

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDING
OF
SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT
FEBRUARY 8, 2010**

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, February 8, 2010, 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 January was called to order by President Ronald Callais. He directed the secretary to call roll.

Board members present: Ronald Callais
 Clarence "CJ" Marts, Jr.
 Lula Auenson
 Bob Faulk
 Roy Gisclair
 Monty Vegas
 Robert "Bobby" Eymard, Sr. (arrived at 3:23 p.m.)

Board members absent: Ernest J. "E.J." Gremillion
 Mitch Danos

Also present were: Executive Secretary and General Manager Windell Curole; Administrative Assistant 5 Mary Punch; Clerical Assistant Amy Gisclair; Levee Maintenance Superintendent Jimmy Badeaux; Engineering Personnel Joe Picciola, Ben Hodson, Neil Angelette, David O'Reilly and John Plaisance; Attorney Bryce Autin; Corps personnel Joey Wagner and Bill Foret; Bill Pouson of Tarpon Appraisal; the family of Ejay Rouse; and news media.

READING OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the January 11, 2009 Regular Meeting were approved unanimously upon a motion of Roy Gisclair and seconded by Bob Faulk.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

PRESENTATION OF LETTER TO EJ ROUSSE FAMILY

President Ronald Callais read the following letter in memory of former Levee District employee Ejay Rouse:

To: Leontine "Tin", Wayne, Glenn and Lisa;

Ejay Rouse was a friend, a co worker and someone who represented the best in every way how the South Lafourche Levee works to protect the community. His desire and ability to get the job done no matter what problems or hurdles stood in his way is what made him invaluable. I could always count on him to be there to handle each problem with determination, integrity and intelligence.

Some say he could be faulted by pushing the other guys too hard. But I think it may not have been a fault to push hard when we had such important work to do. He also pushed hard in trying to thank our guys with his great cooking.

He always kept me informed on everything in the field and he understood and did everything the Board and I asked him to do. I trusted him totally, and it was as if my own eyes and ears were where he was when he was doing work for the Levee District. This modest message is a small, but heartfelt way of thanking you for supporting the work that he performed so well for this community.

The letter was signed by General Manager Windell Curole and each Commissioner. President Callais presented the framed letter to the family.

UPCOMING ALBL WORKSHOP – MAY 6-7, 2010

Mr. Callais announced that the ALBL Workshop would be held May 6 and 7 and would include the levee school this year. He encouraged all commissioners to attend.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT (LULA AUENSON)

Vice President Lula Auenson reported that the Executive Committee had met and discussed the upcoming large project on the west side of the levee system. Mr. Curole briefed the board on what was involved and the right-of-ways that are needed.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

LA 1 COALITION

Mr. Henri Boulet thanked the board for their past support and gave a brief update on the LA 1 project. Mr. Boulet stated that they would be receiving \$3M in stimulus funds that was applied for this past fall. LA 1 Coalition is looking at other avenues of funding as well.

The Leeville Bridge is open and the southern segment should be completed by late 2011. We will be working to obtain funding for the Golden Meadow to Leeville project. We are also seeking coastal funding from the State for upgrades from Leeville south to what will be the new Caminada Bay Bridge so we can raise that road to a +4.5' elevation. This project is estimated at \$31M and will provide a wider road with safe shoulders.

General Manager Windell Curole requested the board approve the request for \$1,000 donation for membership dues.

On a motion by Lula Auenson, seconded by Monty Vegas and unanimously carried, the board approved the donation to LA 1 Coalition in the amount of \$1,000.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

ROW ISSUES FOR THE IMPROVED LEVEES

Mr. Curole briefed the board on a new project that involved the area from Cut Off to Golden Meadow on the west side of the protection system. Mr. Curole stated that more right-of-way is needed and requested the board authorize President Callais to hire, sign documents and award contracts for this project.

