# **OFFICIAL PROCEEDING**

OF

# SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT OCTOBER 10, 2022

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, October 10, 2022, 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 Brett DeRoche Roland Guidry Brian Marts Mc Neely Rome Monty Vegas

Board members absent: Mitch Danos

Also present were: Executive Secretary and General Manager Windell Curole; Administrative Assistant 6 Mary Punch; Administrative Assistant 3 Amy Gisclair; Levee Board Operations Superintendent Drake Baudoin; Engineering Personnel Joe Picciola, Neil Angelette, John Plaisance, and Jeremy Perkins, CPRA Daniel Dearmond; Candidates for Division A Judge Heather Hendrix and Rebecca Robichaux; and news media.

# **READING OF THE MINUTES**

The minutes of the September 12, 2022, Regular Meeting were approved unanimously upon a motion by Monty Vegas and seconded by McNeely Rome.

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

# ALBL 81<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL MEETING NOV 30-DEC 1, 2022

President Guidry reminded the board members of the upcoming ALBL Conference to be held in New Orleans.

# **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

# **MEETING OF OCTOBER 6, 2022**

Chairman Ronald Callais read the minutes of the meeting and further discussed the financials as follows:

- A-East Levee Improvements, \$3.4M
- Larose Lock, \$15M
- A-West Levee Elevation to 17-18 ft.
- Capital Outlay Request, \$12M
- CPRA Request, \$48M
- Costa of Living/Inflation

Mr. Callais stated that due growing inflation, the Committee had reviewed offering a Cost-of-Living Allowance to its employees. After discussing other options and careful consideration, the Committee recommended the board resume paying 100% of employee health premiums through the Office of Group Benefits. That action would be effective immediately.

Moved by McNeely Rome and seconded by Roland Curole, the board unanimously agreed to pay 100% of employee health benefits through the Office of Group Benefits effective immediately.

General Manager Windell Curole requested the board authorize himself and the board president to enter into any agreements that would lead toward the construction of the projects.

On a motion by Roland Guidry and seconded by Ronald Callais, the board unanimously authorized the president and general manager to enter into agreements for the construction of A-East Levee, Larose Lock and A-West Elevation.

General Manager Windell Curole requested the board move to support the Capital Outlay Request and the CPRA Request.

On a motion by McNeely Rome and seconded by Roland Curole, the board unanimously voted in support of the 2023-2024 Capital Outlay Request in the amount of \$12,000,000, and the CPRA Request in the amount of \$48,000,000.

#### **AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

Candidates seeking the seat of Division A Judge, Ms. Heather Hendrix and Ms. Rebecca Robichaux, each addressed the board separately. Each briefed the board on their backgrounds, experience, and qualifications. Both Ms. Hendrix and Ms. Robichaux offered their appreciation for support.

Mr. Brent Duet, on behalf of local businesses, commended the board for its continued success in providing flood protection to the community.

# **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

# SLIDE PRESENTATION

General Manager Windell Curole showed a video clip of the wave action against the Leon Theriot Lock during Hurricane Ida. Mr. Curole continued with side-by-side comparisons of Hurricanes Ian and Ida. Other slides showed photos of multiple areas around the levee system showing a record amount of debris and damages from Hurricane Ida. Mr. Curole emphasized the need for residents to leave when evacuation orders are issued. Mr. Curole thanked everyone for their efforts to repair and prepare the levee for the 2022 hurricane season. The levee at this time is in better condition than when it handled the surge of Hurricane Ida.

Mr. Callais stated that because our system performed so well during Hurricane Ida, we were a victim of our own success. He further stated that citizens felt over-confident, with many refusing to leave their homes and putting their own lives at risk. Mr. Curole added that many citizens had not experienced a real flood since Hurricane Juan in 1985. He further added that as successful as our system had been, there was no guarantee that we would not flood if a storm surge was higher than the levee. A brief discussion pursued.

## **AMENDED FY2023 BUDGET TO ADD DEBT SERVICE**

Mr. Curole stated that the budget was prepared prior to the board obtaining the bond loans. Two payments would be due each year until the debt was paid in full. He informed the board that Debt Services was added to include the loan payments. He recommended the board accept the amended budget as presented and to authorize the payments be made on the bond debt as they come due.

Moved by Roland Guidry, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously carried, the board accepted the Amended Fiscal Year 2023 Budget as presented, and authorized loan payments of the bond debt.

# D-NORTH RAMP AMENDMENT NO 1 TO CPRA'S BA-246 AGREEMENT

Mr. Curole announced that the agreement through CPRA, which included funding for the D-North Ramp, had been amended to extend the contract deadline. Upon receiving no legal objection from the board's attorney, Mr. Curole recommended acceptance of Amendment No. 1 to the BA-246 agreement .

