

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDING
OF
SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT
NOVEMBER 14, 2023**

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, November 14, 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 November 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
Ronald Callais
Roland Curole
Mitch Danos
Brett DeRoche
Mc Neely Rome
Scott Theriot

Board members absent: Brian Marts
Monty Vegas

Also present were:

General Manager Nicholas Matherne	CPRA Daniel Dearmond
Executive Secretary Windell Curole	Rep. Joe Orgeron, District 54
Administrative Assistant 6 Mary Punch	Polly Glover, Restore or Retreat
Administrative Assistant 3 Amy Gisclair	Robert Theriot
Levee Board Operations Superintendent Drake Baudoin	News media
Attorney Ray Collins	
Engineering Personnel:	
Joe Picciola	
Neil Angelette	
John Plaisance	
Stevie Smith	

READING OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the October 9, 2023, Regular Meeting were approved unanimously upon a motion by Mitch Danos and seconded by Brett DeRoche.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

RECOGNITION AND APPRECIATION OF MR. KURT CROSBY

President Guidry stated that the presentation for Mr. Crosby would be postponed until the December meeting.

President Guidry presented packets that were prepared for board members who would be attending the ALBL Conference in December and asked each one to turn in their hotel tax exempt forms when checking in.

President Guidry commended the South Lafourche Levee District employees who went out early in the morning hours to repair a cable that had snapped on the Leon Theriot Lock. He added that the cable was repaired within six hours and he wanted to recognize the outstanding crew for their dedication to the job.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF November 13, 2023

Chairman Ronald Callais stated that the Executive Committee had met earlier that morning and reported on the following:

- Ongoing project status
- Leon Theriot Lock cable repair
- LMR Comp Study Workshops
- Vehicle purchases and auction sale
- ACH payment options for vendors
- Labor attorney response on benefits questions
- Pump Station repairs
- Larose Lock status
- Writ of Mandamus Hearing on D-North Ramp contract
- Debris removal pre-proposal conference
- CPRA Fall Community conversation
- Agreement with TLCD for Reach K & L Mitigation Terraces
- Section E-North IGA, Amendment #5
- Section E-North meeting with Scull Corporation

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Mr. Robert Theriot addressed the board. He stated that while he was not successful in his bid for assessor, he was grateful for the support received and would continue to work with the public.

Representative Joe Orgeron addressed the board. Rep. Orgeron stated that he had attended the CPRA meeting held in our area. Prior to that meeting, Rep. Orgeron had attended a cattlemen's meeting where North Lafourche and South Lafourche Levee Districts were discussed. The cattlemen expressed concerns over the low water levels inside the drainage canals because of the drought. Those canals are used by the NLLD and SLLD to control water levels in and around Bayou Lafourche. The cattlemen would like to see fresh water put back into the canals. Rep. Orgeron stated that they had a request to purchase five 18-inch pumps through GOHSEP that could draw fresh water back into the canals. A lengthy discussion pursued.

Rep. Orgeron stated that our Capital Outlay Request was received, and he would be working to help move that request forward. At the request of Executive Secretary Windell Curole, Rep. Orgeron said he reached out to Mr. Tony Cavell of LSU Geoinformatics in support of their proposed new standard for Louisiana to obtain more consistent readings and benchmarks on levee elevations versus compaction, versus subsidence. Mr. Cavell will present to the legislature for March through June session to offer a new standard for Louisiana going forward on surveying, techniques, equipment, and benchmarks.

Rep. Orgeron updated the board on the repairs to the Golden Meadow bridge. The contract has been awarded and they were waiting for DOTD's approval to start.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager Nic Matherne informed the board that he had met with one of the cattlemen the morning of the meeting. He stated that there was a misconception among the public that the levee district was going out of its way to help the cattlemen, but that was not the case. The water in the canals was there because of our controlling the water levels in Bayou Lafourche. Cattlemen, crawfish farms, etc. have a right to utilize the water that's on their property. Mr. Matherne stated that South Lafourche has a siphon that pulls water back into the canals, but North Lafourche doesn't. The cattlemen wanted NLLD to reverse their new pumps and use them as siphons to pull water into the canals. However, in doing this, it could void the warranty on those pumps.

Mr. Matherne drew attention to the new board desk that had been built by the carpentry students of the Career Magnet Center in Lockport. He commended the students from Thibodaux, Central and South Lafourche High Schools, along with Instructor Jason Felarise, for the beautiful work they did in building the desk. He added that the previous desk had been destroyed during Hurricane Ida.

