

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDING  
OF  
SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT  
APRIL 10, 2023**

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, April 10, 2023, 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  
Mitch Danos  
Brett DeRoche  
Roland Guidry  
Brian Marts  
Mc Neely Rome  
Monty Vegas

Board members absent: None

Also present were: General Manager Nicholas Matherne, Executive Secretary 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; LPC Daniel Lorraine; Daisy Camardelle, Jimmy Badeaux, and news media.

**READING OF THE MINUTES**

**The minutes of the March 13, 2022, Regular Meeting were approved unanimously upon a motion by McNeely Rome and seconded by Monty Vegas.**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2023.03 FOR THE MILLAGE RATES FOR THE YEAR 2023**

President Guidry read the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO.: 03-2023

MOTION: Monty Vegas

SECOND: J. McNeely Rome

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following millage(s) are hereby levied on the 2023 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 2023, 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: 9  
NAYS: 0  
ABSTAINED: 0  
ABSENT: 0

**ALBL WORKSHOP**

President Guidry reminded the board of the upcoming ALBL Workshop that would take place on April 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>.

**TIER 2.1 FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES DUE MAY 15TH**

President Guidry reminded the commissioners to review the prepared Tier 2.1 Financial Disclosures that had been provided to them. He directed the commissioners to make any necessary changes, sign and return the form to office staff.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING FROM APRIL 3, 2023**

Chairman Ronald Callais gave an update on discussions that took place during the April 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting as follows:

- Finances were discussed and millage rates for 2023 were reviewed.
- A letter addressed to Congressman Garret Graves was mailed in support of the Coastal Center at NSU.
- Resolution 2023.04 would allow the South Lafourche Levee District to join a lawsuit against FEMA regarding Risk Rating 2.0.
- An addendum to the Allain Canal Agreement was prepared and sent to the Allain-LeBreton attorney for review.
- Discussion on signing and spending authority for General Manager Nic Matherne.
- A quote on water level equipment that would allow connection to Terrebonne Levee's website was reviewed and discussed.

Mr. Callais announced that the foregoing discussions would be brought to the board for consideration later during the regular meeting.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

**SIPHON AT BRETON CANAL**

Mr. Jimmy Badeaux spoke to the board on the need to reconsider the possibility of installing a weir at Breton Canal instead of the planned siphon. Mr. Badeaux addressed his concerns. A short discussion pursued. Engineer John Plaisance was asked to provide a report on the pros and cons of the siphon versus weir project and submit it to the board.

**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

**SLIDE PRESENTATION**

General Manager Nicholas Matherne began his presentation with two satellite shots of the northern half of the levee system. The first slide showed the land and water definitions before Hurricane Ida, and the second showed the destruction of the same area Post-Ida.

Mr. Matherne showed slides from around the system including the LA 1 Elevated Hwy where it crossed the levee at Section A-West, A-West levees, B-South levee, marsh and terraces, B-North levee and marsh, C-South, Reach L (Morganza levee) and C-North levee progress, and D-North and South on the east side of the system. Mr. Matherne gave a detailed account of each project.

**LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR NSU'S COASTAL CENTER**

Mr. Matherne presented to the board a letter of support that had been sent to Congressman Garret Graves regarding the Coastal Center at Nicholls State University.

**AUTHORIZE NICHOLAS MATHERNE TO SIGN LEGAL AND OTHER DOCUMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD**

Mr. Matherne announced that as general manager, he would need signing and spending privileges. He requested the board authorize his signing of any and all documents involving the levee district, its projects, banking and finance, and to have spending rights as authorized at the January 14, 2019 regular meeting allowing the general manager to spend up to \$25,000 without prior board approval.

**Moved by McNeely Rome and seconded by Roland Guidry, the board unanimously authorized General Manager Nicholas Matherne to sign any and all documents necessary for the production and progress of the South Lafourche Levee District, including, but not limited to legal, banking and finance, personnel and levee projects. In addition, the board authorized Mr. Matherne, as General Manager, to spend the 2019 approved amount up to \$25,000 without prior board approval, for levee district purchases.**

**ADDENDUM TO ALLAIN-LEBRETON CANAL AGREEMENT**

Mr. Curole presented an addendum to the 1991 Allain Right of Way Agreement. He explained that there was some concern over the coverage of the original agreement. Attorney Ryan Collins spoke with the Allain's attorney and had prepared an addendum that would allow our work to continue. Mr. Curole recommended the board authorize the signing of the addendum once it was approved and returned by the Allain-LeBreton attorney.

