

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDING  
OF  
SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT  
JULY 12, 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, July 12, 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 July was called to order by President Ronald Callais. He directed the secretary to call roll.

Board members present:     Ronald Callais  
                                  Clarence "CJ" Marts, Jr.  
                                  Bob Faulk  
                                  Roy Gisclair  
                                  Robert "Bobby" Eymard, Sr.  
                                  Lula Auenson  
                                  Mitch Danos

Board members absent:     Ernest J. "E.J." Gremillion  
                                  Monty Vegas

Also present were: Executive Secretary and General Manager Windell Curole; Administrative Assistant 5 Mary Punch; Levee Board Operations Superintendent Jimmy Badeaux; Clerical Assistant Amy Gisclair; Engineering Personnel Joe Picciola, Ben Hodson, Brad Adams, and Neil Angelette; Board Attorney Bryce Autin; North Lafourche Conservation Levee and Drainage District Dwayne Bourgeois; Corps personnel Joey Wagner and Bill Foret; OCPR Rick Dugas; landowner Butch Chouest; and news media.

**READING OF THE MINUTES**

**The minutes of the June 7, 2010 Regular Meeting and the June 29, 2010 Special Meeting were approved unanimously upon a motion of Mitch Danos and seconded by Bob Faulk.**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Ronald Callais announced that he had nothing to report.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

Landowner Butch Chouest stated that he was still unclear as to where the property line is located for the ROW on his property. Engineer Neil Angelette explained the area and answered questions presented. It was agreed that Mr. Angelette would walk the area with Mr. Chouest to show him where his property lines will fall.

**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

**FEDERAL/LOCAL COST SHARE**

General Manager Windell Curole explained that at this time we still have a 70/30 cost share split with the Corps for projects.

**SPECIAL CPRA MEETING**

Mr. Curole explained that former Mississippi Governor Mavis is now the secretary of the Navy. President Obama has authorized coastal work in south Louisiana and placed Mr. Mavis in charge of this project. Mr. Mavis attended the special meeting and was informed by CPRA of some of the coastal needs and projects that could be beneficial to this area. At this time, federal funding looks promising for these projects.

**TWIN PIPELINE CANAL**

Mr. Curole reminded the board that they recently authorized him to work on some of the oil spill issues. Mr. Curole explained that one idea to protect the Terrebonne-Timbalier area was to go along the twin pipelines canals which runs from just south of the Lock in Golden Meadow on the east side, to the Terrebonne ridge. This will take care of Catfish Lake, marsh areas and the Pointe Aux Chene reserves. Boom was approved for this area and the permit has been signed. The Parish, Terrebonne Levee District and South Lafourche Levee District are all behind this project.

**EMERGENCY OPERATIONS MANUAL**

Mr. Curole presented the updated Emergency Operations Manual to the board. An updated EOM is required every two years, but can be updated at any time. Mr. Curole requested the board review the manual and notify the office of any necessary changes or corrections.

**LAROSE FLOODGATE – CORPS INSPECTION**

Mr. Curole announced that the Corps' inspection of the Larose floodgate is due soon. Levee Board Operations Superintendent Jimmy Badeaux added that other than a few seals that need to be changed, no problems are expected.

Mr. Curole added that with the tropical storms that hit Mexico over the past few weeks, water in the bayou was at a two foot differential. If we had not had the lock, the floodgate would have been shut for up to two weeks. We have had no complaints with the lock in Golden Meadow. However, in Larose they have had to use extra tugs to help pull boats through the floodgate where the difference in water levels inside and outside the floodgate was at 1½ feet. Mr. Curole added that we are able to open the floodgate in Larose consistently because of the lock and the siphon.

**CROSSING OF THE ROW**

Mr. Curole informed the board that when the Corps made the first levee lifts we had to relocate pipelines, power lines, etc. Back in the late 70's all the owners were kept on record, but since then ownerships have changed. I've spoken to the engineers and requested they document the current owners of these crossings. Afterwards SLLD office personnel will contact those owners on an annual basis to verify ownership and to keep our records current.

