DRAFT

**REGULAR MEETING**

**July 6, 2022**

The Board of Commissioners for the Lafourche Basin Levee District met this day in regular session at its official domicile at 21380 Highway 20 in Vacherie, Louisiana. The public was invited to attend via Teleconference and at the LBLD office in accordance with the Louisiana Governor’s Proclamation Number 17- JBE 2022 Renewal of State Emergency for COVID-19, Extension of Emergency Provisions, LBLD office will required all individuals to wear a face covering over the nose and mouth. You can refer to gov.louisiana.gov for guideline exceptions. The meeting was called to order by its President, Eric Matherne, at 6:00 P.M.

The meeting opened with a prayer and the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Present: Commissioners… Craig Carter, Assumption Parish; President Eric Matherne, St. Charles Parish; Russell Loupe, St. Charles Parish; Michael McKinney, Sr., Ascension Parish; Larry Sorapuru, St. John the Baptist Parish; Arthur Bosworth IV, St. James Parish; Gary Watson, St. John the Baptist Parish; Commissioner James P. Jasmin, St. James Parish; Jeffery Henry, Ascension Parish; and Kevin Hebert, St. Charles Parish; Marlin Rogers, St. Charles Parish were present.

A quorum was present to conduct business.

Messrs. Spenser Long, Attorney; Donald Ray Henry, Executive Director; and Ms. Melanie Broden, Accounting Specialist, and Astrea Jupiter, Administrative Assistant 5 were present. Ivy Chauvin, Sr., Assistant Executive Director, was absent.

Commissioner Michael McKinney, Sr. made the motion to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Arthur J. Bosworth, IV. President Matherne called for a roll call vote. President Matherne called for a roll call vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:

YEAS:

* Michael McKinney, Sr.
* Arthur Bosworth IV
* Larry Sorapuru (teleconference)
* Russell Loupe
* Gary Watson
* Jeffery Henry
* Craig Carter
* James P. Jasmin
* Marlin Rogers
* Kevin Hebert
* Eric Matherne

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

By a roll call vote of 10 yeas, 0 nay, 0 absent and 0 abstained and 1 does not count (teleconference). The motion passed.

There were no public comments on the agenda items.

On motion of Commissioner Arthur J. Bosworth, IV, seconded by Commissioner Michael McKinney, Sr., the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 1, 2022 be accepted and filed in the minutes of the Board.

Commissioner Marlin Rogers said that when he listened to the meeting, it was all broken up. He could not hear it clear enough. He said that Mr. Henry said he did. Mr. Rogers stated that he didn’t have his evaluation. He said that he mailed the evaluation in. He asked President Matherne if he received it. Mr. Matherne said that he did. He said he received it prior to the due date of June 30th. Commissioner Rogers stated that the minutes also showed that President Matherne was absent and not on the phone. President Matherne confirmed that he did not attend the Regular meeting and that he was not on the phone either. Mr. Donald Henry said he only heard what was recorded. He told Commissioner Rogers that it may not have been his intentions to say what was said. Even if it is true, with due respect, he is not disputing it. Just stating what was heard on the tape. Commissioner Arthur Bosworth said to Commissioner Rogers that he may have just misspoken. Whether it was actual or not or whether it was said, it was still on your end. Mr. Henry stated that he and the secretary went over it about four or five times and this is what we heard. President Matherne called for a roll call vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:

YEAS:

* Michael McKinney, Sr.
* Arthur Bosworth IV
* Larry Sorapuru (teleconference)
* Russell Loupe
* Gary Watson
* Jeffery Henry
* Craig Carter
* James P. Jasmin
* Kevin Hebert
* Eric Matherne

NAYS:

* Marlin Rogers

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

By a roll call vote of 9 yeas, 1 nay, 0 absent and 0 abstained and 1 does not count (teleconference). The motion passed.

On motion of Commissioner Arthur J. Bosworth, IV, seconded by Commissioner Michael McKinney, Sr., the following cash available for distribution of the month of June 30, 2022 be accepted and filed in the minutes of the Board.