**Moved by Ronald Callais and seconded by Roland Curole, the board unanimously agreed to accept the Addendum to the 1991 Allain-LeBreton agreement upon its return and acceptance by the Allain attorney. The board further authorized the board president, general manager or executive secretary to sign the addendum upon its acceptance by all parties.**

**LAPTOP WITH DOCKING STATION FOR GENERAL MANAGER NICHOLAS MATHERNE**

Mr. Matherne informed the board that a laptop with docking station and monitors had been purchased for his levee district use. The cost for all equipment was around \$2,486.00.

**LAWSUIT AGAINST FEMA REGARDING RISK RATING 2.0**

Mr. Matherne informed the board that the Association of Levee Boards was joining a lawsuit with the Attorney General's office against FEMA regarding Risk Rating 2.0 and had encouraged each levee district to join. He presented Resolution 2023.04 that would allow the South Lafourche Levee District to join the lawsuit. In addition, Mr. Matherne presented a Declaration that the levee district was currently working on and requested the board accept both as presented.

**Moved by Monty Vegas and seconded by McNeely Rome, the board accepted Resolution 2023.04 to allow the South Lafourche Levee District to join ALBL and the State's Attorney General's office in a lawsuit against FEMA regarding Risk Rating 2.0. In addition, the board accepted and authorized the Declaration with modifications as necessary.**

**WASHINGTON, DC TRIP ON REVENUE SHARING**

Mr. Curole stated that he had attended a meeting in Washington, DC regarding offshore oil revenue sharing. He reminded the board of the letters sent to Gov. Kathleen Blanco and the lawsuit that pursued to obtain Louisiana's share of the revenues. He further explained that we were only able to get a portion of the cost-share, and that share came with a cap. The bill being introduced now would increase the cost-share and remove the cap. In addition, revenue sharing related to wind energy production is now included in the bill.

**QUOTE ON WATER LEVEL EQUIPMENT AT LAROSE FLOODGATE**

Mr. Curole described the water monitoring devices at our pump stations and lock. He explained that a coordinated system would be beneficial and that we were contemplating using the same equipment that the Terrebonne Levee District was now using. Mr. Curole stated that with no objection from the board, the levee district would continue to work with contractors and technicians to obtain a coordinated system that would allow monitoring of all water levels accessible in one location. There were no objections from the board.

**MS VALLEY FLOOD CONTROL ASSOCIATION 2023-2024 DUES, \$1,030.00**

Mr. Matherne presented the annual dues for the MS Valley Flood Control Association in the amount of \$1,030.00 and recommended the board accept them.

Moved by Ronald Callais and seconded by McNeely Rome, the board unanimously authorized the payment for 2023-2024 annual dues in the amount of \$1,030 to the MS Valley Flood Control Association.

### **ENGINEERING REPORT**

#### **OFFICE OF COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION**

Mr. Daniel Dearmond was not in attendance. Mr. Matherne stated that an amendment was being forwarded to Chip Kline to add \$700,000 to the contract. This was in addition to the \$1M already in place for Section F.

#### **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 complete. They have been submitted to US Army Corps of Engineers and CPRA for approval.
- **Section E-North Levee Improvements Southeast Corner to Northeast Corner**  
We have completed the plans and specifications. We have LA CPRA approval. We have begun geotechnical work. We began advertising for bids on March 13, 2023 and will accept bids on April 11, 2023. The proposed elevation of the top of the levee is +14.00.
- **Hurricane Ida Storm Damage Repairs to Pump Stations and Floodgates**  
Grand Isle Shipyard, LLC is the Contractor. The contractor is complete with all the structural metal work for the project. They are currently working on electrical component replacement on the pump stations and the floodgates.

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 5 in the amount of \$47,707.53.

**Moved by Ronald Callais, seconded by Brian Marts and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 5 in the amount of \$47,707.53.**

The contractor has submitted Change Order No. 3 at Pump Station No. 1 in the amount of \$2,504.20. This change order will cover the installation of a breaker and wiring on the crane.

**Moved by Roland Curole, seconded by Monty Vegas and unanimously accepted, the board approved Change Order No. 3 in the amount of \$2,504.20 to install a breaker and wiring on the crane at Pump Station No. 1.**

- **Hurricane Ida Storm Damage Repairs to Main Office**  
Grand Isle Shipyard, LLC is the Contractor. They are roughing in the electrical and air conditioning ductwork and working on exterior Hardie Siding, doors and windows.

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 4 in the amount of \$24,069.37.

**Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Mitch Danos and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 4 in the amount of \$24,069.37.**

- **Hurricane Ida Storm Damage Repairs to Mechanic Shop**  
Frisco Industrial Contractors, LLC is the Contractor. All of the work has been completed and the Lien period is complete.

The contractor has submitted the Request for Retainage in the amount of \$26,840.00.