LEON THERIOT LOCK CABLE REPAIR

General Manager Nic Matherne informed the board that around 3:30 a.m. on October 30th a wire that closes the NW gate snapped leaving the inside sector gate temporarily inoperable. SLLD personnel

responded immediately and without complaint by replacing the cable and identifying the problem. The gate was back in operation within six hours. Mr. Matherne thanked Superintendent Drake Baudoin for his quick action in calling out the employees who were best fitted for the job. Mr. Matherne asked that Mr. Baudoin convey the board's appreciation to the employees who worked to get the gate back in operation so efficiently and quickly.

Commissioner Mitch Danos suggested placing a light at the lock that would indicate to mariners that the lock was open or closed.

LOWER MISSISSIPPI RIVER COMPREHENSIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY

Mr. Matherne announced that the USACE-NO held two virtual meetings ahead of an all-day in-person workshop the previous Thursday on their Mega Study. Mr. Matherne explained the details of the study in depth. Public meetings would take place in the spring and updates will follow as to those dates.

AGREEMENT WITH TLCD FOR REACH K & L MITIGATION TERRACES

Mr. Matherne presented an agreement with Terrebonne Levee (TLCD) for payment of hurricane (Barry) repair work on Reaches K & L terraces. Because the project was within the SLLD's district, contractor invoices would be paid out of the SLLD office and reimbursed by TLCD. The invoices would be filed with FEMA. Once the 75% cost share was returned to SLLD, it would then be reimbursed to TLCD. Mr. Matherne stated that Attorney Ray Collins had offered minor revisions and asked the board to authorize he or President Guidry to enter into the agreement based on the attorney's recommended changes.

Moved by McNeely Rome and seconded by Ronald Callais, the board unanimously authorized the board president or general manager, contingent upon attorney recommendations, to enter into the agreement with Terrebonne Levee and Conservation District for Reach K & L Mitigation Terraces.

SECTION E-NORTH IGA AMENDMENT #5 (BA-0231)

Mr. Matherne announced that CPRA had identified additional funds that were reallocated to three of our projects. Additional funds would be added to Section E-North agreement (BA-0231), Amendment #5 to cover the remaining costs of the project. Mr. Ray Collins has reviewed the agreement, and there are a few changes, along with dollar amount revisions. Mr. Matherne requested the board authorize he or President Guidry to sign the amendment based on the attorney's recommended changes.

Moved by Scott Theriot and seconded by McNeely Rome, the board unanimously authorized the board president or general manager, contingent upon attorney recommendations, to execute Amendment No. 5 of the IGA BA-0231 to add additional funding for Section E-North Storm Surge Risk Reduction agreement.

SECTION F BERM IGA AMENDMENT #2 (BA-0250)

Mr. Matherne stated that \$1,578,530 from FY2022 State Surplus funds would be added to the \$1M already included in the IGA (BA-0250). Mr. Matherne stated that the amendment had been reviewed by the attorney with no recommended changes. He recommended the board authorize he or President Guidry to sign Amendment #2 as presented.

Moved by Brett DeRoche and seconded by Roland Curole, the board unanimously authorized the board president or general manager to execute Amendment No. 2 of the IGA BA-0250 to add an additional \$1,578,530 for a total of \$2,578,530 for Section F-Berm.

SECTION A-EAST LEVEE IMPROVEMENT IGA (BA-0273)

Mr. Matherne announced that Section A-East Levee Improvements IGA (BA-0273) would be a new agreement that would contract \$3.4M from GOMESA and \$3.6M in Surplus funds for a total of \$7M for this project. Mr. Matherne stated that the amendment had been reviewed by the attorney with a few recommended changes. He recommended the board authorize he or President Guidry to enter into the new IGA for Section A-East Levee Improvements funding, contingent upon attorney's recommendation.

Moved by Scott Theriot and seconded by McNeely Rome, the board unanimously authorized the board president or general manager, contingent upon attorney recommendations, to IGA BA-0273 to cover funding in the amount of \$7M for Section A-East Levee Improvements.