Moved Roy Gisclair, seconded by Bob Faulk and unanimously carried, the board authorized President Ronald Callais to hire, sign any documents and award contracts for R-O-W needs and construction for the Cut Off to Golden Meadow west-side project.

Mr. Curole informed the board that the first step in obtaining the property was to get an appraisal for the property. He explained the area involved and said that a substantial amount of dirt would be needed for this project which will result in elevations of 16' on the south end to 13' on the north end. Tarpon Appraisal's Bill Pouson reported that he had toured the levee with Mr. Jimmy Badeaux from Mr. Paul Dufrene's property on the north end, down to the lock in Golden Meadow. Mr. Pouson stated that in the Galliano and Golden Meadow area, the property that would be taken is approximately 4,000 to 5,000 ft off the highway. This could be categorized as rear pastureland. Many items are considered when appraising property including the proximity to public access, utilities, and the expense of potential development. Mr. Pouson stated that he has not worked up any numbers yet, but would estimate the property to be worth about \$1,000 or less per acre, or about two cents per square foot. When you get to Golden Meadow, the property changes due to the fact that a lot of it is already developed. This means that land will be significantly more expensive to purchase than the Galliano and Cut Off areas. One example of developed property that was sold in this area went for \$52,500 per acre, or \$1.25 per square foot. Alternative methods which include trucking materials in, was discussed.

SLIDE PRESENTATION

Mr. Curole presented a slide show presentation on the right-of-way area needed, the elevation of the south floodgate in Golden Meadow, damage to that same floodgate, and the erosion control project provided by Floating Island. Mr. Joe Picciola presented slides of the Leon Theriot Lock proposed modifications.

ABSTRACT ASSISTANCE FROM WATER DISTRICT

Mr. Curole informed the board that the Water District had been working with the Levee District to speed up the process of obtaining right-of-ways for the levee upgrades.

LA 1 COALITION – CEA FOR \$1,000 MEMBERSHIP DUES (DONATION)

This item was discussed during the Audience Comments section.

ACCIDENT REPORT – BARGE DAMAGE TO FLOODGATE

Mr. Curole stated that Attorney Bryce Autin has reviewed the accident report and will be contacting the company involved for their responsibility of damages.

PROJECTS FUNDED BY STATE SURPLUS

Most of the work to be funded is on the west side. We also have some work around the Clovelly farms area. The levee in that area is at a 9 ft. elevation and we'd like to get that up to 12 or 13 ft. Another project is to raise the levee between Clovelly and Breton Canal. All material in the borrow canal has been dredged, but the material need to be shaped to form a 13ft levee. That area is at 11 and 12 ft, and we want to raise it to +13 ft.

CORPS LETTER ON LOOP GATE

We presented a letter from the Corps on the LOOP Gate. Hurricane Ike came within 30 inches of overtopping the gate which is about four feet lower than the levees on either side. We have been working with the Corps to have a ramp installed. The Corps has asked for a response and we will be submitting that. We met with LOOP and they are in agreement with this. A fiber optic cable which runs under the gate will need to be removed. Mr. Joey Wagner explained that according to new regulations, nothing can go through the levee so the cable will need to be removed and the gate will have to be elevated.

Mr. Curole added that the Corps had sent a request for right-of-entry to elevate the Golden Meadow Pump Station floodwall and requested the board authorize President Callais to send the letter authorizing this construction.

Moved by Lula Auenson, seconded by Clarence Marts and unanimously carried, the board authorized President Ronald Callais to send a letter granting right-of-entry to the Corps authorizing them to proceed with the construction of elevating the Golden Meadow Pump Station floodwall according to their letter of request dated January 21, 2010.

LL&G ISSUES

Mr. Curole announced that he, the engineers and attorney will meet with LL&G personnel on Thursday, Feb. 25th to discuss outstanding claims on the lock.

LAROSE FLOODWALL

One area of the floodwall located in the most northern part of the system is below 7ft. A large storm could overtop this wall and cause failure. After speaking with Joey Wagner, we have no real solution now, but will continue to review possible solutions.

