

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDING
OF
SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT
FEBRUARY 14, 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, February 14, 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 February was called to order by President Keith Guidry. Commissioner Roland Guidry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Callais directed the secretary to call roll.

Board members in attendance: Keith Guidry
Ronald Callais
Roland Guidry
Brian Marts
Monty Vegas
Mitch Danos
Mc Neely Rome
Roland Curole
Brett DeRoche

Board members absent: None

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, Laura Barnes, Trey Middleton, Stevie Smith, Chris Smith; CPRA Daniel Dearmond; Attorney General's Office Doug Cheramie; LP Tax Assessor Wendy Thibodaux; LaFleur & Laborde Eric LaFleur; and news media.

READING OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the January 10, 2022 Regular Meeting were approved unanimously upon a motion by Ronald Callais and seconded by Monty Vegas.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Keith Guidry, on behalf of the Board and staff, offered condolences to Mr. Stevie Smith and family on the recent passing of his father, Clifford Smith.

President Guidry introduced Lafourche Parish Tax Assessor Wendy Thibodaux and turned the floor over to her.

Assessor Thibodaux gave an update on the tax situation and the effect Hurricane Ida has had on tax rolls. With the reassessment, there would be a time for appeals to be filed, adding that none had been filed on Hurricane Ida yet. She stated that the Sheriff's office sets the deadline, but that all taxes would be due by the end of April with payouts following soon after. Mrs. Thibodeaux announced that in 2020 the South Lafourche Levee District (SLLD) received \$5.7 million. In 2021 SLLD would receive \$3.7 million. She added that many entities had reported a higher payout of sales taxes which helped cover some of the reduction of millage payouts. A lengthy discussion pursued on reassessments, homestead exemptions and future revenues from the oil and gas industry.

President Guidry presented a program for the ALBL Workshop to each commissioner. He informed the commissioners that the workshop would be held in Baton Rouge on May 5-6, 2022.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Vice President Ronald Callais announced the Executive Committee had met before the regular meeting to discuss the possibility of borrowing funds to pay hurricane-related expenses to be replaced by FEMA. He explained that filing FEMA claims was a long process which took up to a year or longer to receive payment, but that contractor invoices were due now. He introduced Mr. Eric LaFleur, financial counselor for LaFleur and Laborde.

Mr. LaFleur stated that he had spoken with Mr. Windell Curole and understood the damages sustained by the Levee District, and the need to repay contractors without cutting into funds needed for levee improvements. He stated that a political subdivision of the State of Louisiana was not allowed to borrow money without permission of the State Bond Commission. Mr. LaFleur shared options for soliciting funds discussed during the Executive Committee and stated that local banks would be a good place to start. He explained that one bank may not be able to loan the full amount requested, but several banks together could possibly make that happen. This would give the local banks an opportunity to compete with competitive rates, while giving back to the community. He stated that the deadline to file with the Bond Commission was the next day and recommended the board pass a resolution that would allow him to proceed. Mr. LaFleur also recommended the Board request to borrow \$12 million to make sure enough funds would be available. The Committee had suggested the funds be available in a draw down.

Moved by Ronald Callais and seconded by Roland Guidry, a roll call vote was taken, and with 9 Yays, 0 Nays, 0 Abstained and 0 Absent, the motion passed to file Resolution 02.14.2022 with the State Bond Commission to borrow \$12 million to pay for Hurricane Ida related expenses.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

There were no audience comments.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

SLIDE PRESENTATION

General Manager Windell Curole presented slides of work in Section F along Delta Farms. He stated that approximately 85% of levee debris had been removed, grass was growing and should be in good condition by August 2022. Mr. Curole continued to show areas around the system where debris had been removed and contractors were making progress with levee elevations. Other slides showed areas that continued to have debris, but we were working to get that removed. Mr. Curole showed the D-South Crawfish Farm Floodwall which was being rebuilt to a 17 ft. elevation. The contractor was removing the concrete wall and would be replacing it with a sheet pile wall. Other slides showed the work around D-South levee and Pump Station No. 4 where the berm needed to be improved. Mr. Curole presented slides of A-West near the Apache Ramp and explained that this was the area where construction for the new elevated LA 1 Highway had begun. He explained that the construction would involve degrading the levee to install a 21 ft I-Wall. That project would be complete by June 1st. Final slides showed destruction from Hurricane Ida in the Larose and Golden Meadow areas that were outside the Larose to Golden Meadow levee protection system.