SURPLUS VEHICLES, AUCTIONS AND REPLACEMENTS

Mr. Matherne announced that the 2008 Ram 2500 was purchased in 2014 for \$8,300 and recently sold on auction for \$7,600. Two Ford F-250 pickups were recently ordered through State Contract and are estimated to arrive in 180 to 210 days. Mr. Matherne added that we would not auction the second surplus pickup until the new trucks arrive to avoid being out by one truck. He added that we would be placing the 1998 Humvee on auction next.

ADVERTISE TO REBID LT LOCK NORTH SECTION GATE MAINTENANCE

Mr. Matherne stated that the north sector gate maintenance had be put out to bid, but there were no bidders for that project. Mr. Matherne stated that two contractors had stated they would be interested in placing bids. He recommended the board authorize the engineers to advertise the re-bidding of that project.

Moved by McNeely Rome and seconded by Brett DeRoche, the board unanimously agreed to authorized Picciola and Associates advertise for re-bid the Ten-Year Maintenance of the LT Lock North Sector Gate.

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 19th. The contractor has been on-site excavating and moving dirt onto the levee section. There is no pay application this month.
- **Hurricane Ida Storm Damage Repairs to Pump Stations and Floodgates**
Grand Isle Shipyard, LLC is the Contractor. The project is complete, and the Lien Period is complete. There is no pay application this month.
- **Hurricane Ida Storm Damage Repairs to Main Office**
Grand Isle Shipyard, LLC is the Contractor. This project is complete, and the Lien Period is complete. There is no pay application this month.
- **Maintenance of North Sector Gates at Leon Theriot Lock**
Project Plan and Specifications are complete. The rebidding of this project was authorized earlier in the meeting.
- **A-East Interim Levee Improvements**
Project Plans and Specifications are complete. They have been submitted to CPRA for approval.

GIS ENGINEERING, LLC

Engineer John Plaisance reported the following:

- **A-East Bayou Water Retention – GIS# 39130-1251/1252**
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: Q1 2024
 Estimated Completion Date: TBD
 Proposed Elevation: +3'

- **D-North Ramp – GIS# 39130-1249/1250**
 Contractor: LA Contracting Enterprise, LLC
 Original Contract amount: \$692,710.00
 Notice to Proceed: February 13, 2023
 Termination Date: May 25, 2023
 Revised Pay Application No. 5 for retainage in the amount of 22,016.10 has been sent to SLLD for processing.
Moved by Mitch Danos, seconded by Ronald Callais and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 5 in the amount of \$22,016.10.

- **D-North Ramp Lift – GIS# 39130-1249/1457**
 Amendment No. 1 for the contract in the amount of \$170,080.00 has been submitted to SLLD for processing, The amendment includes fees associated with ramp lift scope. After a brief discussion, this item was postponed until the December meeting.
 Estimated Advertisement Date: November 2023 (Pending Landowner Negotiations)
 Estimated Completion Date: March 2024 (Pending Landowner Negotiations)
 Proposed Elevation: +16.0'

- **Reconnection of Breton Canal to Bayou Lafourche – GIS# 39130-1329**
 GIS is preparing Final Design plans and specs for the weir gate design.
 Estimated Submitted Date: November 30, 2023

- **D-South Floodwall at Crawfish Farms, Phase III Improvements – GIS# 39130-TBD**
 GIS is preparing Final Design calculations, plans and specifications for the levee tie-ins.
 Estimated Construction Cost: \$785,000

LEEVE IMPROVEMENTS – ANGELETTE-PICCIOLA, LLC

Engineer Neil Angelette reported the following:

- **C-South Levee Improvements**
 The contractor, Grand Isle Shipyard, LLC, has completed this project and we are waiting to receive the clear lien certificate to finalize this project.

- **C-North Levee Improvements**
 The contractor, Compeaux & Sons Construction, LLC is continuing to work on the project to shape the levee to +13.5'. We are recommending approval of Invoice #1193 in the amount of \$103,502.50.
Moved by Mitch Danos, seconded by Brett DeRoche and unanimously approved, the board authorized payment of Invoice #1193 in the amount of \$103,502.50 to Compeaux & Sons for C-North levee work.

- **C-South Flood Side Repairs**
 The contractor, Compeaux & Sons Construction, LLC is continuing work on the project to rebuild the flood side berm of the levee. We are recommending approval of Invoice #1196 in the amount of \$70,000.00.
Moved by Mitch Danos, seconded by Brett DeRoche and unanimously approved, the board authorized payment of Invoice #1196 in the amount of \$70,000.00 to Compeaux & Sons for C-South flood side repairs.