OLD GENERATOR FOR SALE

The Levee District would like authorization to advertise to sell its old 60kw generator which has already been replaced.

Moved by Bob Faulk, seconded by Roy Gisclair and unanimously carried, the board authorized advertising to sell the used 60kw generator.

PHILADELPHIA GEAR QUOTE FOR UNIT REPAIR

Internal damage resulted in higher quotes for two unit repairs from Pump Station No. 1. We would like authorization to repair these units at a cost of \$46,838 for one unit and \$50,587 for the second unit. Mr. Curole explained that these units have been running since 1981.

On a motion of Clarence Marts, seconded by Monty Vegas and unanimously carried, the board authorized repairs to two gear units at a cost of \$46,838 and \$50,587.

Mr. Curole added that the Corps is raising sheet piles by the Chouest crawfish pond from 11½ to 13½ ft with a much stronger sheet pile wall. In the future, a T-wall will be used if we need additional elevation.

OFFICE OF PUBLIC WORKS

No one was in attendance from the Office of Public Works.

CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Corps of Engineers Joey Wagner reported on the following four projects under design:

- Larose Floodwall
- LOOP Floodgate which will become a ramp by the Golden Meadow Pumping Station. We will meet with the Levee District next week with the final plans for this project.
- E-North project is almost ready to award. This is the area on the east side near Clovelly farms where rocks will be placed.
- Crawfish Farms project is 67% complete and should be finished by mid April.

We re-ran 1965 storm models and are awaiting results for new elevations according to the new guidelines.

PROJECT ENGINEERS

PICCIOLA & ASSOCIATES

Program Manager Ben Hodson gave the following report:

- **LT Lock – Completion Phase**
We are currently responding to multiple claims issued by the contractor. We are scheduled to meet with LL&G and their attorney on Feb. 25th to discuss all claims.
- **LT Lock - Elevation of South Floodgate**
The contractor has removed the gates and delivered them to Houma. The contractor has begun cleaning and sand blasting the gates. The gates appear to be in excellent condition but we will continue to monitor as cleaning continues. The contractor has also begun to weld the extensions to the gates.

A barge struck and sheared off the upper hinge assembly anchor bolts. We are working with the contractor to develop a plan of action to repair the bolts.

We have a pay request in the amount of \$146,024.97 and recommend the board authorize payment for this invoice.

On a Roy Gisclair, seconded by Bobby Eymard and unanimously carried, the board authorized payment of Pay Request No. 1 in the amount of \$146,024.97.

- **CIAP – Small Dredge (Lafourche Parish)**
The contractor for this project is F. Miller. They have completed construction of the container levee. They plan to begin dredging the week of February 15.

J. WAYNE PLAISANCE, INC.

Engineer John Plaisance reported the following:

- **The East Golden Meadow Retention project**
We have a base application that we will be submitting to the Corps and DNR this week. We will get the base alignment to Bryce Autin so he can start reviewing the right-of-ways in that area.
- **Pump Station No. 1**
This project is essentially complete. We are submitting a Certificate of Substantial Completion. We are also submitting Change Order No. 3 in the amount of \$905.15 for additional supports for electrical conduit to air valves and Pay Request No. 3 in the amount of \$76,705.81

Moved by Bobby Eymard, seconded by Bob Faulk and unanimously carried, the board approved Change Order No. 3 for an additional \$905.15 added to the contract price, and Pay Request No. 3 for \$76,705.81.

Moved by Roy Gisclair, seconded by Lula Auenson and unanimously carried, the board accepted the Certificate of Substantial Completion.

LEVEE IMPROVEMENTS – ANGELETTE-PICCIOLA, LLC

Engineer Neil Angelette reported the following:

- **Section A-East – Raising to +16' (Present elevation is 13')**

Weeks Marine, Inc. is proceeding with this project which is scheduled to be substantially complete in about a month. We are recommending approval of Pay Request No. 24 for \$114,634.33.

