

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDING  
OF  
SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT  
APRIL 15, 2025**

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 Tuesday, April 15, 2025, 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 April was called to order by President Keith Guidry. Commissioner Brett DeRoche led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Guidry directed the secretary to call roll.

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

Board members absent: Mitch Danos  
Monty Vegas

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  
Neil Angelette, Angelette Design  
John Plaisance, GIS Engineering  
Kevin Dezarn, GIS Engineering

CPRA Daniel Dearmond  
Robert Theriot, Rotary Club  
News media

**READING OF THE MINUTES**

The minutes of the March 17, 2025, Regular Meeting were approved unanimously upon a motion by McNeely Rome and seconded by Brian Marts.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**CONSIDER AND ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2025.01 FOR THE MILLAGE RATES FOR THE YEAR 2025**

President Guidry directed the executive director to explain the rates for 2025 millages.

Mr. Matherne reviewed the rate options and explained the values. He stated that the Executive Committee had met earlier, and recommended adopting rates as set forth in Resolution No. 2025.01 as follows:

RESOLUTION NO.: 2025.01

MOTION: J. McNeely Rome

SECOND: Scott Theriot

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following millage(s) are hereby levied on the 2025 tax roll on all property subject to taxation by the South Lafourche Levee District:

	<b><u>MILLAGE</u></b>
Ad Valorem (1047007):	5.000 mills
Construction and Maintenance (1047086):	5.250 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 2025, 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

**ALBL WORKSHOP-MAY 1-2, 2025**

President Guidry reminded the commissioners of the upcoming workshop held in Baton Rouge.

**TIER 2.1 FORMS DUE ANNUALLY BY MAY 15TH**

President Guidry reminded the commissioners that the Tier 2.1 forms due annually.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF April 1, 2025**

Chairman Scott Theriot stated that the Executive Committee had met on April 1<sup>st</sup> to discuss the following:

- Proposed Budget
- Millage Rates for 2025
- Semi-Quantitative Risk Assessment
- Gate Closure Exercise
- ALBL Conference

He stated that Mr. Matherne would discuss some of those items in more detail.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

Mr. Robert Theriot with the Golden Meadow Rotary Club addressed the board. He announced that all proceeds from their festivals are earned through sponsorships which then go towards scholarships for educational programs and donations into the community throughout the year.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**ACCEPTANCE OF FY2026 FINANCIAL BUDGET**

Executive Director Nic Matherne reviewed the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2026 and recommended the board accept as presented.

**Moved by Scott Theriot and seconded by Brian Marts, the board unanimously accepted the proposed Fiscal Year 2026 Budget.**

**SEMI-QUANTITATIVE RISK ASSESSMENT**

Mr. Matherne updated the board on our efforts to have our levees recertified and back into the Corps' Rehabilitation and Inspection Program (RIP).

**GATE CLOSURE EXERCISE**

Mr. Matherne showed videos from the gate closure exercise earlier that day and explained that the exercises were in preparation for hurricane season. He stated all went well with the closures. He then offered his gratitude to the SLLD field crew for their hard work and dedication to the job.

**BRETON CANAL WEIR PERFORMANCE**

Mr. Matherne showed a video of the recently completed weir performance. The weir would be able to lower the water in Bayou Lafourche up to 6" over 24 hours to help avoid flooding during heavy rain events when water levels in Bayou Lafourche are high.

**PURCHASE OF VINYL SHEET PILES**

Mr. Matherne showed areas around the levee system that were susceptible to erosion. He stated that he would like to place vinyl sheet piles in those areas to protect the toe of the levee in those areas. He stated that we were still waiting on additional quotes, but that he would like to get authorization to spend up to \$155,000 for approximately 2,000 LF of sheet pile to start the project.

**Moved by Gavin Callais and seconded by Scott Theriot, the board unanimously authorized the board president and general manager to spend up to \$155,000 on vinyl sheet piles to be placed as added protection from erosion along the levee.**

**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:

- **Larose Lock Project**  
Project Plans and Specifications are 95% complete. All permitting is complete. We are now working on Hydraulic Modeling of the area for submittal to FEMA and 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 has not been on-site because of the weather. He will mobilize on-site when weather permits. Compeaux and Sons, LLC has been on-site shaping material on the levee crown and protected side berm.

The board discussed issuing a letter to Construction Site Specialties notifying them that they were in default of the contract. Mr. Matherne suggested a warning letter be sent first. If the contractor does not comply by the deadline given, the Executive Committee, with Board authorization, would place the contractor in default of contract.

**Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Scott Theriot and unanimously accepted, the board authorized Picciola & Associates to issue a warning letter of default to Construction Site Specialties, and authorized the Executive Committee to place the contractor in default of contract if they fail to comply by the date given in the letter.**

Compeaux and Sons, LLC has submitted Pay Application No. 6 in the amount of \$78,015.00.

**Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 6 in the amount of \$78,015.00.**

- **A-East Interim Levee Improvements**  
Project Plans and Specifications are complete. They have been submitted to CPRA and the US Army Corps of Engineers 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. The engineering analysis was approved by CPRA and submitted to the US Army Corps of Engineers for 408 Permit review and approval. The US Army Corps is still reviewing the submittal.