**CORPS LETTERS FROM JOEY WAGNER**

Mr. Curole presented a Corps letter to the board and explained the construction costs to build the levee system. Corps Program Manager Joey Wagner explained that the \$400M was an estimated cost from 1965 to the present. Actual cost for construction is currently around \$115M.

**CORPS OBJECTION FOR USE OF SPOIL, E-SOUTH & D-SOUTH**

Mr. Curole was called to the Corps office last week to discuss work on E-South and D-South. The Corp showed concern over the type materials we are using and discussed de-authorizing our project. If our levees are de-authorized, we would not get any more direct federal funding, nor would we get funds for repairs should something happen to our system. Mr. Curole met with board engineers to discuss and emphasized that he has always tried to get to Corps standards, but they keep changing. After Hurricane Katrina the Corps changed their standards. The SLLD only received a small portion of funding so we could not build to the new Corps standards. New Orleans, on the other hand, received billions of dollars so they are able to build to the post-Katrina standards. We will meet again next week with the Corp to try to resolve this issue and will report back at the next meeting. This will also affect flood insurance so we will do everything possible to get this resolved.

### **CONOCO-PHILLIPS PIPELINE**

Mr. Curole explained that Conoco-Phillips has de-activated an old Continental line in Section A-East which is on the east side of the bayou in Golden Meadow. They cut the line on each side of the levee. Mr. Curole stated that he had urged Conoco-Phillips to work with the district to remove the line, but they would not. Mr. Curole recommended the board hire an engineer to assess the removal of this line after hurricane season is over. He explained that the line that once ran over the top of the levee is now possibly 4 feet beneath the surface due to raising levee heights and building over the pipeline.

**Moved by Mitch Danos, seconded by Bob Faulk and unanimously passed, the board authorized President Ronald Callais to hire engineers to assess and plan the removal of a section of Continental Pipeline which runs through the levee in Section A-East that has been recently abandoned by Conoco-Phillips.**

Mr. Curole explained that the pipeline is approximately 16 inches in diameter and was abandoned two months earlier.

### **ENGINEERING REPORT**

#### **CORPS OF ENGINEERS**

Corps of Engineers Maude Johnson reported on the following projects:

- E-North Mitigation Levee: Should see movement in the next 60 days. We need a letter from Mr. Curole confirming an agreement been worked out with the boat owner on Hwy 24 so we can start bringing in supplies.
- E-North Erosion Control: Need confirmation that the erosion control will not be buried.
- Golden Meadow Pumping Station: We ran into some design issues. We'll have to go back and address those issues and we'll also need another review. We will not award until Aug. 21, 2010. Anything over \$50M must go through a peer review.
- Larose Floodwall: We will meet tomorrow with landowners and pipeline owners that go thru GIWW and discuss with Engineer Neil Angelette and Parish President Charlotte Randolph to discuss plans for the floodwall in Larose.

We met last week on pre-inspection items and we are working on a letter to address these issues.

Mr. Curole explained that the Corps does not have enough money to complete the Larose Floodwall so it is important that we put aside funds to help with this critical project. Mr. Wagner added that they are also working to secure additional funding for this project.

President Callais reminded the board of the Corps' Change of Command ceremony to be held on July 24<sup>th</sup>. He also announced that Col. Alvin Lee will be at the SLLD office at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 14<sup>th</sup> to introduce the new commander.

#### **PROJECT ENGINEERS**

##### **PICCIOLA & ASSOCIATES**

Engineer Joe Picciola gave the following report:

- **Leon Theriot Lock**  
We received word back from LL&G. We found that we do owe them some money and will be forwarding change orders to Attorney Bryce Autin for review.
- **B-South /A-West: Phase I-Clearing and Grubbing**

