading and grading material.

Pay Application No. 1 is being presented to the board for approval in the amount of \$21,375.00.

**Moved by Mitch Danos, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 1 in the amount of \$21,375.**

- **D-South Floodwall at Crawfish Farms, Phase III Improvements – GIS# 39130-1485**  
Bid Opening was held on August 27, 2024. A total of 3 bids were received with Sealevel Construction, Inc. being the lowest bidder. A bid evaluation and award recommendation has been submitted to SLLD recommending award of the contract in the amount of \$883,880.00 to the lowest responsible bidder, Sealevel Construction, Inc.

**Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Scott Theriot and unanimously accepted, the board agreed to award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder, Sealevel Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$883,880.00.**

**LEEVE IMPROVEMENTS – ANGELETTE-DESIGN, LLC**

Engineer Neil Angelette reported the following:

- **C-North Levee Improvements**  
The contractor, Compeaux & Sons Construction, LLC has completed work on the project to shape the levee to +13.5'. We are recommending approval of Invoice #1297 in the amount of \$20,325.00.

**Moved by Monty Vegas, seconded by Brian Marts and unanimously accepted, the board approved Invoice No. 1297 in the amount of \$20,325.00.**

- **C-South Floodside Repairs**  
The contractor, Compeaux & Sons Construction, LLC is continuing work on the project to rebuild the flood side berm of the levee as well as hauling materials from the area behind the shooting range. We are recommending approval of Invoice #1299 in the amount of \$48,827.50, Invoice #1300 in the amount of \$8,950.00, and Invoice #1303 in the amount of \$53,392.50.

**Moved by Mitch Danos, seconded by Scott Theriot and unanimously accepted, the board approved Invoice No. 1299 in the amount of \$48,827.50.**

**Moved by Mitch Danos, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board approved Invoice No. 1300 in the amount of \$8,950.00.**

**Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Brian Marts and unanimously accepted, the board approved Invoice No. 1303 in the amount of \$53,392.50.**

- **Larose Floodwall Vessel Impact Barrier**  
The contractor, Low Land Construction Company, Inc. has completed the project and is currently in the clear lien period.
- **Section F Berm Improvements**  
The contractor, Sealevel Construction, Inc. is continuing with work on the project to improve the protected side berm. We are recommending approval of Application for Payment No. 11 in the amount of \$161,560.61.

**Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Monty Vegas and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 11 in the amount of \$161,560.61.**

**MORGANZA TO THE GULF**

**DELTA COAST CONSULTANTS**

Program Manager Report (Mitch Marmande)

No one was in attendance.

**ALL SOUTH CONSULTING ENGINEERS**

Engineer Report (Stevie Smith)

- **Reach K Terraces Repairs**  
Approximately 8000 linear feet of terraces had a crown elevation of less than +2.0 feet. TLCD began rehabilitation work in mid-April. They are elevating the crown and reestablishing the slope to the berm. Approximately 8018 linear feet (12 terraces) were completed.

An additional 1500 (2 terraces) were added due to the widths being narrower than prior to Hurricane Barry.

Post construction cross sections for 8 terraces are completed to confirm an elevation of +2 or greater. Four more will be surveyed when the crew goes out to stake out the added terraces.

- **Reach K Levee – South**

Reach K – South – from floodgate to access road was elevated to +12. Reach K from Station 7+50 to South Water Control Structure was elevated to +11.

From access road north to Station 7+50 (first bend) was not elevated due to being used for hauling. Material is stored adjacent so it can be lifted if a storm comes.

The contractor is using stockpiled material to close the gaps (Stations 0 to 7+50, 30+00) in the levee for the upcoming storm.

- **Reach K Levee – Center**

Reach K – Center is between South Water Control Structure (Station 105) and the north water control structure (Station 209).

Mats were installed so trucks can cross the South Water Control Structure and Discovery Pipeline.

The haul road was constructed throughout the section. An area near the pipeline was lower than +6 so material was stockpiled on the protected side slope up to +9 in preparation for the storm. Another section near the NWCS was also low and the contractor is currently using stockpiled material to get as much height as possible before the storm.