C-NORTH LEVEE; CONTINUE UNDER EMERGENCY DECLARATION (RESOLUTION 2021-03)

Mr. Curole explained that the construction of the C-North levee project would raise the height of the levee from 13 ft. to 16 ft. He stated that quotes had been obtained for that project, and that we had gone beyond the \$250,000 limit, but there was still a small amount of work left to complete the project. After speaking with Attorney Ray Collins, the work would be completed under the Emergency Declaration for Hurricane Ida. Mr. Curole recommended the board authorize the project to be completed under Resolution No. 2021-03 Emergency Declaration for Hurricane Ida.

Moved by Ronald Callais and seconded by Monty Vegas, the board unanimously agreed to allow expenditures to exceed the \$250,000 limit and authorized the completion of Section C-South Levee Elevation to 16 ft. under Resolution No. 2021-03 Emergency Declaration for Hurricane Ida.

LA 1 ELEVATED HIGHWAY

This item was discussed during the slide presentation.

FLOODWAL AT D-SOUTH

This item was discussed during the slide presentation.

LAROSE FLOODWALL BARRIER

Mr. Curole announced that funds were available through GOMESA BA-249 for construction of the Larose Floodwall Vessel Impact Barrier, and that the project should start in the coming year.

SECTION F BERM PROJECT

Mr. Curole stated that the berm on the levee south of the Delta Farms Road was extremely low, and that funds for the project were now available through GOMESA BA-250. He added that there was a vein of shells in that area from the original build by the Corps, so we were always more cautious in that area. Raising the berm would give us more confidence in reducing the threat of seepage.

PAYMENT FOR DEBRIS REMOVAL

Mr. Curole stated that the Board had given their permission earlier in the meeting to seek permission from the Bond Commission to borrow funds to pay debris contractors. He added that upon speaking with the engineers, they gave an estimate of \$8 million to pay for removal of the debris. The first \$3 million would be reimbursed by FEMA at 100%, with the remaining being reimbursed at 90/10 cost-share.

WHITE PAPER -HURRICANE IDA

Mr. Curole explained that Engineer Joe Picciola prepared a draft report of what he thought the affects from Hurricane Ida were to the levee system. He stated that we had success with our levees but wanted to find out where there might be future problems so those could be resolved.

CENTERLINE SURVEY

Mr. Joe Picciola stated that the Centerline Survey was complete, and a digital copy had been emailed to Mr. Curole right before the meeting.

ENGINEERING REPORT

OFFICE OF COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION

Mr. Daniel Dearmond announced that he had no updates.

CORPS OF ENGINEERS

There was no one in attendance from the Corps.

PROJECT ENGINEERS

PICCIOLA & ASSOCIATES

Engineer Joe Picciola gave the following report:

- **Section F Levee Improvements**
Onshore Materials, LLC is the Contractor. The contractor is currently on-site hauling borrow material on the levee section

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 10 in the amount of \$221,487.75.

Moved by McNeely Rome, seconded by Brian Marts and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 10 in the amount of \$221,487.75.

- **Larose Lock Project**
Project Plans and Specifications are complete. They have been submitted to US Army Corps of Engineers and CPRA for approval.

- **Section D-South Interim Levee Improvements – Phase III**
Outer Limit Contractors, LLC is the Contractor. The contractor is currently on-site and has completed the repairs to the levee caused by Hurricane Ida. The flood side and crown are 100% complete. The protected side slope is 90% complete. The protected side berm is 70% complete. They began excavating the borrow canal and placing on berm last week.