- Phase 1 of this project consists of clearing and grubbing the islands located in the borrow area. Once the trees have been removed the islands will be surveyed to determine the amount of material available. This material will be used to bring the levee to a design elevation of +16.0.
  - Phase 2 will consist of using onsite material and offsite material to bring the levee to a design elevation of +16.0.
- **E-South Phase 1**
  - Phase 1 consists of using existing materials on the berm to stack up on the levee and increase the height of the levee to a +13.0 EL. The average elevation is currently +11.4 ft. Work began Thursday, June 24, 2010. When this phase is complete the levee will be surveyed to determine the amount of material needed to complete this project and bring to a +15 EL.
- **LT Lock - Elevation of South Floodgate Phase 2**
  - Professional Service Industries, Inc. (PSI) is contracted to the geotechnical portion of this project. The as-built structure is currently being drawn. Possible designs for tying into the existing structure are being discussed.
- **CIAP – Small Dredge (Lafourche Parish)**  
This project is complete and in Clear Lien at this time. The contractor has moved off site.

**J. WAYNE PLAISANCE, INC.**

- Engineer John Plaisance was not in attendance.

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

Engineer Neil Angelette reported the following:

- **Section A-East – Raising to +16' (Present elevation is 13')**  
This project is complete with the exception of some minor grading. We are currently in the clear lien period.
- **Section D-South – Raising to +13.5'**  
Manson Gulf, LLC is proceeding with this project. The levee has been raised to an elevation of 13.5' and work is continuing on the berms. We are recommending approval of Pay Request No. 15 for \$329,394.25.

**Moved by Lula Auenson, seconded by Roy Gisclair and unanimously carried, the board approved Pay Request No. 15 in the amount of \$329,394.25.**

- **Section C-North Pipeline Walls – Raising to 15' (Present elevation is 8,8 & 9')**  
We received bids on July 7, 2010 for this project. The low bid was Low Land Construction Co., for \$1,689,000.00. We are recommending awarding this project to the low bidder pending approval from the State of Louisiana.

**Moved by Bob Faulk, seconded by Clarence Marts and unanimously carried, the board agreed to award Section C-North Pipeline Walls project to the low bid, Low Land Construction Co., for \$1,689,000, pending approval from the State of Louisiana.**

Also related to this project are three different pipeline companies that we are working with for the three different walls. All three companies have given approval for this project. One has requested the Levee District enter into an agreement with them acknowledging work around the pipelines, insurance, scheduling and various other issues. We recommend approval from the board authorizing President Callais or Mr. Curole to the agreement after review by board attorney.

**Moved by Lula Auenson, seconded by Mitch Danos and unanimously carried, the board authorized President Ronald Callais or General Manager Windell Curole to sign the agreement from the pipeline company after it has been reviewed and approved by board attorney Bryce Autin.**

- **Section E-North – Raising to +13’ (Present elevation is 10’)**  
We are proceeding with the design and drawings for the levee improvements in this area. Preliminary plans and specifications are complete and are being submitted to the State and Corps of Engineers. Final plans and specifications should be complete next month.
- **C-South and B-North Levee Improvements**  
We are proceeding with the design and drawings for this project to provide additional material to raise these levees up to +13’ for C-South and +14’ for B-North. Preliminary plans and specifications are complete and are being submitted to the State and Corps of Engineers. Final plans and specifications should be complete next month.

**OFFICE OF COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION**

Mr. Rick Dugas of OCPR reported the following:

I received an email from Andrew Beall just before the meeting stating that he has received a set of plans for clearing and grubbing for sections A-West/B-South. He said this project is being funded through the 2008 Surplus funds which may be incorrect. I told him I would be down Wednesday for a meeting and would review the plans and furnish him with my comments.

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

Chairman Mitch Danos announced that five (5) permit requests were received for review. He stated that the first four did not interfere with the levee and recommended approval of those. Mr. Danos stated that the fifth request by Castex Energy, CUP No. 20100541, runs over our levee and recommended it be tentatively approved pending Corps review and approval.

**On a motion of Clarence Marts, seconded by Mitch Danos and unanimously carried, the board approved Letters of No Objection for request Nos. 1 through 4 with a tentative approval of No. 5, Castex Energy CUP 20100541, pending Corps review and approval.**

**1. CHEVRON USA INC**

**CUP NO: P20100626**

**LOCATION:** Lafourche Parish, LA, The pipeline begins at Lat 29° 22’ 47.2”N, Long 90° 16’ 31.21”W and ends at Lat 29° 32’ 57.17”N, Long 90° 23’ 39.86”W, T18S-R20E, T18S-R21E, and T19S-R21E.