Moved by Monty Vegas and seconded by McNeely Rome, the board unanimously approved Amendment No. 1 of the BA-0246 agreement through CPRA and authorized the president or general manager to sign and execute the document.

# RENEWAL OF OFFICE SPACE WITH CROSBY REAL ESTATE

Mr. Curole had the board attorney prepare an extension on the office space rental with Crosby Real Estate for an additional nine months while waiting for the Main Office building to be repaired. He requested the board accept the renewal to extend.

Moved by Brett DeRoche and seconded by Brian Marts, the board unanimously agreed to renew office space with Crosby Real Estate for an additional nine months and authorized the board president or general manager to sign the extension.

# **RISK RATE 2.0 LEVEE DESIGNATION**

Mr. Curole stated that Risk Rate 2.0 was the new flood insurance program. He continued by saying after discovering their codes, our levee system rated as the lowest in the state. Mr. Curole presented an article to the board that he had prepared for Insights Magazine. He continued by saying the reason for our low rating was due to our requests for, but inability to obtain, 408 permitting over the years. He added that we chose not to continue waiting for the permits, but to take the funds available to us and build the levee system we have today. Due to this, the Corps had said that we have unauthorized construction, and because of that, our levees received a low rating. FEMA and NFIP stated that our levees were not acceptable, but by FEMA's LAMP study, an engineered and scientific program to analyze levees, their results showed our levees to be satisfactory. With the flood system on the critical path of a Cat 4 hurricane, our levees allowed no flooding, nor loss of life, inside the system. Mr. Curole added that the article had been sent to Congressmen Scalise and Graves, and to Senators Kennedy and Cassidy with the hope that they could correct the obvious weakness in Risk Rating 2.0.

#### A-EAST LEVEE IMPROVEMENTS, \$3.4M

This item was discussed earlier during the Executive Committee report.

#### **LAROSE LOCK**

This item was discussed earlier during the Executive Committee report.

#### **A-WEST LEVEE TO 17-18 FEET ELEVATION**

This item was discussed earlier during the Executive Committee report.

## CAPITAL OUTLAY REQUEST, \$12M

This item was discussed earlier during the Executive Committee report.

## **CPRA REQUEST FOR \$48M**

This item was discussed earlier during the Executive Committee report.

# PS NO 7, PUMP 1 REPAIRS

Mr. Curole announced that quotes had been received to repair the pump and requested approval to spend \$80,370.00 for those repairs.

Moved by Ronald Callais and seconded by McNeely Rome, the board unanimously approved spending \$80,370.00 for repairs of Pump No. 1 located at Pump Station No. 7.

# **ENGINEERING REPORT**

# OFFICE OF COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION

Mr. Daniel Dearmond reported that the D-North Ramp Amendment No. 1 (BA-0246) had been signed at the State level, and they were just waiting on our board's approval which was obtained earlier during the meeting.

# **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. This project will convert the current Ted Gisclair Floodgate in Larose to a navigational lock.

# • Section E-North Levee Improvements Southeast Corner to Northeast

We have completed the 95% set of plans. We are now scaling back the size of the project to fit proposed budget. We have received a geotechnical proposal and this work will begin soon to complete the project plans. Proposed Elevation Top of Levee +14.00.

# • Hurricane Ida Storm Damage Repairs to Pump Stations and Floodgates

Grand Isle Shipyard, LLC is the Contractor. We held a Pre-Construction meeting on November 30<sup>th</sup>. The Notice to Proceed was issued on December 6, 2021. The contractor is complete with all the structural metal work for the project. They are currently working on electrical components replacement on the pump stations and floodgates. The contractor has begun receiving the long lead electrical components and should begin makings significant progress in the upcoming month. The projected completion date of the project is the beginning of December.

There is no pay application this month.

## • Hurricane Ida Storm Damage Repairs to Main Office

We are scheduled to receive bids on November 8, 2022, at 10:00 AM.

# Hurricane Ida Storm Damage Repairs to Mechanic Shop (Frisco)

Frisco Industrial Contractors, LLC is the Contractor. The Notice to Proceed was issued on May 31, 2022. All work is completed except the installation of two exterior doors and minor punch list items.

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 4 in the amount of \$32,039.48.

Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Application No. 4 in the amount of \$32,039.48

# • Hurricane Ida Storm Damage Repairs to the Warehouse(GIS)

The low bid received for replacement of one overhead door and repair of one overhead door was Grand Isle Shipyard, LLC in the amount of \$24,731.00. They have ordered the door and expect to receive and install it the first week of December.

