

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDING
OF
SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT
SEPTEMBER 11, 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, September 11, 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 September 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
Mc Neely Rome
Monty Vegas

Board members absent: None

Also present were:

General Manager Nicholas Matherne	John Plaisance
Executive Secretary Windell Curole	Laura Barnes
Administrative Assistant 6 Mary Punch	Jeremy Perkins
Administrative Assistant 3 Amy Gisclair	CPRA Daniel Dearmond
Levee Board Operations Supt. Drake Baudoin	Lafourche Parish Assessor Wendy Thibodaux
Attorney Ryan Collins	District 54 Representative Joe Orgeron
Engineering Personnel:	News media
Joe Picciola	News Media
Neil Angelette	

READING OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the August 14, 2023, Regular Meeting were approved unanimously upon a motion by McNeely Rome and seconded by Ronald Callais.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Guidry stated that he was happy to be back in the main office for the September board meeting. On behalf of the board, President Guidry offered his gratitude to Mr. Kurt Crosby and family for allowing the use of their facilities for office space and board meetings while repairs were underway at the main office after Hurricane Ida. A proper "thank you" would be offered soon.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2023

Chairman Ronald Callais announced that the Executive Committee had met on Tuesday, September 5th at 8:00 a.m. to discuss several matters. Mr. Callais briefed the board on each item that had been up for discussion which included the following:

- Visit from Mr. Robert Theriot, Candidate for Assessor
- Update on filling vacancy for commissioner's seat
- Quotes for audio and video equipment to be forthcoming

- Regional Freshwater Management Working Group update
- MVFCA Congressional meetings to be held in Washington, DC the week of September 17 – 21, 2023
- On-call pay for supervisory relief
- WRDA-2024
- Review of Section F Berm bid tab
- D-South Crawfish Farm Floodwall, Ph III
- D-North Stockpiling Quotes
- Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Revisions
- Equipment Replacements was deferred to the Maintenance and Equipment Committee
- Capital Outlay for remote water level and floodgate operations
- Optional transfer of H-Piles to SLLD from TLCD originally acquired from SLFPA-West

There were no comments or objections to the Executive Committee Report.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

LAFOURCHE PARISH ASSESSOR WENDY THIBODAux

Lafourche Parish Assessor Wendy Thibodaux addressed the board and stated that she was running for re-election of Parish Assessor. Ms. Thibodaux gave a brief background to her qualifications and the accomplishments that she has achieved while serving as Assessor.

DISTRICT 54 STATE REPRESENTATIVE JOE ORGERON

Mr. Orgeron announced that he had been re-elected unopposed for another four years as State Representative of District 54. He expressed his gratitude to the community for putting their trust in him and the job he was doing. He spoke briefly about Capital Outlay and updated the commissioners on the status of local bridge maintenance and repairs.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

AUGUST CPRA MEETING UPDATE

General Manager Nic Matherne announced that he had attended the August CPRA meeting held on August 16th in Houma. The three local levee districts gave updates on the Morganza to the Gulf project and the funding that was available.

OFFICE STATUS UPDATE

Mr. Matherne informed the board that temporary occupancy was granted by the State Fire Marshal on August 15 for the Main Office Building. Grab rails, ADA signage and fire-rated doors would need to be added. The fire-rated doors for two file rooms were on backorder and were expected to be delivered in two weeks. Once all items were installed the Fire Marshall would return for a final inspection and to grant permanent occupancy of the building.

Mr. Matherne stated that he would be looking into lighting for the sign by the highway and for the flagpole. In addition, individual microphones, speakers, and a mixer would be forthcoming after the board desk was in place.

RISK RATING 2.0 LAWSUIT

Mr. Matherne informed the board that the hearing for the Risk Rating 2.0 Lawsuit would be held on September 14th. The suit was filed by several states including Louisiana on June 1, 2023. A preliminary injunction was also filed asking the judge to force FEMA to stop using Risk Rating 2.0 until the hearing was completed. FEMA filed a suit to dismiss so the judge cannot rule on the injunction until he rules on the request to dismiss. Both items are to be heard at the September 14th hearing.

DEBRIS REMOVAL & DEBRIS MONITORING CONTRACTS

Mr. Matherne informed the board that they had received proposals for the repositioning of debris removal and monitoring, but that he had requested President Guidry postpone the acceptance of those proposals until a later date. Mr. Matherne explained that the proposals were in-depth and that the scoring process would take time to go through. He further explained that it was not just a matter of taking the lowest price but reviewing the qualifications. However, in the event of an emergency, we would be able to call a special meeting and award the contract immediately since the solicitation process has already taken place.

FRESHWATER MANAGEMENT WORK GROUP

Mr. Matherne informed the board that directors from various local districts, including levees and water, had met at North Lafourche Levee District to discuss the reintroduction of fresh water from the Mississippi River into Bayou Lafourche at Donaldsonville. A lengthy discussion pursued.

