

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDING  
OF  
SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT  
MARCH 13, 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, March 13, 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 Roland Guidry 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  
Roland Guidry  
Brian Marts  
Mc Neely Rome

Board members absent: Monty Vegas

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; Attorney Ryan Collins; Engineering Personnel Joe Picciola, Neil Angelette, John Plaisance, Laura Barnes, Brennan, Nicholas and Sarah Matherne, Dean Savoie, Daisy Camardelle, and news media.

**READING OF THE MINUTES**

**The minutes of the February 13, 2023, Regular Meeting were approved unanimously upon a motion by Mitch Danos and seconded by Brett DeRoche.**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Guidry stated that the Levee District has used the FEMA funds received to repay the bond loan. He added that Mr. Windell Curole would report more on that later in the meeting.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

**REPORT FROM MARCH 6, 2023**

Chairman Ronald Callais gave an update on projects that would need to be funded or partially funded with levee district funds after GOMESA funds were expended. He recommended approval for payment of those projects as follows:

- Larose Floodwall Vessel Impact Barrier: \$300,000
- Reconnection of Breton Canal to Bayou Lafourche: \$700,000
- C-North Levee: \$200,000
- E-North Levee: \$200,000
- Section F Berm: \$200,000
- D-North Ramp: \$200,000
- LT Lock and LOOP Floodwall, GOBI mats: \$377,240

**Moved by Ronald Callais and seconded by McNeely Rome, the board unanimously approved payment of the projects that would need to be paid through South Lafourche Levee District funding once all State funding was expended.**

Mr. Callais announced that the Committee had reviewed the Statement of Probable Cost that was prepared by Picciola & Associates to raise the Crown on Sections A-East and A-West to 17 ft and 18 ft. He stated that two options had been recommended for further study.

Mr. Callais advised that the Corps had requested a Right of Entry to conduct surveys of the Larose to Golden Meadow Polder System. He recommended that their request be permitted.

**Moved by Ronald Callais and seconded by Roland Curole, the board unanimously approved the USACE's Right of Entry request with ingress and egress for conducting surveys of the Larose to Golden Meadow Polder System.**

#### AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Mr. Dean Savoie introduced himself and stated that he was running for Seat E on the Greater Lafourche Port Commission and would appreciate consideration of the voters.

#### GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

##### **SLIDE PRESENTATION**

General Manager Windell Curole showed before and after slides of work that had been accomplished inside Pump Station No. 8. Slides showed a fiber optics cable that would be relocated to due to the work that would be done at D-North Ramp. Slides showed the Intersection of Sections D-North and D-South where wave action from Hurricane Ida had moved debris across the levee. Mr. Curole stated that the levee was being lifted and shaped to a 16 ft. elevation. The next slides showed the construction of the LA 1 Elevated highway to Fourchon that was being built over the A-West levee to connect inside our levee system. Mr. Curole explained the stages of construction. More slides of that area showed marsh growing and a corner of the levee that had eroded but built back up since the storm. GOBI mats at the water line pipes performed well for Hurricane Ida. We will attempt to repeat the procedure. C-South slides showed work that started 8 months before Hurricane Ida hit and still has a few months left to complete. Mr. Curole stated that shells in our soil to construct the levee were not looked upon favorably in the past by the Corps. However, the Jacksonville Corps stated that the shells were not a problem. Slides of C-North show levee work that bring the levee to 18 ft. elevation.

##### **A-EAST & A-WEST COST ESTIMATES – CROWN TO 17' AND 18'**

Mr. Curole stated that A-East and A-West cost estimates were discussed earlier. He recommended the board authorize Angelette Design to begin detailed design of A-West, and Picciola & Associates to begin detailed design of A-East.

**Moved by McNeely Rome and seconded by Mitch Danos, the board unanimously authorized Angelette Design to begin detailed design of A-West and Picciola & Associates to begin detailed design of A-East.**

##### **ROE REQUEST FROM CORPS – SURVEYS OF LAROSE TO GOLDEN MEADOW POLDER LEVEE SYSTEM**

Mr. Curole stated that the Right of Entry was approved earlier in the meeting. In speaking with Chris Dunn, Head of Engineering for the Corp, Mr. Curole stated that the design of the hurricane levees was taken directly from river levees that must hold back water for six months. Hurricane levees hold back water for 12 hours at most, except for rare occurrences. Mr. Dunn stated that the Corps may have overreacted with their standards post Katrina, but they've now backed off in some areas. Mr. Curole requested they study our system to see why it succeeded when they projected that it would fail. A successful study will allow better flood protection for systems similar to the Larose to Golden Meadow levee system.