Moved by Lula Auenson, seconded by Monty Vegas and unanimously carried, the board approved Pay Request No. 24 for \$114,634.33.

- **Section D-South – Raising to +13.5'**

Manson Gulf, LLC is proceeding with this project which is scheduled to be complete by the middle of 2010. We are recommending approval of Pay Request No. 11 for \$249,339.95.

Moved by Roy Gisclair, seconded by Clarence Marts and unanimously carried, the board approved Pay Request No. 11 for \$249,339.95.

- **Section C-North Pipeline Walls (Present elevation is 8,8 & 9')**

We have forwarded our plans and specifications to the Corps of Engineers, State of Louisiana and pipeline companies for their review. We will begin advertising for bids as soon as the District is comfortable with the reviews from the agencies and companies involved.

- **Section E-North – Raising to +13' (Present elevation is 10')**

We are finalizing the right-of-way map showing the locations where additional right-of-ways will be need for the increased flood protection. This map will be completed by the middle of this week. We will also be submitting preliminary plans, specifications and cost estimates to the District, State of Louisiana and the Corps of Engineers for their review and comments.

- **C-South and B-North Levee Improvements**

We are proceeding with the design for a bucket dredge project to provide additional material to raise these levees up to +13' for C-South and +14' for B-North. We are also finalizing the right-of-way maps showing the locations where additional right-of-ways will be needed for the increased flood protection. These maps should be completed in about a week.

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

In the absence of Chairman Mitch Danos, General Manager Windell Curole announced that three permit requests were received for review and, although he felt none interfered with the levee, Mr. Curole requested that the Manti permit be withheld until further investigation had been performed.

On a motion of Lula Auenson, seconded by Roy Gisclair and unanimously carried, the board approved Letters of No Objection for the following requests with Manti Operation Co. being withheld until further investigations are made:

1. MANTI OPERATION COMPANY

CUP NO: P20091323

LOCATION: Lafourche Parish, LA; POB 00+00 4" flowline (installed by marsh buggy) Lat 29° 28' 12"N / Long 90° 26' 05"W; POE 11+20 4flowline (installed by marsh buggy) Lat 29° 28' 12"N / Long 90° 26' 11"W; POB11+20 4" flowine (installed by mud plow) Lat 29° 28' 12"N / Long 90° 26' 11"W; POE 155+98 4 flowline (installed by mud plow) Lat 29° 30' 22"N / Long 90° 25' 05"W; Section 022, 027, 028 and 033 T18S R20E; Located approximately 7.8 miles southwesterly of Cut Off, LA.

DESCRIPTION: Proposed installation of a 4" flowline, approximately 15,598' in length, a 45' x 160' production barge, and a 50' x 170' shell pad to serve the Exxon Fee Well No. 001. Wheel washing is proposed for an approximately 200' wide x 350' long portion of the pipeline installation. Approximately 4,449 cubic yards of native material will be dredged and used as fill for the pipeline installation; 3,889 cubic yards of native material will be displaced as a result of wheel washing, and 944 cubic yards on rock will be used as fill for the shell pad. No other dredge or fill required. *Approximately 3.31 acres of non-vegetated water bottoms may be impacted as a result of this proposed activity.

2. NICHOLLS STATE UNIVERSITY

CUP NO: P20091070

LOCATION: Lafourche Parish, LA; POB: Lat 29° 11' 26.41"N, Long 90° 02' 57.84"W; POE: 29° 10' 53.16"N, Long 90° 03' 50.57"W; Section 22, T22S-R24E; Located on Gulf side of Elmer's Island approximately 15 km NE of Fourchon Beach off Hwy 1.