The contractor had submitted Pay Application No. 6 in the amount of \$6,020.00

Moved by Monty Vegas, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 6 in the amount of \$6,020.00.

- **Section E-North Levee Improvements**

Onshore Materials, LLC and Compeaux & Sons Construction, LLC have completed the emergency repairs and hauling to the levee between Superior Doc and the southeastern corner of Clovelly Farms due to Hurricane Ida damages. Onshore is complete and off site. Compeaux is complete and off site.

Compeaux & Sons Construction, LLC has submitted Pay Application No. 4 in the amount of \$18,855.00

Moved by Mitch Danos, seconded by Roland Guidry and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 4 in the amount of \$18,855.00.

- **Hurricane Ida Storm Damage Repairs to Pump Stations and Floodgates:**

Grand Isle Shipyard, LLC is the Contractor. We held the Pre-Construction meeting on November 30th. The Notice to Proceed was issued on December 6, 2021. The contract will replace roofing panels on Pump Stations Nos 1 & 2 first.

There is no Pay Application this month.

- **Hurricane Ida Storm Damage Repairs to Main Office and Mechanic Shop:**

Foret Contracting Group, LLC is the Contractor. Demolition is complete of the Mechanic Shop and for the Main Office

There is no Pay Application this month.

We plan to begin advertising for the Mechanic Shop on Monday, February 14, 2022. We are 95% complete with the plans for the Main Office Building and will begin to advertise later this month.

GIS ENGINEERING, LLC

Engineer John Plaisance reported the following:

- **A-East Bayou Lafourche Water Retention**

- USACE issued the permit for the project on November 29, 2021.
- 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 forwarded the proposed maps to 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.

- **D-South Crawfish Farm Floodwall Improvements**

- Phase 1
 - Construction contract for Phase I was awarded to Sealevel Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$1,648,822.00. Full Notice to Proceed was issued on May 14, 2021 with a current contract end date of December 10, 2021.
 - Change Order No. 7 in the amount of \$187,033.23 was submitted to SLLD for approval. This is for the completion of current Hurricane Ida Efforts as of Emergency Invoice No. 5.

Moved by Mitch Danos and seconded by McNeely Rome, the board unanimously approved Change Order No. 7 in the amount of \$187,033.23.

- Pay Request No. 11 in the amount of \$187,033.23 was approved by GIS and submitted to SLLD for approval. This is for Hurricane Ida Change Order No. 7 related work.

Moved by Monty Vegas and seconded by Roland Curole, the board unanimously approved Pay Request No. 11 in the amount of \$187,033.23.