MORGANZA TO THE GULF STATUS MEETING

Mr. Matherne stated that a meeting was held on August 30th at North Lafourche Levee District's office to discuss the status of the Morganza to the Gulf System and all the reaches that were currently under construction, as well as top priorities moving forward into the next fiscal year funding. The meeting involved North Lafourche, South Lafourche and Terrebonne Levee Districts, and the Corps of Engineers. Mr. Matherne stated that he expressed his top priorities as Reaches K & L, and the GIWW East Floodgate in Larose.

BUDGET REVISION

Mr. Matherne presented a revised budget that detailed more accurately the funding from grants and the projects those grants would cover. There was a discussion on how best to apply the available funds and how better to account for state and federal funding. Mr. Matherne added that a vote to accept the revised budget would be taken during the Finance Committee report.

CAPITAL OUTLAY

Mr. Matherne announced that the deadline to submit the Capital Outlay Request was Nov 1st. Mr. Matherne explained the differences in Priorities. He stated that he would like to request funding for A-West and for water level equipment outside our levee. More information would be available for next month's meeting.

WRDA 2024

Mr. Matherne announced that Senator Kennedy's office had suggested we submit recommendations for the upcoming Water Resources Development Act. Mr. Matherne informed the board of various recommendations that had been made by CPRA and stated that one change he would like to see made was to have our levees certified by the Corps. Mr. Matherne recommended to Senator Kennedy's office that the Corps perform an analysis of the levee system as existing conditions for future construction and improvements.

ENGINEERING REPORT

OFFICE OF COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION

Mr. Daniel Dearmond announced that CPRA was working on language to update existing agreements.

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**
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.
The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 2 in the amount of \$298,931.03.
Moved by Ronald Callais, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 2 in the amount of \$298,931.03.

- **Hurricane Ida Storm Damage Repairs to Pump Stations and Floodgates**
Grand Isle Shipyard, LLC is the Contractor. The project is complete and in the Lien Period.
There is no pay application this month.

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

Grand Isle Shipyard, LLC is the Contractor. The project is complete and in the Lien Period.

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 9 in the amount of \$7,965.00.

We have Change Order No. 1 for adding Stair Treads for the amount of \$3,900.00.

Moved by Brian Marts, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 9 in the amount of \$7,965.00.

Moved by Monty Vegas, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously accepted, the board approved Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$3,900.00.

- **Main Office Building Existing Roof Repairs (GIS)**

Grand Isle Shipyard, LLC is the Contractor. The project is complete, and the Contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 1 in the amount of \$11,140.00.

Moved by Monty Vegas, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 1 in the amount of \$11,140.00.

Mr. Picciola explained that the roof repairs were not actually repairs from damage, but more of a re-enforcement to the new roof that was installed after Hurricane Ida destroyed the old roof. The added protection will make the roof stronger and less susceptible to loss from future storms.

The Contractor has submitted the Certificate of Substantial Completion for board acceptance.

On a motion by Ronald Callais and seconded by Brian Marts, the Board unanimously accepted the Certificate of Substantial Completion for Main Office Building Existing Roof Repairs from Grand Isle Shipyard.

- **Section D-North Interim Levee improvements – Phase II**

Outer Limit Contractors, LLC is the Contractor. The project is complete and in the Lien Period.

There is no pay application this month.

- **Maintenance of North Sector Gates at Leon Theriot Locks:**

Project Plans and Specifications are complete. We are currently advertising for bids and will accept bids on October 4th at 10:00am.

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 is coordinating with Chervon to prepare a Letter of No Objection.

GIS developed servitude requirements for the project and re-sent the proposed map to the SLLD attorney.

Estimated Advertise Date: Q4 2023

Estimated Completion Date: TBA

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 Elevations: +16'

This project had been Terminated for Convenience per the contract documents, effective 5/25/2023. LA has demobed from the site. The final paperwork and quantities of work performed are being tabulated.

Revised Changed Order No. 3 was issued to increase the contract by \$24,886.00 for the additional material excavated from the Contractor provided off-site borrow pit. No additional days have been via this change order and the contract end date remain June 19, 2023.

Moved by McNeely Rome and seconded by Mitch Danos, the board unanimously accepted Change Order No. 3 to increase the Contractor's contract by \$24,886.00 for additional material excavated.

Revised Pay Application No. 4 has been reviewed and approved by GIS and has been submitted to SLLD for processing.

Moved by Mitch Danos and seconded by Monty Vegas, the board unanimously approved and agreed to pay Revised Pay Application No. 4 in the amount of \$200,024.97.

- **D-North Ramp Lift (Material Stockpile) – GIS# 39130-1457**

GIS received quotes for this project on Friday 09/08/23.