##### **FY2024 PROPOSED BUDGET**

Mr. Curole presented the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2024 that would begin July 1, 2023, and run through June 30, 2024. He briefed the board on the plan and recommended the board accept the budget as presented.

**Moved by Ronald Callais and seconded by McNeely Rome, the board unanimously accepted the FY2024 Proposed Budget as presented.**

**SECTION E-NORTH SW CORNER TO NE CORNER – ADVERTISING FOR BID**

Mr. Curole stated that the Clovelly area at Section E-North was one of the lowest areas in the system since Hurricane Rita. He added that we were advertising for bids that would move material to the base of the levee. Advertising for the shaping of the levee would come later in a separate contract.

**BOND LOAN PAY OFF**

Mr. Curole announced most of the money for debris monitoring and removal had been received from FEMA. Those funds, as agreed upon by the board, were used to repay the Hurricane Ida Repairs Bond Loan. Mr. Curole thanked All South Consulting Engineers for their work in filing the FEMA claims for the Levee District.

**ENGINEERING REPORT**

**OFFICE OF COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION**

Mr. Daniel Dearmond stated that the projects reported by Mr. Curole were proceeding through the CPRA process.

**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 Specification are complete. They have been submitted to US Army Corps of Engineers and CPRA for approval.
- **Section E-North Levee Improvements Southeast Corner to Northwest Corner**  
We have completed the plans and specifications. We have LA CPRA approval. We have begun the geotechnical work. We will begin advertising for bids on March 13, 2023, and accept bids on April 11, 2023.
- **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.
- **Hurricane Ida Storm Damage Repairs to Main Office**  
Grand Isle Shipyard, LLC is the Contractor. They are roughing in the electrical and air conditioning ductwork and working on exterior Hardie Siding, doors and windows. Work is scheduled to be complete in May.

The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 3 in the amount of \$37,766.25.

**Moved by Roland Curole, seconded by Brett DeRoche and unanimously accepted, the board approved Pay Request No. 3 in the amount of \$37,766.25.**

- **Hurricane Ida Storm Damage Repairs to Mechanic Shop**  
Frisco Industrial Contractors, LLC is the Contractor. All of the work has been completed and we are currently in the Lien Period.

There is no pay application this month.

- **Section D-North Levee**  
Outer Limit Contractors, LLC is the Contractor. The project is complete and currently in the Lien Period.

There is no pay application this month.

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

We received seven (7) bids on February 28, 2023. Circle, LLC was the low bidder in the amount of \$377,240.00. We recommend award.

**Moved by Brian Marts, seconded by Roland Guidry and unanimously accepted, the board accepted the low bid from Circle, LLC in the amount of \$377,240 for the Repairs to Leon Theriot Lock Floodwall and LOOP Floodwall, and authorized the president or general manager/executive secretary to sign any documents necessary to move forward on the project.**

- **D-South and A-East Storm Damage Repairs**

Compeaux and Son is the contractor for this job. They have submitted Invoice No. 1117 in the amount of \$16,115.00.

**Moved by Ronald Callais, seconded by Brett DeRoche and unanimously accepted, the board approved Invoice No. 1117 in the amount of \$16,115.00.**

**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 developed servitude requirements for the project and re-sent 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.

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

Estimated Advertise Date: Q3 2023

Estimated Completion Date: TBD

Proposed Elevation: +3'

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

Contractor: LA Contracting Enterprise LLC

Contracted Amount: \$692,710.00

Estimated Completion Date: June 12, 2023

Proposed Elevation: +16'

Notice to Proceed was issued February 13, 2023.

Clearing and grubbing of the site has continued.

Fiber optic temporary relocation was completed.

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

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

Attorney Ryan Collins added that he had been in contact with Senator Allain's attorney. Mr. Collins stated that he would prepare an addendum to the previous agreement with Allain-LeBreton Company.

