

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDING  
OF  
SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT  
MAY 8, 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, May 8, 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 Brian Marts 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  
Brian Marts  
McNeely Rome  
Monty Vegas

Board members absent: Roland Guidry

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  
Stevie Smith  
CPRA Daniel Dearmond  
Attorney General's Office Doug Cheramie  
News media

**READING OF THE MINUTES**

The minutes of the April 10, 2023, Regular Meeting were approved unanimously upon a motion by McNeely Rome and seconded by Roland Curole.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**ALBL WORKSHOP UPDATE**

President Guidry gave a brief update on the ALBL Workshop that was attended by board and staff the previous week. He requested everyone keep Mr. Roland Guidry in their prayers as he was not able to attend recent meetings due to illness.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF MAY 1, 2023**

Chairman Ronald Callais gave an update on discussions that took place during the May 1st meeting as follows:

- The previous month's finances were reviewed. Surplus vehicles and the possible purchase of new vehicles were discussed for the coming two years.
- An update on the Reconnection of Breton Canal to Bayou Lafourche was given by General Manager Nic Matherne. A report would be prepared by GIS and available by the end of

the month. The report would analyze not only a weir and a siphon, but also a concept combining the elements of a weir and siphon, in order to address problems inherent in each approach.

- Drainage District No. 1 approached Mr. Nic Matherne and stated that there may be surplus funds available for drainage-related projects to be undertaken by the Levee District. Mr. Matherne reported to the Committee that the Levee District attorney was looking into any necessary agreements related to the potential funding source.
- The E-North Levee Improvements project received bids and the low bidder would be recommended for award at the May 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the board.
- A change order would be forthcoming for LA Contracting to grout a derelict culvert running under the road at the D-North Ramp project site.
- The Yankee Canal levee was in need of repair. Mr. Matherne received three quotes for those repairs.
- Mr. Matherne met with Parish President Archie Chaisson and Port Commission Director Chett Chiasson regarding funding of the Larose “Ted Gisclair” Lock project.

#### AUDIENCE COMMENTS

There were no comments from the audience.

#### GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT

##### **SLIDE PRESENTATION**

General Manager Nicholas Matherne showed the location of a water leak that had occurred at Pump Station No. 7 at the end of Delta Farm Road. He explained that water was leaking on the outside of our system where the water company had worked raising the line. He explained that the leak was inside the meter and had caused no damage to our levee. Mr. Matherne updated the board on the floodgate that would be built along the ICWW in Larose as part of the Morganza project. Updates will be forthcoming as to the location and dates of construction.

Mr. Matherne showed aerial slides of the ongoing work with the LA 1 Elevated Highway where it would cross our levee system in Golden Meadow and explained the progress being made.

##### **RESTORE OR RETREAT DUES FOR 2023 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500.00**

Mr. Matherne announced that Restore or Retreat had sent an invoice for 2023 membership dues in the amount of \$500.00, and recommended the board approve that payment.

**Moved by Mitch Danos and seconded by Ronald Callais, the board unanimously approved payment for Restore or Retreat membership dues for 2023 in the amount of \$500.00.**

##### **D-NORTH RAMP – CULVERT GROUTING**

Mr. Matherne shared slides showing the grouting of culverts at the D-North Ramp. He explained that the culverts belong to LOOP and were approximately 30 years old. The decision to grout instead of replacing the culverts was made. GIS will provide a change order for this work at the June meeting.

##### **YANKEE CANAL EROSION REPAIRS**

Mr. Matherne showed a map indicating the area where rocks were being placed from the Yankee Canal south along A-East to the lock location. As reported earlier during the Executive Meeting report, Mr. Matherne stated that the Yankee Canal levee would be chopped and reshaped at the low quote price of just over \$11,000.

##### **LAROSE “TED GISCLAIR” LOCK FUNDING**

Mr. Matherne stated that he had met with Parish President Archie Chaisson and Port Director Chett Chiasson last Monday to discuss funding needs for the Larose Lock that would be constructed. He informed the board that SLLD had budgeted \$5M of our own funding for the lock. In addition, CPRA approved \$5M from State Surplus funding, and the parish was hoping to commit \$15M through FEMA mitigation funds which would give a total of \$25M for the lock structure. Port Director Chett Chiasson stated that if the lock cost exceeded \$25M, he would discuss with his board the possibility of covering any remaining costs to complete the lock.

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

Mr. Matherne stated that the Corps would come down on May 17<sup>th</sup> to discuss the status of the Larose to Golden Meadow Protection System. He stated that his plan was to take them to key sites and discuss the 408-permitting process.

**SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATES**

Mr. Matherne announced that he had updated the Facebook address for the levee district so now anyone could search it by entering South Lafourche Levee District. Mr. Matherne stated that progress updates were being published on Facebook with photos so the public could see what's happening around the system. He also stated that graphics were now being used to show the public when the lock and floodgate was open, closed or on scheduled openings.