# • A-West Corner Elevation (Compeaux and Sons)

Compeaux and Sons, LLC is the Contractor. They are complete with elevation of the first corner of the project and are nearing completion of the section area. Estimated Completion Date 10/20/2022, Proposed Elevation Top of Levee +20.00.

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 3 in the amount of \$78,470.00

Moved by Monty Vegas, seconded by Brian Marts and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Application No. 3 in the amount of \$78,470.00

# D-North Levee

We are currently finalizing plans and expect to begin advertising for bids within the next two weeks. Estimated Advertise Date 10/24/2022, Estimated completion Date 6/1/2023, Proposed Elevation Top of Levee +16.00

## **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 developed servitude requirements for the project and forward the proposed maps to 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.

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

Estimated Advertise Date: Q1 2023 Estimated Completion Date: TBD

Proposed Elevation: 13'

# D-South Floodwall Improvements – GIS# 39130-1215/1216 (Sealevel)

Phase 1

The project is complete.

#### Hurricane Ida Efforts

Current Hurricane Ida related work for the project is compete and GIS continues to provide information and coordinates with All South as needed for the ongoing FEMA claim.

#### Phase 2

Sealevel has completed construction of the project.

The project is Substantially Complete as of Thursday, July 21, 2022

GIS issued a Punch List and all items are complete.

All Certified Payroll resubmissions have been approved.

With Certified Payroll completed for the project, Pay App No. 5 and Pay App No. 6 that were previously being held have now been approved by GIS and send to SLLD for approval. Pay Request No. 5 in the amount of \$31,468.75 and Pay Request No. 6 in the amount of \$82,555.00

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 5 in the amount of \$31,468.75 The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 6 in the amount of \$82,555.00

Moved by Roland Curole, seconded by Monty Vegas and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 5 in the amount of \$31,488.75 and Pay Request No. 6 in the amount of \$82,555.00 to Sealevel Construction.

# • D-North Ramp - GIS# 39130-1249/1250

GIs submitted the issued for Bid deliverable to SLLD

Completed documents for pre-bid conference October 5<sup>th</sup>. The current opinion of probable construction cost estimate is \$584,365.

Advertise Date: September 22, 2022 through October 6, 2022

Estimated Completion Date: June 2023

Proposed Elevation: +16'

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

GIS Engineering has submitted the Bid Package inclusive of plans, specifications, and cost estimate to SLLD and the landowner for review and comment. GIS is addressing final comments and preparing to advertise for bids.

The current opinion of probable construction cost estimate is \$730,000

Estimated Advertise Date: October 2022 Estimated Completion Date: April 2023

# LEVEE IMPROVEMENTS - ANGELETTE-PICCIOLA, LLC

Engineer Neil Angelette reported the following:

#### • C-South Levee Improvements (GIS)

The contractor, Grand Isle Shipyard, LLC, is continuing with construction on this project to raise the level to +18' from Pump Station No. 2 to the Apache Farm Levee. We estimate this project will be complete in approximately 2 months.

#### • C-North Levee Improvements (Compeaux & Sons)

The contractor, Compeaux & Sons, LLC, is continuing work on the project to shape the levee to +16'. We are recommending approval of payment for Invoice #1086 in the amount of \$23,205.00. We estimate this project will be complete in approximately 1 month.

Moved by Ronald Callais, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously accepted, the board approved Invoice No. 1086 in the amount of \$23,205.00 to Compeaux and Sons, LLC.

# • Yankee Canal & Section A-East Levee Improvements (GIS)

The Notice to Proceed was issued for work to begin on September 21, 2022. The contractor, Grand Isle Shipyard, LLC, will be mobilizing on site within the next week.

#### • Larose Floodwall Vessel Impact Barrier

This project is currently in the permit phase, and we estimate starting the advertisement this month.

# • Section F Levee Berm Improvements

This project will address berm improvements to the section F levee and will be ready to advertise this month.

# **MORGANZA TO THE GULF**

## **DELTA COAST CONSULTANTS**

Program Manager Report (Mitch Marmande)

• Mr. Marmande was not in attendance.

# **ALL SOUTH CONSULTING ENGINEERS**

Engineer Report (Stevie Smith)

# • Golden Meadow Marsh Terraces

All South has completed capturing survey data of project's site.

Site is shallower than anticipated; required second round of data collection via airboat.

All South developing preliminary plans for terrace construction. Preliminary plans will be completed by end of October.

# • Reach K Terraces Repairs

Topographical survey complete.

Preliminary Design underway. All South to meet with SLLD and TLCD on required repairs to the terraces.

# • Hurricane Ida Response

Debris removal contractor submitted additional invoices for previously unbilled work.