DESCRIPTION: The proposed project, "Elmer's Island Dune and Beach community Restoration", includes the installation of 1800 meters of sand fencing on Elmer's Island to accrete sand and build dune. The 1800 meters of sand fencing is divided into three treatment and three control sites. The treatment sites include the additional installation of 900 meters of filter tubes filled with sugarcane bagasse immediately adjacent to the sand fence, on the Gulf side. After a predetermined monitoring period, all sites will then be vegetatively planted using marshhay cordgrass and bitter panicum on both side of the fencing with 2m spacing. No excavation is required for the proposed project. Project site will be accessed using ATV's with no wetlands or waterbodies to be crossed. *Approximately 1.77 acres of beach dune habitat may be impacted as a result of this proposed activity.

3. EXXONMOBILE PIPELINE COMPANY

CUP NO: P20091338

LOCATION: Lafourche Parish, LA; In a private, gated canal south of Delta Farms impoundment, approximately 3 miles easterly of Larose; Lat 29° 34' 23.99"N, Long 90° 18' 31.08"W; Section 55, T17S-R21E.

DESCRIPTION: Proposed placement of Submar concrete mats over one shallow 16-inch pipeline and one exposed 16-inch pipeline where they intersect a private, gated canal. An area approximately 440' x 40' will be covered by the mats. Work site to be accessed by water. *Approximately 0.4 acres of unvegetated water bottom will be impacted by the proposed placement of mats.

BOARD ATTORNEY

Attorney Bryce Autin reported he is currently working on the following items:

- LL&G Claims
- Right-of-Way Acquisitions
- Allain Agreement – currently working with their attorney
- Damage to the floodgate – contacting company
- Cindy and Hector Barrios – Appropriation of property
- Agreement with Parish for funding of projects (Nick Matherne)

FINANCE COMMITTEE

INVOICES

Chairman Roy Gisclair announced that the Finance Committee had reviewed the invoices. He advised that the invoices were in order and recommended they be paid.

On a motion of Roy Gisclair, seconded by Lula Auenson and unanimously carried, the board approved the payment of the invoices as presented.

MAINTENANCE AND EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE

DRAGLINE AND DOZER

Chairman Clarence Marts reported that the committee recommends General Manager Windell Curole be authorized to review specifications for purchasing a bulldozer.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

CIVIL SERVICE

Chairman Monty Vegas announced that the Levee District a representative from the Port Commission came to the office and spoke to our employees about the pros and cons of getting away from Civil Service. Mr. James Rome stated that there have been only positive impacts since their removal from Civil Service. After speaking with the employees, a poll taken resulted in 100% agreement of all classified employees leaving Civil Service. Mr. Curole added that the main benefit of leaving would be that our board would make final decisions and also that wages would be up to board. Basically, the board would have more control. Mr. Curole recommended the board authorize President Callais to send a letter of request to the State Civil Service Commission to be removed.

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 8, 2010 REGULAR MEETING

Page 7 of 7

Moved by Monty Vegas, seconded by Roy Gisclair and unanimously approved, the board gave President Ronald Callais authority to sign a letter of request to remove from the South Lafourche Levee District from State Civil Service.

Mr. Vegas announced that the part-time unclassified janitorial position held by Mr. E.J. Richardelle was up for annual renewal and recommended the board approve the renewing of his employment for one year.

Moved by Monty Vegas, seconded by Clarence Marts and unanimously approved, the board renewed the employment of Janitor E.J. Richardelle for one year.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Bobby Eymard stated that he had been questioned why there is nothing to tie up to on the west side of the lock. Lafitte skiff owners have requested that something be added to keep the wind from blowing the boats across the lock on the inside. Mr. Curole replied that they would review this issue and try to come up with a solution. Mr. Eymard further stated that one large boat had commented that at night they cannot see the red and green lights on the lock. The problem could be that the bulbs are too small, the lights are not high enough, or the flood lights are too bright. Mr. Curole stated that he would check into it.

With no further business to discuss, the board unanimously adjourned the meeting.

Ronald Callais, President

Windell A. Curole, Executive Secretary