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

Chairman Mitch Danos announced that four (4) permit requests were received for review, and that none interfered with the levee.

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

1. **GREATER LAFOURCHR PORT COMMISSION**

**CUP NO:** P20220311 (Amended, Revised)

**LOCATION:** Lafourche Parish, LA; LAT 29-06-49N / Long. -90-11-57W; Golden Meadow, 70357

**DESCRIPTION:** Dredging, sand fill and break water construction to restore and prevent further beach erosion. Approx. 1,184,311 cy of material may be dredged from offshore borrow site and transferred by pipe to the offshore pump-out area and then transported by barge to the shoreline for placement. Approx. 1,153,183 cy will be needed for fill, excess is proposed in the event of loss during transport. Approx. 6,758 cy of bedding/core material and approx. 42,261 cy of rock are proposed for breakwater construction. Approx. 215 acres of unvegetated beach habitat and approx. 257 of open water bottom habitat will be impacted.

**Amendment 1:** Proposed repair of 12 additional break waters. An additional 17,195 cy of rock fill will be brought in.

**Revision 2:** Proposed addition of two borrow area totaling approx. 326.4 acres of waterbottoms to east of existing project. An additional 3,689,287 cy of material will be available as potential dredge material.

2. **SHELL PIPELINE COMPANY LP**

**CUP NO:** P20240528

**LOCATION:** Lafourche Parish, LA; Lat 29-39-8.53N, Long 90-29-10.56W (see plats for additional coordinates)

**DESCRIPTION:** Proposed to remove a section of their idled 12" AFLAK STA to HOUMA STA Pipeline that intersects the North Lafourche Levee District's Morganza to the Gulf Reach 3B.

3. **TERREBONNE LEVEE & CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**CUP NO:** P20220639 (Revised)

**LOCATION:** Lafourche Parish, LA; LAT 29-25-22N / Long -90-26-44W; Section See Attached Drawings; Pointe Aux Chene,

**DESCRIPTION:** TLCD will continue construction of Reaches K & L of the Morganza to the Gulf Hurricane Protection System. This proposal is a continuation of the same footprint previously

permitted under P20110563. The total levee project area is approx. 132ac for the levee is construction and 120ac for excavation – approx. 69ac of wetlands, 150ac of non-wetlands, and 120ac of waterbottoms will be impacted by the proposed work. The terrace mitigation project may affect approx. 150ac waterbottoms, and the marsh creation mitigation project may affect approx. 100ac of waterbottoms. This project is located on and/or near the Pointe-Aux-Chenes WMA.

**4. TULANE UNIVERSITY**

**CUP NO:** P20240424

**LOCATION:** Lafourche Parish, LA; LAT 29-25-12n. Long 90-26-44W; Section 17 T19S R20E; Parcel #0110871000; North of Pointe Aux Chene Marina in Cut Off Canal.

**DESCRIPTION:** To restore land by constructing a containment berm from a layer of Christmas trees secured with tallow stakes and a later of glass sand in burlap sacks. Native vegetation will be planted in the contained area. Approx. 1,312 cy of tree and glass sand fill is required.

**BOARD ATTORNEY**

Attorney Ryan Collins 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 Roland Curole, seconded by McNeely Rome, and unanimously carried, the board approved the payment of the invoices as presented.**

**INSURANCE COMMITTEE**

Chairman Scott Theriot announced that due to the approaching storm, the Insurance Committee Meeting was deferred to the following month.

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

Commissioner Monty Vegas announced that the Personnel Committee had met and decided to fill the vacant position of Mobile Equipment Operator by hiring Mr. Wes Hebert.

**Moved by Brian Marts and seconded by McNeely Rome, the board unanimously approved hiring Mr. Wes Hebert to fill the vacant position of Mobile Equipment Operator.**

**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 Monty Vegas and seconded by McNeely Rome.**

/s/Keith Guidry, President

/s/Nicholas Matherne, Executive Director