Estimated Quote Solicitation Date: September 8, 2023

Request approval to accept and award construction quote under \$250,000.

Moved by McNeely Rome and seconded by Ronald Callais, the board unanimously accepted the low Base Quote from Outer Limits in the amount of \$212,750 along with Alternate No. 1 in the amount of \$22,050.00 for a grand total of \$234,800.00.

Estimated Completion Date: Q4 2023

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

GIS has begun design of completion of the ramp lift work.

Estimated Advertisement Date: November 2023

Estimated Completion Date: March 2024

Proposed Elevation: +16'

- **D-South CF Floodwall Ph III**

Discuss entering into a contract for Professional Engineering Services to allow planning and design of D-South Crawfish Farm Floodwall, Phase III project.

Moved by Monty Vegas and seconded by McNeely Rome, the board unanimously agreed to enter a contract with GIS Engineering for Professional Engineering Services related to D-South Crawfish Farm Floodwall, Phase III, and authorized the board president or general manager to sign the Professional Services Agreement upon its submittal, review and acceptance by the Board of Commissioners.

- **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 prepared an update to the Study & Report comparing siphons, weirs, and other options and submitted it to SLLD on June 30, 2023.

GIS is preparing a preliminary set of plans and specs for the weir gate design.

Estimated Submittal Date: September 29, 2023

LEEVE IMPROVEMENTS – ANGELETTE-PICCIOLA, LLC

Engineer Neil Angelette reported the following:

- **C-South Levee Reshaping and Compaction**

The contractor, Grand Isle Shipyard, LLC, completed this project on July 5, 2023 and they have also completed the punch list items. We are currently in the Clear Lien Period.

- **C-North Levee Improvements**

The contractor, Compeaux & Sons Construction, LLC is continuing to work on this project to shape the levee to +13.5'. We are recommending approval of Invoice #1179 in the amount of \$129,565.00. This project is ongoing with work continuing along the LA Highway 24 segment of C-North.

The contractor has submitted Invoice #1179 in the amount of \$129,565.00.

Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Brett DeRoche and unanimously accepted, the board approved Invoice #1179 in the amount of \$129,565.00.

- **C-South Floodside Repairs**

This project was awarded last month to Compeaux & Sons Construction, LLC and work is ongoing.

- **Larose Floodwall Vessel Impact Barrier**

This project was awarded last month to the low bidder, Low Land Construction Company, Inc., for the base bid plus alternate bids 1 through 3. Contracts have been processed and we are currently scheduling a pre-construction meeting.

- **Section F Berm Improvements**

Bids were received on August 17, 2023, for this project. We are recommending the Base Bid and Alternate Bids 1 and 2 to the low bidder, Sealevel Construction, Inc. for \$3,278,530.00

Moved by Ronald Callais, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board approved low bidder Sealevel Construction, Inc. for \$3,278,530.00

MORGANZA TO THE GULF

DELTA COAST CONSULTANTS

No one was in attendance from Delta Coast Consultants

ALL SOUTH CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Engineer Report (Jeremy Perkins)

- **Golden Meadow Marsh Terraces**

This project is on hold pending available funding.

- **Reach K Marsh Mitigation Emergency Rehabilitation Phase II**

An extension has been granted. The engineers are working on the design.

- **Hurricane Ida Response**

This project is not yet obligated by FEMA. Expenses are estimated at \$2M.

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 stated he had nothing to report.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

REVISED BUDGET

Commissioner Monty Vegas presented the revised budget prepared by General Manager Nic Matherne which had been reviewed and accepted by CPA Aldon Wahl. The budget was revised to give a more accurate breakdown of the funding sources and the projects that would benefit from those grants. Mr. Vegas recommended the board accept the revised budget as presented.

On a motion by Monty Vegas and seconded by Ronald Callais, the board unanimously voted to approve and accept the revised budget report for FY2024 as presented.

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 Brett DeRoche, and unanimously carried, the board approved the payment of the invoices as presented.

OLD BUSINESS

Rep. Joe Orgeron questioned the status of the floodwall where the LA 1 Elevated highway crosses the levee. Engineer Neil Angelette confirmed that the floodwall was complete to the satisfaction of all parties.

Executive Secretary Windell Curole showed a video from the 125th Anniversary of the 1893 Hurricane that hit Cheniere Caminada. After the video Mr. Curole announced that there would be a memorial celebration in Grand Isle on Sunday, September 24th and gave a few highlights of the activities that would transpire.

NEW BUSINESS

Vice President Ronald Callais announced that the Executive Committee had redirected the Equipment Replacement and Repairs to the Maintenance and Equipment meeting and stated that he would like to call that meeting immediately after the October Executive Committee meeting.

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

/s/Keith Guidry, President

/s/Nicholas Matherne, General Manager