**DESCRIPTION:** Proposed area-wide maintenance for the existing 14-inch Golden Meadow Station to Larose Station pipeline. Site specific repairs shall be applied for on individual permits. \*Site specific repairs shall be applied for under individual permits. At that time, suggestions can be made to minimize impacts to wetlands that are associated will any proposed work.

**2. MARITECH RESOURCES INC**

**CUP NO: P20100586**

**LOCATION:** Lafourche Parish, LA; Located in the open waters of Timbalier Bay approximately 5.5 miles West of Port Fourchon, LA; Timbalier Bay Field, SL 19952 No. 1 Well: Lat 29° 06’ 49.6”N, Long 90° 16’51.0”W (NAD 83); X=2,336,136’, Y=164,058’ (NAD 27); POB pipeline lowering: Lat 29° 07’ 00.6”N, Long 90° 16’ 56.0”W; POE: Lat. 29° 07’ 01.2”N, Long 90° 16’ 55.1”W; POB Dredging: Lat 29° 07’28.5”N, Long. 90° 17’ 08.6”W; POE: Lat 29° 06’ 48.6”N, Long 90° 16’ 50.3”W

**DESCRIPTION:** Proposed construction of a channel and slip to prepare a well site SL 19952 No. 1. A channel totaling approximately (70’ x 3,892’) will be dredged for access and a slip (160’ x 345’) with a wing (90’ x 90’). Approximately 43,008 cubic yards of material will be displaced as a result of dredging. An additional 20 cubic yards of material will be displaced via jetting operations; the dredged material will be spread in a manner so that the mud line is not increased by more than 0.5 foot. \*Approximately 63.12 acres of habitat will be impacted as a result of this project.

**3. CASTEX ENERGY INC**

**CUP NO: P20100563**

**LOCATION:** Lafourche Parish, LA; POB – Lat.29° 19' 27", Long. 90° 09' 24"W; POE – Lat. 29° 20' 30"N, Long. 90° 10' 21"W; Section 18 and 19, T20S-R23E.

**DESCRIPTION:** Proposed installation of a 4" flow line (8,364') in length, two 100' x 30' earthen plugs, a 22' x 24' heater platform and a 5' x 80' walkway to serve the Castex Lafourche, LP 19 Well No. 001 (A-2 offset) . A 16' x 20' submat will be utilized at the above ground pipeline crossing. A portion of the flow line will be bored, and the remainder of the flow line will be laid on marsh surface by airboat utilizing the push/pull method and jetted a minimum of 5' below the mud line in open water. Approximately 918 cubic yards of water bottoms will be displaced to install the flow line. Additionally, 556 cubic yards of water bottom will be dredged from two 100' x 30' area and used to create the earthen plugs. \*Approximately 2 acres of vegetated wetlands and 0.5 acres of water bottoms will be impacted as a result of this activity.

**4. APACHE CORPORATION**

**CUP NO: P20100624**

**LOCATION:** Lafourche Parish, LA; Approximately 3.7 miles Northwesterly from Golden Meadow, LA; Golden Meadow Field. Section 63, 64, & 70; T19S-R21E. Flowlines POB: Lat 29° 24' 59"N, Long 90° 19' 34"W

**DESCRIPTION:** Proposed installation of two 4-inch flowlines (8,891'), walkway (3' x 100') and heater platform (8' x 16') to serve LL&E 64-1 Well. An earthen plug will be gapped for access and replaced. Spoil will be temporarily stockpiled along flowline ditch and used as backfill upon completion of flowline installation, Approximately 1,132 cubic yards of excavation will be required for flowline trench. An additional 400 cubic yards will be required for the plug removal and replacement. \*Approximately 1.24 acres of habitat may be impacted as a result of this project.