**FIRST AMERICAN BANK:**

**Checking account balance May 2022 $ 349,590.57**

**Deposits/Transfer In – June**

**Revenues/Refund $ 175,267.21**

**Interest on Checking 20.57**

**Funds transferred in 650,000.00 Operating Expenses/Other 792,484.75**

**Funds transferred out 0.00**

**TOTAL ACCOUNT BALANCE JUNE 30, 2022 $ 382,393.60**

**LAMP**

**Account balance – May 5,128,975.57**

**Funds transferred in 0.00**

**Funds transferred out 650,000.00**

**Interest Income Earned 4,505.99**

**TOTAL ENDING BALANCE JUNE 30, 2022 $ 4,483,481.56**

**INVESTMENTS: BNY**

**Discount Notes/T-Bills/Bonds 5,269,874.93**

**TOTAL CASH & INVESTMENTS AS OF JUNE 30, 2022 $ 10,135,750.09**

No public comments were made. President Matherne called for a roll call vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:

YEAS:

* Michael McKinney, Sr.
* Arthur Bosworth IV
* Larry Sorapuru (teleconference)
* Russell Loupe
* Gary Watson
* Jeffery Henry
* Craig Carter
* James P. Jasmin
* Marlin Rogers
* Kevin Hebert
* Eric Matherne

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

By a roll call vote of 10 yeas, 0 nay, 0 absent and 0 abstained and 1 does not count (teleconference). The motion passed.

On motion of Commissioner Marlin Rogers, seconded by Vice-President Jeffery Henry, the following resolution was proposed.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners approve the extended request from the US Corps of Engineers to conduct surveys, soil borings, hazardous, toxic and radiological waste, and environmental and cultural resources investigations in connection with the Mississippi River and Tributaries, Ama #2 Levee Enlargement, Baseline Station 3110+00 to 3180+00, St. Charles Parish, Louisiana that was approved in July 2021.

President Matherne called for a roll call vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:

YEAS:

* Michael McKinney, Sr.
* Arthur Bosworth IV
* Larry Sorapuru (teleconference)
* Russell Loupe
* Gary Watson
* Jeffery Henry
* Craig Carter
* James P. Jasmin
* Marlin Rogers
* Kevin Hebert
* Eric Matherne

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

By a roll call vote of 10 yeas, 0 nay, 0 absent and 0 abstained and 1 does not count (teleconference). The motion passed.

On motion of Commissioner Arthur J. Bosworth, IV, seconded by Vice-President Jeffery Henry, the following resolution was proposed.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners approve to fill the vacant positions of the Mobile Equipment Operator 2.

Commissioner Marlin Rogers asked how many positions are there. Mr. Donald Henry said he thinks it is two. Commissioner Rogers asked if it should say two instead of the vacant positions. Commissioner Rogers asked how many equipment operator positions we filled already. Mr. Henry said we had someone doing the physical now. We had already approved two and filled one. One guy resigned. President Matherne called for a roll call vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:

YEAS:

* Michael McKinney, Sr.
* Arthur Bosworth IV
* Larry Sorapuru (teleconference)
* Russell Loupe
* Gary Watson
* Jeffery Henry
* Craig Carter
* James P. Jasmin
* Marlin Rogers
* Kevin Hebert
* Eric Matherne

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

By a roll call vote of 10 yeas, 0 nay, 0 absent and 0 abstained and 1 does not count (teleconference). The motion passed.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners approve Mr. Eric Matherne.

Commissioner Rogers stated that we have 3 nominees already. Mr. Henry stated that at this point, we only have one. Commissioner Rogers asked what happened to the other two. Mr. Henry stated they withdrew. Commissioner Rogers said shouldn’t we put that on record. Mr. Henry said we just did. Commissioner Rogers asked who are they. Mr. Jasmin and Mr. Jeffery Henry withdrew. Commissioner James P. Jasmin asked for the floor. He said to Mr. Rogers, in reluctance of withdrawing, he was asked to withdraw. But he just needs some clarification that their President was on the phone and made the comment that he was sick of you all. He asked President Matherne who was he speaking to or who was he speaking of. President Matherne stated that he felt disrespected because everyone that has been president was president for at least two years and some more than two years. He has been president for ten months. He stated that yall don’t respect me at all. Commissioner Gary Watson said speaking of disrespect, thought you were doing a good job. When you didn’t come to the meeting, and you had the audacity to not call the Vice-President or notify the Executive Director was disrespectful. President Matherne said he informed Jeffery at the meeting before and he told Jeffery he wouldn’t be at the meeting because he was going to be in California. He told him ahead of time. He may have forgotten. He said he told Jeffery that he wouldn’t be at any of the June meetings. Commissioner Watson thanked him because he didn’t know that. President Matherne said he will attend every meeting that he can attend. It wasn’t easy. His son was being promoted to another school. Commissioner Watson said we don’t question when commissioners call in sick. He just thought that you didn’t come to the meetings without anybody knowing. Mr. Donald Henry stated that during the meeting the Vice-President was asked if he was informed and said no. He was asked if he was informed and said no. Mr. Henry asked Mr. Matherne if he thinks he should have been informed. President Matherne said he would like to think that since Jeffery was informed he would let you know. Mr. Henry asked Mr. Matherne if he would let him know. President Matherne said yeah and that goes both ways. Commissioner Rogers asked Commissioner Jasmin what was the meaning of trying to impress him. He didn’t ask him to drop out. President Matherne said he thinks he was directing it at him. Commissioner Bosworth informed President Matherne that he has shown President Matherne the upmost respect. He finds it very offensive for him to say you all disrespect him. He said that he has shown President Matherne the upmost respect, and asked the president if he agrees. President Matherne replied yes, thank you. Commissioner Bosworth stated that he also does agree that in letting the Vice-President know about his absence because he will be the one to fill in the position in his absence. The Executive Director still should have known because the left hand should know what the right hand is doing in the position the president is in now. President Matherne said he agree. Vice-President Henry said to President Matherne that he may have told him a month ago and he may have forgot. But he still should have let Donald Ray know. Two people knowing is better than one. President Matherne said ok, that’s not a problem. Mr. Henry said we are in a democratic society. Commissioner Jasmin served at the pleasure of the Board. Whether it was three years or two years, it was at the pleasure of the Board. Commissioner McKinney served at the pleasure of the Board. Your statement is you believe you should serve for whatever your reason. But if pleasure of the Board continues your leadership, it’s at the pleasure of the Board despite what you feel. He would like to inform the members you are not serving ten months. If you were not reelected, you would be serving your twelve months. Everyone should understand that. This shouldn’t be a coronation, it’s at the pleasure of the Board. Attorney Spencer Long informed them to vote even though it is just one candidate. President Matherne called for a roll call vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:

YEAS:

* Michael McKinney, Sr.
* Arthur Bosworth IV
* Larry Sorapuru (teleconference)
* Russell Loupe
* Jeffery Henry
* Craig Carter
* Marlin Rogers
* Kevin Hebert
* Eric Matherne

NAYS:

* Gary Watson
* James Jasmin

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

By a roll call vote of 8 yeas, 2 nay, 0 absent and 0 abstained and 1 does not count (teleconference). The motion passed.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners approve Mr. Jeffery Henry as Vice-President.

President Matherne nominated Jeffery Henry for Vice-President. He was informed that they already had their candidates. Mr. Henry informed the president that Mr. Bosworth withdrew so it would only be Mr. Henry. President Matherne called for a roll call vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:

YEAS:

* Michael McKinney, Sr.
* Arthur Bosworth IV
* Larry Sorapuru (teleconference)
* Russell Loupe
* Gary Watson
* Jeffery Henry
* Craig Carter
* James P. Jasmin
* Marlin Rogers
* Kevin Hebert
* Eric Matherne

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

By a roll call vote of 10 yeas, 0 nay, 0 absent and 0 abstained and 1 does not count (teleconference). The motion passed.

Mr. Elliott Boudreaux, CSRS, Inc., gave the highlights on the Upper Barataria Project.

* **Segment 2 – Sunset Levee**
  + **CPRA/LBLD Intergovernmental Agreement fully executed.**
  + **USACE and CPRA executed MOA on May 24th, 2022.**
    - ***Allows CPRA to receive credit for UBRR***
  + **LBLD met with CPRA on June 14th to discuss Segment 2 bid process and timeline.**
  + **CPRA reviewed Segment 2 bid package and provided additional comments.**
    - ***GIS has addressed comments and CSRS is coordinating approval of plans AND approval to begin advertising.***
* **Segment 3 – Bayou des Allemands Flood Gate**
  + **CPRA is scheduling meeting with USACE and LBLD to discuss environmental permitting for flood gate and segment 4. Anticipated meeting date at end of July.**
  + **FTN has revised H&H modeling scope for reverse head consideration and environmental modeling needs.**
  + **GIS has identified additional Geotech needs for Segment 3. Greenup has prepared proposal.**
  + **GIS progressing on 65% design.**

Commissioner Rogers informed the engineering team that he heard that the Corps was giving the New Iberia/Morgan City area $1.8 billion. He asked if that will affect us. The answer was no. President Matherne asked the engineering team if there was a status on the task near Battle Lane. He was told that Nicholas Matherne, BKI, was working on it with CSRS and hopefully will give a status at the next regular meeting.

Vice-President Jeffery Henry and President Eric Matherne thanked the Commissioners for reelecting them.

Vice-President Arthur J. Bosworth, IV made a motion to adjourn and Commissioner Michael McKinney, Sr. seconded his motion.

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PRESIDENT

AJ

07/11/2022