**ALBL WORKSHOP**

Mr. Matherne mentioned that there were presentations at the ALBL Workshop on Renewable Energy Revenue Sharing, the Breeze Act and the Shore's Act. There was also a helpful and informative presentation on Risk Rating 2.0. The filing date for the lawsuit was postponed to June 1<sup>st</sup> which would give more parishes and levee districts time to join the lawsuit, and to allow more people to submit declarations stating how the drastic increased cost of flood insurance was affecting their homes and businesses. Mr. Matherne requested a flow chart from the Attorney General's office to help follow the steps as they go along. Required Sexual Harassment Prevention and Governmental Ethics trainings were also provided at the workshop. Mr. Windell Curole was also presented an Honorary Lifetime Membership to ALBL.

**CPRA PROJECT STATUS UPDATE AND SITE VISIT**

Mr. Matherne announced that James McMenis, our former project manager at CPRA, was taking on a more supervisory role, and the new project manager was Tye Fitzgerald who would be taking over our projects that receive funding through CPRA. Mr. McMenis, Mr. Fitzgerald and Mr. Daniel Dearmond came down the week prior and met with Mr. Matherne. They took Mr. Fitzgerald out on the levee system showed him the various projects that would fall under his management for funding through CPRA.

**CONGRESSIONAL STAFF VISIT AND BRIEFING**

Mr. Matherne announced that State Representative Joe Orgeron played host to a number of congressional delegates including staffers from Congressman Joe Courtney's office in Connecticut, Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia of Houston area in Texas, Congressman David Rouzer of North Carolina, Congressman Mike Ezel from just north of Hattiesburg, Mississippi to the Gulf. We also had several staffers from various committees and subcommittees, and representatives from Congressman Clay Higgins' and Congressmen Garret Graves' offices. They toured our area by boat through Bayou Lafourche, then on down to Caminada Headland Restoration project. After that, Mr. Davie Breaux of the Greater Lafourche Port Commission took them on a tour of the Port facilities. Mr. Matherne stated that they were able to see our system and to hear our frustrations and challenges with Risk Rating 2.0.

**ENGINEERING REPORT**

**OFFICE OF COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION**

Mr. Daniel Dearmond updated the board on Section E-North, BA-0231 Amendment No. 4 which was hand delivered and signed the week before. The Section F Berm agreement, BA-0250, was also signed.

**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 accepted bids on April 11<sup>th</sup> and Construction Site Specialties, LLC was the low bidder in the amount of \$3,989,321.00 for the base bid and

alternates 1 and 2. We recommend award. The proposed elevation of the top of the levee is +14.00.

**Moved by Monty Vegas, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously accepted the low bidder, Construction Site Specialties, LLC in the amount of \$3,989,321.00, and authorized the board president or general manager to sign any agreements and/or documents necessary to proceed with the project.**

- **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. 6 in the amount of \$45,363.92.

**Moved by Ronald Callais, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 6 in the amount of \$45,363.92.**

- **Hurricane Ida Storm Damage Repairs to Main Office**

Grand Isle Shipyard, LLC is the Contractor. They are working on interior sheetrock.

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 5 in the amount of \$133,211.25.

**Moved by Brian Marts, seconded by Brett DeRoche and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 5 in the amount of \$133,211.25.**

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

Outer Limit Contractors, LLC is the Contractor. We held a pre-construction meeting and the Notice to Proceed was issued for May 8, 2023. The proposed elevation of the top of the levee is +16.00.

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

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

- **Section D-South and A-East Levee Repair**

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

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 1131 in the amount of \$8,645.00.

**Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Mitch Danos and unanimously accepted, the board approved Invoice 1131 in the amount of \$8,645.00.**

## **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 surveyed the adjacent Chevron pipeline to allow Chevron to prepare a Letter of No Objection.

GIS developed servitude requirements for the project resent the proposed maps 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.

Estimated Advertise Date: Q4 2023

Estimated Completion Date: TBD

Proposed Elevation: +3'

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

Contractor: LA Contracting Enterprise, LLC

Contract Amount: \$692,710.00

Notice to Proceed: February 13, 2023

Estimated Completion Date: June 18, 2023

Proposed Elevation: +16'

Contractor has completed the owner furnished stockpiled material.

Contractor continues to place material within the bypass road.

Contractor has begun hauling material from off site borrow pit to the project site.

Contractor continues placing material both the north and south side of the levee alignment.

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

SLLD and the Allain-LeBreton Company is coordinating the rights-of-way requirements.

GIS is coordinating with SLLD staff to perform the site improvements (clearing & grubbing and excavation) on the project.

GIS is preparing an update to the Study & Report comparing siphons, weirs, and other options.

Estimated Completion Date: June 2023

**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 1 to 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 #1136 in the amount of \$96,065.00. The project will be complete in about 1 to 2 months.