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

Estimated Completion Date: June 2023

Revised engineering agreement in the amount of \$121,850.00

**Moved by Brett DeRoche and seconded by Mitch Danos, the board unanimously approved the revised engineering agreement in the amount of \$121,850.00.**

**LEEVE IMPROVEMENTS – ANGELETTE-PICCIOLA, LLC**

Engineer Neil Angelette reported the following:

- **C-South Levee Reshaping and Compaction**  
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 2 to 3 months.
- **C-North Levee Improvements**  
The contractor, Compeaux and Sons Construction, LLC is continuing work on the project to shape the levee to +13.5'. We are recommending approval of Invoice #1116 in the amount of \$94,125.00. This project will be complete in about 2 months.

The contractor has submitted Invoice #1116 in the amount of \$94,125.00

**Moved by Ronald Callais, seconded by Roland Curole and unanimously accepted, the board approved Invoice #1116 in the amount of \$94,125.00.**

- **C-South Levee Improvements**  
The clearing portion of this project is complete, and we are finalizing our recommendations on the fill phase of the repairs.
- **Yankee Canal & Section A-East Erosion Repairs**  
The contractor, Grand Isle Shipyard, LLC, has started construction of this project to add rip-rap to the toe of the Yankee Canal Levee. We estimate this project will be complete in approximately 2 to 3 months.
- **Larose Floodwall Vessel Impact Barrier**  
We have received the permits for this project, and we have submitted the plans and specification for final review and approval by CPRA. We anticipate receiving approval this week from CPRA to begin advertising.
- **Section F Berm Improvements**  
We have submitted the plans and specification for final review and approval by the CPRA, and we anticipate receiving approval this week from CPRA to begin advertising.

**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)

- **Reach K Marsh Mitigation Emergency Rehabilitation Phase II**  
This project is on hold.
- **Supply & Deliver Material Lost to Reach K (Hurricane Barry)**  
This project is on hold.

**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 Roland Guidry and unanimously carried, the board approved Letters of No Objection for the following requests:**

1. **GREATER LAFOURCHE PORT COMMISSION**  
**CUP NO:** P20230098  
**LOCATION:** Lafourche Parish, LA; Lat 29-07-53.92 N / Long 90-13-02.58W

**DESCRIPTION:** Maintenance dredge of C Port slips 7, 8, and 9 in Port Fourchon. Approx 8,440 cy of material will be excavated and placed onsite. Approx 38.07 ac of unvegetated water bottoms and upland habitat may be impacted by the proposed activity.

**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. BABIN, JOSEPH**

**CUP NO:** P20230026

**LOCATION:** Lafourche Parish, LA; Lat 29-15-14.93"N / Long -90-12-42.05"W; 24273 Hwy 1 Leeville, 70352

**DESCRIPTION:** Proposed rebuilding of existing dock that was damaged during Hurricane Ida. Approx. 500 cy of rock and 200 cy of sand will be used as fill. Approx. 0.09 ac of unvegetated water bottom and upland habitat may be impacted as a result of the proposed activities.

**4. SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT**

**CUP NO:** P20211144

**LOCATION:** Lafourche Parish, LA; Lat 29-34-40"N / Long -90-22-40"W

**DESCRIPTION:** Proposed to install pile clusters along the floodwall in the Intracoastal Canal Waterway to provide a vessel impact barrier.

**BOARD ATTORNEY**

Attorney Ryan Collins stated that he 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 Mitch Danos, and unanimously carried, the board approved the payment of the invoices as presented.**

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**FILL POSITION OF GENERAL MANAGER**

In the absence of Commissioner Monty Vegas, President Keith Guidry announced that an interview for the position of General Manager was conducted, and the Committee recommended hiring Mr. Nicholas Matherne to fill that position.

**Moved by Ronald Callais and seconded by Brett DeRoche, the board unanimously agreed to hire Mr. Nicholas Matherne to fill the vacant position of General Manager.**

Mr. Matherne thanked the board for their trust in his ability as the new general manager and gave a brief background to his qualifications and aspirations as General Manager and for the community of South Lafourche. Mr. Matherne introduced his wife Sarah and brother Brennan who were also in the audience.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Curole gave a brief history of the earliest board presidents and praised the works of employees past and present for the success of the Larose to Golden Meadow Hurricane Protection System.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**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