- Substantial Completion Inspection was held on 12/10/2021. Site walkthrough was performed and a Punch List was issued for the few items remaining to be completed.
 - The final site grading and fertilizing/seeding is anticipated to be completed the week of 2/07/2022, weather permitting.
 - Hurricane Ida Efforts
 - Current Hurricane Ida related work for the project is complete, with the final Change order No. 7 submitted to SLLD for approval.
 - At the request of SLLD, GIS is coordinating clean-up of the Chouest pump station sump area with Sealevel. A Release has been provided for Chouest review and execution, prior to Sealevel providing a cost proposal and being given the notice to proceed for this work.
 - Phase 2
 - Sealevel was awarded this project and given NTP on 1/17/2022.
 - Sealevel has mobilized to the site, removed the existing steel plates, and began demolition of the existing T-wall concrete.
 - A Geotechnical Analysis for the levee tie-ins has been completed for Phase 2A of the project. Two options are being analyzed and will be presented to SLLD for final approval.
- **Section D-North Ramp**
 - SLLD is performing the excavation of borrow pit operations in-house. The excavated material is being placed on the adjacent levee berm and being sloped to drain. GIS has surveyed the material excavated and is preparing the plans and specifications to advertise for bids for the project.
- **Grand Bayou Flood Control Structure**
 - Floodwall & Receiving Structure
 - The project is Substantially Complete. A Punch List was provided to Sealevel and those items are complete, pending submission of the O&M Manual and Redline As-builts.
 - Release of retainage on this project is pending completion of the two Punch List items noted above.
 - Pay Request No. 30 in the amount of \$578,207.70 (Hurricane Ida)
Moved by Brett DeRoche and seconded by Roland Guidry, the board unanimously approved Pay Request No. 30 in the amount of \$578,207.70.
 - Barge Gate
 - Barge Gate was successfully operated for Hurricane Ida.
 - The project is Substantially Complete. A Punch List has been provided to Sealevel and completion of these items are underway.
 - Sealevel's subcontractor SIT was onsite 2/4/22 to perform some winch hydraulic testing and reconfiguring of components. A full report is pending, but the work is anticipated to have resolved the higher tension on the wire rope.
 - The new opening winch load cell is a long lead time item and is anticipated to be installed later this month.
 - Upon completion of the remaining Punch List items, the Owner's Training and Final Inspection will be coordinated with SLLD, TLCD, and NLLD.
 - Pay Request No. 13 in the amount of \$47,025.00
Moved by Monty Vegas and seconded by McNeely Rome, the board unanimously approved Pay Request No. 13 in the amount of \$47,025.00.
 - Pay Request No. 14 in the amount of \$240,000.00
Moved by Mitch Danos and seconded by Brett DeRoche, the board unanimously approved Pay Request No. 14 in the amount of \$240,000.00.
- Hurricane Delta/Zeta
 - Nothing to report.
- Hurricane Ida
 - Sealevel has completed Hurricane Ida Repairs, Debris Removal, and Site Repairs.

- SLLD is coordinating with LPG for the repaving of Templet Lane.
- There are no additional costs anticipated for Hurricane Ida Efforts.

- **Reconnection of Breton Canal to Bayou Lafourche**
 - GIS Engineering continues with the Preliminary Design Phase inclusive of plans, specifications, any required permits, surveys and cost estimate.
 - Topographic surveys and cross sections have been completed.
 - The last construction cost estimate (with 15% Contingency) was \$543,000.00.

- **Lefort Lane Sink Hole Repairs**
 - GIS took quotes on this job and determine SBL Construction, LLC to be the responsive low quote with a construction price of \$26,350.00.
 - Notice to Proceed was issued to SBL Construction on 01/17/2022.
 - Materials have been ordered for the project and SBL plans to Mobilize and begin construction at the beginning of next month.
 - Project Scope:
 - A corroded 72” pipe began leaking and formed a large sink hole off of Lefort Lane in Golden Meadow.
 - SBL Construction plans to cut back the existing corroded section of 72” piping use a “T” connection to join the corroded 72” pipe to the 30” perpendicular pipe.
 - There will be a 24” wide stub up to the surface with high strength grating to allow for drainage.
 - The sink hole will then be backfilled to the elevation of the adjacent ground surface.
 - This will effectively reseal the corroded joint and fix the sink hole.
 - Pay Request No. 1 in the amount of \$25,850.00
Moved by Monty Vegas and seconded by Mitch Danos, the board unanimously approved Pay Request No. 1 in the amount of \$25,850.00.

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. We recommend the approval of Change Order No. 1 for additional work to embankment in the amount of \$173,040.00

Moved by Monty Vegas, seconded by McNeely Rome and unanimously accepted, the board approved Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$173,040.00.

- **Larose Floodwall Height Improvement, West End A-Phase 5**

The contractor, Sealevel Construction, Inc. has completed the project as of January 14, 2022. We are submitting the Certificate of Substantial Completion for approval. We recommend approval of Pay Application No. 10 in the amount of \$1,652.31 from Sealevel Construction, Inc.