**Moved by Monty Vegas, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board approved Invoice No. 1136 in the amount of \$96,065.00.**

- **C-South Floodside Repairs**

The clearing portion of this project is complete, and we are finalizing our recommendations on the fill phase of the repair.

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

The contractor, Grand Isle Shipyard, LLC, is finalizing construction on this project to add rip-rap to the toe of the Yankee Canal Levee. We are recommending approval of Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$234,380.40 for additional work added to the project and for additional time of 126 days due to prior low water levels in the Mississippi River affecting material deliveries and for the additional work. We are also recommending approval of Pay Application No. 2 in the amount of \$1,419,106.23.

The contractor has submitted Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$234,380.40.

**Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Monty Vegas and unanimously accepted, the board approved Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$234,380.40.**

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 2 in the amount of \$1,419,106.23.

**Moved by Monty Vegas, seconded by Ronald Callais and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 2 in the amount of \$1,419,106.23.**

- **Larose Floodwall Vessel Impact Barrier**

We have received the permits for this project and final approval from CPRA. Advertising for this project will begin next week.

- **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.

**MORGANZA TO THE GULF**

**DELTA COAST CONSULTANTS**

Program Manager Report (Mitch Marmande) was not in attendance.

**ALL SOUTH CONSULTING ENGINEERS**

Engineer Report (Stevie Smith)

- **Golden Meadow Terraces**  
The parish applied for a grant to fund the Golden Meadow Terrace project. Unfortunately, that grant was not approved. The parish will review other options, including reapplying for the grant, but as of today, there is no funding for this project.
- **Reach K Terrace Repairs**  
These terraces were built for mitigation as part of the Reach K & L project. Some of these terraces were damaged in Hurricane Barry. A PW has been written through FEMA for close to \$1M for the repairs of the terraces. In working with Terrebonne Levee, the suggestion was made to move the terraces to the opposite side closer to the Bayou Point-Aux-Chene ridge which has better materials and better area to build on. To do this, we had to make a request to FEMA and as of last week, that request has not been approved.
- **Hurricane Ida Response**  
The state made available funding to pay for local cost-share response. The money that was expended in clearing out Grand Bayou and the laydown area was close to \$2.5 million. We are close to getting that money obligated by FEMA and should see payment at 90%. The 10% not covered could be reimbursed by the new state funding.

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

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

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

1. **CPRA**  
**CUP NO:** P20230206  
**LOCATION:** Lafourche Parish, LA; Lat 29-4-1.823N, Long -90-19-20.08W: Port Fourchon, 70357  
**DESCRIPTION:** Proposed Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) TE-118 East Timbailer Island Restoration/TE-176 West Belle Headland Repair Project. Proposal includes restoring East Timbailer Island and West Belle Headland through beach and dune fill placement utilizing offshore and resources, as well as, constructing back-barrier marsh using mixed sediment from nearshore sources. Approx. 38242882 cy of native material will be excavated and placed onsite.
2. **PERDIDO ENERGY LOUISIANA LLC**  
**CUP NO:** P20221090  
**LOCATION:** Lafourche Parish, LA; Lat 29-19-26.80"N / Long -90-14-18.70"W; Section 28 T20S R21E  
**DESCRIPTION:** Proposed propwashing & structures for drilling the Allan Land Co. #2 Well. Approx. 1.3 acres of open water habitat may be impacted.
3. **PERDIDO ENERGY LOUISIANA LLC**  
**CUP NO:** P20230248  
**LOCATION:** Lafourche Parish, LA; POB: Lat 29 15' 02.21"N, Long 90 11' 39.05" W, POE: Lat 29 15' 19.02"N, Long 90 11' 26.78"W; Section 24 T21S R22E; Lake Jesse, Approx. one mile northeast of Leeville, LA

**DESCRIPTION:** Proposed bucket dredging and installation of structures for drilling the CNO 11 Prospect. Approx. 34,218 c. y. of material will be excavated and placed on site in beneficial use project.

**4. CHEVRON ENVIROMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY**

**CUP NO:** P20230162

**LOCATION:** Lafourche Parish, LA; Lat 29-01-59.18N, Long -90-21-19.91W (see plats for additional project coordinates); Gulf of Mexico.

**DESCRIPTION:** Proposed removal of +/- 21,615 ft. (24 in) pipeline and 32,080ft. (16in) pipelines(s) that were previously abandoned in place. Approx. 989 cy of native material will be excavated and placed on site during pipeline removal activities. The proposed activity may result in impacts on non-vegetated waterbottoms.

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

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

President Guidry thanked Mr. Doug Cheramie for representing Attorney Jeff Landry's office.

**With no further business to discuss, the board unanimously adjourned the meeting on a motion of Roland Curole and seconded by Monty Vegas.**

/S/Keith Guidry, President

/S/Nicholas P. Matherne, General Manager