All South has reviewed this invoice with Debris Monitoring firm (Metric).

All South and Metric have validated approximately \$40,000 in costs.

Expect invoices to be presented at next board meeting.

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

General Manager Windell Curole announced that four permit requests were received for review, and that none interfered with the levee.

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

#### 1. LAFOURCHE PARISH GOVERNMENT

**CUP NO: P20220827** 

LOCATION: Lafourche Parish, LA; Lat. 29-14-51.3 N/LONG 90-12-38.3w; Section 26 T21S R22E;

End of old LA 1 under the Leeville Bridge Golden Meadow, 70357

**DESCRIPTION:** Repairs to the Public Boat Launch due to Hurricane Ida. Repairs include debris removal, dredging around the boat launch, and repairs to parking spaces, boat ramps, fencing, wharves, and fishing pier. Approx. 350 cy of material will be excavated and placed onsite habitat

and 0.70 ac of unvegetated water bottoms may be impacted by the proposed activity.

#### 2. FOURCHON SHOREBASE LLC

CUP NO: P20220859

**LOCATION:** Lafourche Parish, LA; Lat. 29-12-55.60"N/Long -90-13-04.69"W; Section 3 T22S R22E;

LA Hwy 1 Leeville 70357

**DESCRIPTION:** Proposal to dredge a slip, install bulkhead, and create a lay down yard by filling. Approx. 15,100 cys of material will be excavated and placed onsite. Approx. 3000 cys of rock will be hauled in and placed onsite. Approx. 7 acres consisting of marsh, water bottom, and uplands may be impacted as a result of the proposed activities.

# 3. GREATER LAFOURCHE PORT COMMISSION

**CUP NO:** P20220830

LOCATION: Lafourche Parish, LA; POB: Lat 29-07-16 N. Long -90-12-38 W; POE: Lat. 29-07-09,

Long. -90-12-41; Section 14 T23S R22E; 499 A J Estay Road, Port Fourchon, LA

**DESCRIPTION:** Proposed construction of improved bulkhead stabilizing embarkment of industrial waterfront site along Bayou Lafourche and E-Slip in Port Fourchon. Approx. 6,170 c.y. of material will be used as fill. Approximately 0.19 acres of upland and 0.18 acres of open water habitat may be impacted as a result of the proposed project.

#### 4. HARVEST MIDSTREAM

**CUP NO: P20220768** 

LOCATION: Lafourche – Terrebonne Parish, LA; Lat. 29-25-7.69N / Long. -90-32-28.59 W **DESCRIPTION:** Harvest Midstream (Harvest) proposed to abandon approximately 18.5 miles of their existing 14 and 18" diameter natural gas pipelines (Raccourci Lateral) in Lafourche and Terrebonne Parishes, Louisiana. Associated with the abandonment, Harvest proposes to remove aboveground surface piping, risers, pilings, and sections of platforms from five separate structures. In addition, Harvest will remove sections of pipelines that are exposed or have les than three feet of cover in state-owned waterbottoms. Harvest will also lower, via jetting, other segments of the pipelines that are exposed in areas outside of the state owned waterbottoms to ensure sufficient cover prior to abandonment. Total length of pipeline removal is approximately 9,027 feet, total length of pipeline to be lowered three feet below the mudline is approximately 9,345 feet, and total length of pipeline to remain in place is approximately 79,702 feet. Tugboats, crane barges, approved fluid barges, and crew boats will be used to complete the work with the deepest draft of equipment being 5.5 feet. In area of shallow water (2.5 feet or less0, Harvest will use shallow draft equipment of 2 feet or less and only accessed during high tide. No propwashing will be required. Approx. 10,995 cy of material will be jetted and backfilled by naturally occurring sedimentation during the proposed activity. Approx. 23.61 ac of unvegetated water bottoms and 1.94 ac of marsh habitat may be impacted by the proposed activity.

# **BOARD ATTORNEY**

Attorney Ryan Collins was not in attendance.

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

# **INVOICES**

Commissioner Monty Vegas announced that the Finance Committee had reviewed the invoices and recommended they be paid.

On a motion of Monty Vegas, seconded by McNeely Rome, and unanimously carried, the board approved the payment of the invoices as presented.

# **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

Commissioner Monty Vegas announced that the Personnel Committee had met earlier and, after successfully completing their six months' probational period, the Committee recommended to move Mobile Equipment Operators 1, Jake Galjour and Caleb Danos, to permanent status.

On a motion of Monty Vegas, seconded by Roland Curole, and unanimously carried, the board approved the payment of the invoices as presented.

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 Ronald Callais.

/S/Keith Guidry, President

/S/Windell A. Curole, Executive Secretary