**Moved by Monty Vegas, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board approved the Retainage Request in the amount of \$26,840.00.**

- **Section D-North Levee Phase 1:**

Outer Limit Contractors, LLC is the Contractor. All of the work is complete and the Lien Period is complete.

The contractor has submitted the Request for Retainage in the amount of \$24,797.20.

**Moved by Mitch Danos, seconded by Ronald Callais and unanimously accepted, the board approved payment of Retainage in the amount of \$24,797.20.**

- **Section D-North Levee Phase 2:**

We accepted bids on March 29<sup>th</sup> and Outer Limit Contractors, LLC was the low bidder in the amount of \$187,200.00. We recommend award.

**Moved by Ronald Callais, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board agreed to award the contract to Outer Limit in the amount of \$187,200.00.**

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

Circle, LLC is the contractor. We held a pre-construction meeting and the Notice to Proceed was issued for May 8, 2023.

- **Section D-South and A-East Levee Repairs:**

Compeaux & Sons Construction, LLC is the Contractor. They are repairing levee washouts near the LOOP Floodwall and GM Lock.

The contractor has submitted Invoice No. 1126 in the amount of \$12,965.00.

**Moved by Roland Guidry, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously accepted, the board approved Invoice No. 1126 in the amount of \$12,965.00.**

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

Engineer John Plaisance reported the following:

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

USACE issued the permit of 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 developed servitude requirements for the project have been completed. We can begin advertising for bids once the permitting and land issues are resolved.

GIS has surveyed the adjacent Chevron pipeline to allow Chevron to prepare a Letter of No Objection.

Estimated Advertise Date: Q4 2023

Estimated Completion Date: TBD

Proposed Elevation: +3'

- **D-North Ramp – GIS #39130-1248/1250**

Contractor: LA Contracting Enterprise LLC

Contract Amount: \$692,710.00

Notice to Proceed: February 13, 2023

Estimated Completion Date: June 17, 2023

Proposed Elevation" +16'

Contractor began processing stockpiled material from the borrow area.

The temporary bypass road has begun being constructed.

Material placing has begun on northwest levee section.

Change Order No. 1 to add six (6) days to contract time.

**Moved by Monty Vegas and seconded by McNeely Rome, the board unanimously accepted Change Order No. 1 to add six (6) additional days to the contract time.**

Pay Application No. 1 in the amount of \$37,002.50

**Moved by Brett DeRoche and seconded by Brian Marts, the board unanimously approved Pay Application No. 1 in the amount of \$37,002.50.**

Pay Application No. 2 in the amount of \$28,357.50

**Moved by Ronald Callais and seconded by Roland Curole, the board unanimously approved Pay Application No. 2 in the amount of \$28,357.50.**

- **Reconnection of Breton Canal to Bayou Lafourche – GIS# 39130-1329**  
SLLD and the Allain-LeBreton Company are coordinating the rights-of-way requirements. GIS is coordinating with SLLD Staff to perform the site improvements (clearing & grubbing and excavation) on the project.  
Estimated Completed Date: June 2023
- **Professional Services**  
Amendment No. 2 for additional General Engineering services in the amount of \$145,730.95.  
**Moved by Mitch Danos and seconded by Brett DeRoche, the board unanimously approved Amendment No. 2 in the amount of \$145,730.95 for additional general engineering services.**
- **Grand Bayou Flood Control Structure**  
Amendment No. 10 – FEMA Clauses (no cost)  
**Moved by Monty Vegas and seconded by McNeely Rome, the board unanimously approved Amendment No. 10 to add FEMA Clauses to the Grand Bayou Flood Control contract at no additional cost.**
- **D-South Crawfish Farm**  
Amendment No. 12 – FEMA Clauses (no cost)  
**Moved by Roland Curole and seconded by Brian Marts, the board unanimously approved Amendment No. 12 to add FEMA Clauses to the D-South Crawfish Farm contract at no additional cost.**

**LEVEE 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 this project to raise the levee to +18' from Pump Station No. 2 to Apache Farm. We estimate this project will be complete in about 2 months.
- **C-North Levee Improvements**  
The contractor, Compeaux & Sons Construction, LLC is continuing work on the project to shape the levee to +13.5'. We are recommending approval of invoice #1127 in the amount of \$124,540.00. This project will be complete in about 2 months.  
  