- **Larose Floodwall Vessel Impact Barrier**
 The pre-construction meeting was held with the contractor, Low Land Construction Co., Inc., and we are currently preparing the Notice to Proceed.

- **Section F Berm Improvements**
 The contractor, Sealevel Construction, Inc. had started work on the project to improve the protected side berm. We are recommending approval of Application for Payment No. 1 in the amount of \$20,472.50.
Moved by Roland Curole, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously approved, the board authorized payment of Pay Application No. 1 in the amount of \$20,472.50 to Sealevel Construction for Section F Berm Improvements.

MORGANZA TO THE GULF

DELTA COAST CONSULTANTS

Program Manager Mitch Marmande was not in attendance.

ALL SOUTH CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Engineer Report (Stevie Smith)

- **Golden Meadow Marsh Terraces**
This project is on hold pending available funding.

- **Reach K Marsh Mitigation Emergency Rehabilitation Phase II**
Terrebonne Levee will fund the project using SLLD as a pass-through for the funding as with previous Morganza projects. TLCD will start work with their crew within the next two weeks to repair the terraces.

- **Hurricane Ida Response**
We are working with Mr. Nic Matherne on the CBDG funding. We have also been working on getting FEMA funding for the levee system. A large pushback has been with the RIP program that pays for repairs to federal levees. The SLLD levee system was removed from that program, which should make SLLD eligible for FEMA funds. FEMA has said that since SLLD is not in the RIP program, it is not FEMA eligible. We continue to work with Mr. Matherne to resolve that issue.

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 McNeely Rome, seconded by Brett DeRoche and unanimously carried, the board approved Letters of No Objection for the following requests:

- 1. SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT**
CUP NO: P20200726
LOCATION: Lafourche Parish, LA; POB: Lat. 29-34-23"N, Long -90-22-58"W; POE: Lat. 29-34-54"N, Long -90-22-21"W (See plats for additional project coordinates); Cut Off, 70345.
DESCRIPTION: Proposal to install 510,393 linear feet of sheet piles along the South Lafourche Hurricane Protection Levee for erosion protection. No excavation or fill required.

- 2. GREATER LAFOURCHE PORT COMMISSION**
CUP NO: P20230694
LOCATION: Lafourche Parish, LA; Lat 2-09-10.09N, Long -90-11-10.26W; Section 35 T23S R22E; Lot# L-0881; 275 Flotation Canal Road Golden Meadow (Fourchon), 70357.
DESCRIPTION: Vinyl Sheet Pile Bulkhead 339 linear ft at the Fourchon Pavilion with backfill. 55 cy excavated, 1277.8 cy fill.

- 3. TERREBONNE LEVEE AND CONSERVATION DISTRICT**
CUP NO: P20230710
LOCATION: Lafourche Parish, LA; POB: Lat. 29-31-9.99n / Long. 90-23-25.14W; Section 21 T18S-R20E, Cut Off, LA
DESCRIPTION: After-the-fact restoration of the North-South Levee adjacent to the Reach L Levee of the Morganza to the Gulf Hurricane Protection System which was breached during Hurricane Ida and experienced scour damage. The project consists of creating a temporary emergency berm to an elevation of +2.0' NAVD88 to seal the breach and then the creation of a new permanent levee to an elevation of +5.0' NAVD88 around the breach limits in lieu of filling in the scoured section. Approximately 31,116 cubic yards of native material was excavated and placed on site during levee restoration activities.

- 4. LAFOURCHE PARISH GOVERNMENT**
CUP NO: P20230644
LOCATION: Lafourche Parish, LA; LAT 29-29-50.05, Long. -90-169-24.72, Bayou Lafourche, Little Lake and unnamed waterbodies to the east of Hwy 1, Galliano

DESCRIPTION: The purpose of this project is to obtain geotechnical information to inform the design of six proposed Lafourche Parish Government coastal restoration sites. Up to 6 borings will be performed to investigate and describe conditions. CPT will be used for borings A, B, C and H. Borings (0.26 cy) will be performed to a depth of 40' below the mudline and will be 4" in diameter. All borings will be backfilled with cement-bentonite grout (0.26 cy) per Louisiana statutory regulations.

BOARD ATTORNEY

Attorney Ray 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 Scott Theriot, 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 Brett DeRoche.

/s/Keith Guidry, President

/s/Nicholas Matherne, General Manager