Moved by Brett DeRoche, seconded by Monty Vegas and unanimously accepted, the board approved Certificate of Substantial Completion.

Moved by Brian Marts, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 10 in the amount of \$1,652.31.

MORGANZA TO THE GULF

DELTA COAST CONSULTANTS

Program Manager Report (Mitch Marmande)

- No one was in attendance from Delta Coast.

ALL SOUTH CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Engineer Report (Stevie Smith)

- **Emergency Rehabilitation of Reach K Spoil Material (Phase II)**
Project complete. Awaiting final application for payment for retainage
- **Supply & Deliver Material Lost to Reach K (Hurricane Barry)**
The project and clear lien period are complete. Awaiting for final application for payment.
- **Hurricane Ida Debris Removal**
The contractor continues to work on the west side of the system
All South had begun submitting information to GOSHEP and FEMA for the development of the Project Worksheet for this work.

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 Mitch Danos, seconded by Monty Vegas and unanimously carried, the board approved Letters of No Objection for the following requests:

- 1. HUNT TELECOM TORRY TELECOM AND CABLE**
CUP NO: P20210907
LOCATION: Lafourche Parish, LA; Lat. 29-7-38.18N, Long. -90-12-52.24W; 107 Norman Doucet Dr., Port Fourchon. See plants for additional coordinates.
DESCRIPTION: Proposed conduit will be placed in the maintained area of the right of way. At bore pit locations, 18 cy of excavated material will be placed back in pit.
- 2. WEEKS MARINE INC**
CUP NO: P20211181
LOCATION: Lafourche Parish, LA; Lat. 29 9' 12' 40"N, Long. -90 13' 25.21"W; Section 33 T22S R22E; Port Fourchon
DESCRIPTION: Project activities authorized under EUA 21-087 for the recovery of barges 163 and 267. Marsh buggies and tugboats were used to refloat barges by installing a series of roller bags, airlines, manifolds, and fittings required to lift the barges and push them back into the water. No temporary fill or excavation was required for removal. Approximately 6 ac. Of herbaceous wetlands may be impacted by proposed activities.
- 3. SEAMAR MARINE SERVICES LLC**
CUP NO: P20211186
LOCATION: Lafourche Parish, LA; Lat. 29-29-56.78 N / Long 90-19-45.99 W; Section 5 T18S R 21E; Cut Off 70345
DESCRIPTION: Installation of vinyl bulkhead and piles for mooring. Removal of existing wooden wharf. Approx. 230 cy of dirt and 60 cy of crushed stone/gravel will be used as fill. Approx 0.04 ac of urban upland habitat and approx. 0.12 ac of unvegetated water bottom may be impacted by the proposed activity.
- 4. OILFIELD BOATS GOM INC**
CUP NO: After the Fact
LOCATION: Lafourche Parish, LA; Lat. 29-32-31.39 N / Long 90-20-12.3 W; Bayou Lafourche, 3.5 miles southeast of Cut Off, LA
DESCRIPTION: Clearing and filling of approximately 0.03 acres of fresh marsh and 0.17 acres of upland to create a docking and mooring area for marine vessel. Several mooring pile clusters and a ramp were installed. Compensatory mitigation is required for permanent impacts to 0.03 acres of fresh marsh.

BOARD ATTORNEY

The Board Attorney 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 McNeely Rome, seconded by Roland Guidry, and unanimously carried, the board approved the payment of the invoices as presented.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Commissioner Monty Vegas announced that he had nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner McNeely Rome questioned Mr. Curole on the status of the shooting range. Mr. Curole responded that the new owners were working well with the Levee District. He stated that the owners had given the Levee District a phone number so we could call them whenever work was scheduled in that area, and they would make sure the range was closed during that time. In turn, they would alert the SLLD whenever someone passes in the area when the range was open, and they had not been notified of anyone working on the levee.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Curole stated that having only a 34% drop in taxes was encouraging. He further stated that the sales taxes were up and that hopefully would balance out.

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