**Moved by Monty Vegas, seconded by Roland Guidry and unanimously accepted, the board approved Invoice No. 1127 in the amount of \$124,540.00.**
- **C-South Floodside Repairs**  
The clearing portion of this project is complete, and we are finalizing our recommendations on the fill phase of the repairs.
- **Yankee Canal & Section A-East Erosion Repairs**  
The contractor, Grand Isle Shipyard, LLC, has started construction on this project to add rip-rap to the tow of the Yankee Canal Levee. We estimate this project will be complete in approximately 2 months.
- **Larose Floodwall Vessel Impact Barrier**  
We have received the permits for this project, and we have submitted the plans and specification for final review and approval by CPRA. We are waiting on final approval from CPRA to begin advertising.
- **Section F Berm Improvements**  
We have submitted the plans and specification for final review and approval by the CPRA, and we are waiting on final approval from CPRA to begin advertising.

- **Siphon Screen at the Yankee Canal**

The contractor, Compeaux & Sons Construction, LLC has completed construction on this project. We are recommending approval of Invoice #1128 in the amount of \$13,899.99.

**Moved by Mitch Danos, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously accepted, the board approved Invoice No. 1128 in the amount of \$13,899.99.**

**MORGANZA TO THE GULF**

**DELTA COAST CONSULTANTS**

Program Manager Report - No one was in attendance.

**ALL SOUTH CONSULTING ENGINEERS**

Engineer Report – Mr. Matherne stated that he spoke with Stevie Smith earlier and had no update on the terraces. Mr. Windell Curole added that FEMA funding would be covering the cost to build the terraces near Point Aux Chene.

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

Chairman Mitch Danos announced that three permit requests were received for review, and that none interfered with the levee.

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

**1. CHERAMIE, LOUIS**

**CUP NO:** P20221100

**LOCATION:** Lafourche Parish, LA; LAT 29° 10' 7"N / Long -90° 9' 9"W; Section 32 T22 R23; Golden Meadow. 70357

**DESCRIPTION:** Proposed Cell #2 for a continuing project that intends to provide an economical disposal site for clean unused material (clean cement) used in the oil production process. The material will be placed in an abandoned sand mining pit that is currently filled with water. The cement will be spread out on the ground allowed to set up then broken up to be used as riprap to build retainer levee to El. +4.0. The riprap will also be used to fill the contained area to an El. -3.0 then capped with fill to an El +1.0 to reestablish the marsh. Once the retainer levees are no longer needed they will be degraded to an El. -3.0 covered with fill to an El. +1.0 to reestablish marsh. Previous Cell #1 permitted under P20160643. Approx. 5ac will be impacted.

**2. LAFOURCHE PARISH GOVERNMENT**

**CUP NO:** P20230193

**LOCATION:** Lafourche Parish, LA; LAT 29-24-38.99 N / Long 90-08-56.09 W; Section 20 T 19S R23E; Section 21 T19S R23E; Galliano 70354

**DESCRIPTION:** Coastal restoration project consisting of the creation of earthen marsh terraces near Galliano, Louisiana in Lafourche Parish. This is a continuation of work initiated under P20120215 amended, expires, and continued under P20200204. This new project area was previously fragmented marsh which was converted to open water as a result of impacts from Hurricane Ida. Approx. 631368 cy of material will be excavated and placed onsite. Approx. 204.04 ac of unvegetated water bottoms may be impacted by the proposed activity.

**3. COLUMBIA GULF TRANSMISSION LLC**

**CUP NO:** P20221099

**LOCATION:** Lafourche Parish, LA; LAT 29-19-41.40 n / Long -90-14-29.77 W; Section 28 T20S R 22E, Golden Meadow

**DESCRIPTION:** The proposed project will involve the installation of a new buried anode bed within the Louisiana Coastal Zone in Lafourche Parish, Louisiana The Anode bed will be installed on Columbia Gulf's existing EL-300 pipeline and within previously developed land. No wetlands or waterbodies will be impacted by the project. The workspace consists of a small area adjacent to public highway LA-1 totaling 0.30 acre. Columbia Gulf will excavate the area, install the anode bed along the existing pipeline, backfill using the excavated material, and return all disturbed areas to pre-construction contours. As the project will be constructed entirely within upland area and he sire will be restored to pre-construction contours, it is Columbia Gulf's opinion that this project will be required a Coastal Use Permit.

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

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**MOBILE EQUIPMENT OPERATOR 1 CANDIDATE**

Commissioner Monty Vegas announced that the Personnel Committee had reviewed applicants for the Mobile Equipment Operator 1 position and that one had been selected. That applicant was now going through the pre-employment screening process and would be hired upon a successful outcome.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Curole stated that General Manager Nic Matherne possessed exceptional computer skills and would be able to send important information to the public quickly.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**With no further business to discuss, the board unanimously adjourned the meeting on a motion of Ronald Callais and seconded by Brett DeRoche.**

/s/Keith Guidry, President

/s/Nicholas P. Matherne, General Manager