**5. CASTEX ENERGY INC**

**CUP NO: P20100541**

**LOCATION:** Lafourche Parish, LA; POB 6" flow line @ Lat.29° 26' 36"N, Long. 90° 14' 47"W; POE 6" flow line @ Lat. 29° 27' 44"N, Long. 90° 16' 00"W; Section 6, 7, and 9 T19S R22E; approximately located 2.7 miles easterly of Galliano, LA.

**DESCRIPTION:** Proposed installation of a 6" flow line, by trenching, measuring 10,426', to serve the Allain-Lebreton Well No. 0011. Approximately 2, 228 cubic yards of native material will be excavated and backfilled, 42 cubic yards of top soil/dirt will be hauled in as fill, and 6 cubic yards of sand will be used as fill. No other dredge or fill required. \*Approximately 8.38 acres of vegetated non-wetland areas may be impacted as a result of this proposed activity.

**BOARD ATTORNEY**

Attorney Bryce Autin offered the following report:

I have stayed busy identifying all the landowners for the first phase of the acquisition of rights-of-way project. I expect to have all information in the next couple of weeks. We will have the list of landowners who will need to be notified, and I have also been working with Mr. Bill Pouson on completing the main appraisals that will be used to set the rates offered for Fair Market Values on properties.

At Mr. Curole's request, I have reviewed legislation passed during the 2010 Regular Session that affects the Levee District. I am also reviewing a cooperative endeavor agreement between South Lafourche Levee District, North Lafourche Levee District and Terrebonne Levee District. This agreement will allow us to work on mutually beneficial projects that may not be entirely in our area.

Mr. Curole presented a copy of the agreement to the board and explained that the Morganza project will be completed inside SLLD system. This completion will also be beneficial to North Lafourche. Mr. Curole explained that before we get too far along, we need have an agreement in place between SLLD, TLCD and NLLCD that will determine who is responsible for which parts of the project. We are ready to work on the Pointe Aux Chene side, but we need the agreement in place first.

Attorney Bryce Autin stated that once he has had a chance to discuss the agreement with Mr. Dwayne Bourgeois of the NLLCD, it should not take long to execute. Mr. Curole demonstrated on the map where the project would run and how it would benefit our area.

Mr. Autin added that HB540 will help the levee district and that no other bills would harm us.

### **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.**

Mr. Curole informed the board that he had spoken to Jerry Osborne of Foley and Judell to see approximately how much money would be available to us should we need to borrow. I was told we could go up to \$38M.

### **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

In the absence of Chairman Monty Vegas, President Callais announced the need to hire two additional laborers for summer help. He stated that the Personnel Committee had met earlier and recommended the hiring.

**Moved by Roy Gisclair, seconded by Mitch Danos and unanimously carried, the board agreed to hire two additional laborers for summer help.**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business to discuss.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Pump Station No. 1 – Repairs:**

Mr. Jimmy Badaeux reported that the pump station is 25 years old and not pumping to 100% capacity. After hiring a diver to check the problem, we found that the bearings inside the impeller are worn. We can do the job in-house, but it is a major project. We will need to go through the pump station by removing the roof and changing out the pump. Since we are already in hurricane season, we need to declare an emergency to spend whatever funds are needed to fix the pump before a major storm hits our area. Any funds for this project must be approved by the board before spending.

**Moved by Bob Faulk, seconded by Mitch Danos and unanimously carried, the board declared an emergency spending of funds to repair the pump at Pump Station No. 1 before the peak of hurricane season. All funds for this project must be pre-approved by the board before spending.**

#### **Pump Station No. 4 – Repairs:**

In addition, two fans will need to be replaced at PS No. 4. Mr. Badaeux stated that he had received quotes that would total up to \$5,000 for the purchase of both fans.

**Moved by Lula Auenson, seconded by Roy Gisclair and unanimously carried, the board approved the purchase of two fans for Pump Station No. 1 at a cost of no more than \$5,000 for both fans.**

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**Slide Presentation:**

Mr. Curole presented a slide show presentation showing the oil spill along the coast, updates of the levee and marsh improvements, and Corps concerns that are currently being addressed.

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

/s/Ronald Callais, President

/s/Windell A. Curole, Executive Secretary