- **Emergency Gate Closure at Larose Floodgate**

TLP Construction Co., LLC is the contractor. A conditional Notice to Proceed was issued on January 6, 2025 for ordering of the equipment. Once the equipment is delivered we will issue the formal Notice to Proceed to begin the project. The winches have been approved and ordered.

- **Corner Plate Repair at the South Floodgate**

We submitted plans for the repairs to the Levee District. The boat company anticipates making the repairs starting this week.

**GIS ENGINEERING, LLC**

Engineer John Plaisance reported the following:

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

Due to a landowner's concern with having a portion of the levee on his property, the alignment was shifted south to avoid his property. We are currently awaiting approval from the "new" landowner to the south for the revised alignment.

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

The contractor has begun processing material in the stockpile area along triangular pit.

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

The weir gates were all successfully tested in the presence of GIS and SLLD.

All of the final punch list items have been completed.

**Recommendation of Final Acceptance**

**Moved by Gavin Callais, seconded by Brett DeRoche and unanimously accepted, the board authorized Final Acceptance for the Breton Canal Weir project.**

**Balancing Change Order No. 2 in the amount of (\$31,367.93)**

**Moved by Scott Theriot, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board approved Balancing Change Order No. 2 in the amount of (\$31,367.93).**

**Pay Application No. 7 in the amount of \$57,881.61 (retainage) to Garden Environments**

**Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Brett DeRoche and unanimously accepted, the board authorized Pay Application No. 7 to Garden Environments in the amount of \$57,881.61.**

- **D-South Floodwall at Crawfish Farms, Phase III Improvements – GIS# 39130-1485**

Construction is complete. The contractor has requested substantial completion on Monday, April 7, 2025.

**Balancing Change Order No. 3 in the amount of \$44,170.00**

**Moved by Brian Marts, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board approved Balancing Change Order No. 3 in the amount of \$44,170.00.**

**Pay Application No. 4 in the amount of \$276,811.00 is presented for board approval.**

**Moved by Gavin Callais, seconded by Scott Theriot and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 4 to Sealevel Construction in the amount of \$276,811.00.**

**Recommendation for Substantial Completion**

**Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board authorized Substantial Completion for the project, contingent on concrete breakers.**

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

Engineer Neil Angelette reported the following:

- **C-South Floodside Repairs**

The contractor, Compeaux & Sons Construction, LLC is continuing work on the berms, side slopes and crown of this section. We are recommending approval of Invoice #1383 in the amount of \$148,680.00.

**Moved by Gavin Callais, seconded by Scott Theriot and unanimously accepted, the board approved Invoice No. 1383 in the amount of \$148,680.00.**

- **B-North Levee Maintenance**

NEWGEM Construction, LLC, is working on the protected side berm for this levee section. We are recommending approval of Invoice #1049 in the amount of \$76,582.50 for this work.

**Moved by Brian Marts, seconded by Brett DeRoche and unanimously accepted, the board approved Invoice No. 1049 in the amount of \$76,582.50.**

Compeaux & Sons Construction, LLC is also working on this levee segment for flood side maintenance work. We are recommending approval of Invoice #1390 in the amount of \$16,867.50.

**Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Brett DeRoche and unanimously accepted, the board approved Invoice No. 1390 in the amount of \$16,867.50.**

**MORGANZA TO THE GULF**

**DELTA COAST CONSULTANTS**

Program Manager Report (Kyle Pierce)

- Reach L Pipeline Structure and Bridge will be awarded to Sealevel Construction.
- Terrebonne Levee has agreed to low-rate the bridge at Dufrene's Farm crossing the canal. TLCD has agreed to handle the cost.

Mr. Matherne gave an update on the water level monitoring project that Delta Coast was overseeing for the levee district.

**ALL SOUTH CONSULTING ENGINEERS**

Engineer Report (Stevie Smith)

- **Reach K Terraces Repairs**

Reimbursement requests submitted to GOSHEP and FEMA. There were a couple of cost reasonableness questions regarding equipment that have been resolved. Reimbursement request in process.

- **Reach K Levee-Center**

Reach K levee – No activity. Funding for next phase is part of CPRA annual plan for next year. Expect funding after legislative session.

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

Chairman Mitch Danos announced that no permit requests were received for review.

**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 Brian Marts, seconded by Brett DeRoche, and unanimously carried, the board approved the payment of the invoices as presented.**

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

Chairman Gavin Callais reported that the Personnel Committee met earlier to discuss the following:

**Revisions & Additions to Personnel Policies & Procedures Manual**

- Employee physicals added as a condition of hiring
- Agency provided smartphone options
- Uniform purchase limitations
- Wording for executive director car allowance

Mr. Matherne explained each item and recommended they be incorporated into the manual as presented.

**Moved by McNeely Rome and seconded by Brett DeRoche, the board unanimously approved the revisions to the Personnel Policies & Procedures Manual as presented.**

- Employee salary adjustments

Mr. Matherne explained that it was discussed at the Executive Committee meeting some employees who had moved up in their job positions but had not been compensated for the added duties. In addition, he also recommended offering a one-time pay adjustment to all hourly employees who met the requirements for permanent status.

**Moved by McNeely Rome and seconded by Scott Theriot, the board unanimously approved pay increases for all permanent non-exempt employees as prepared by the executive director and reviewed by the Personnel Committee.**

**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 Scott Theriot and seconded by Brett DeRoche.**

/s/Keith Guidry, President

/s/Nicholas Matherne, Executive Director