Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority – West (SLFPA-W)

Technical, Operations, and Maintenance Committee Meeting

Tuesday, April 9, 2013

The Technical, Operations, and Maintenance (TOM) Committee of the SLFPA – W met on April 9, 2013 with the following members present: Mr. Viera, chairman, and Mr. Wilkinson. Mr. Merritt was absent. Also in attendance were Mr. Miserendino, Mr. Roark, Mr. John Monzon from CPRA, Mr. Caluda, Mr. Tom Wells, from Waldemar S. Nelson and Company, Mr. Gaddy and Ms. Rogers. Mr. Merritt observed the meeting via Skype.

Mr. Viera called the meeting to order in the Command Center at SLFPA – W, 7001 River Road, Marrero, Louisiana, at approximately 12:00 PM.

The Committee unanimously approved the agenda as presented.

There were no public comments.

The Committee reviewed and unanimously approved the minutes as presented from the previous meeting, dated March 12, 2013.

Mr. Miserendino reported on what will be done regarding the test armoring project, and why it is necessary. A contract will be offered to Waldemar S. Nelson and Company, and paid on a work order basis. Mr. Wells reviewed the proposal that was presented to the SLFPA – W administration by Waldemar S. Nelson and Company. The Committee unanimously agreed to recommend approval of engaging their services by the Board.

Mr. Miserendino led a discussion that included Mr. Monzon, about resolution of the operation and maintenance of WBV-16.2 (Bayou Segnette Complex.) The Committee discussed various agreements under development which might regulate that situation. Mr. Caluda clarified issues required for O&M responsibility of that complex.

Under the heading of Recurring Items, Mr. Miserendino reported on the status of the armoring test program, in conjunction with engaging the Waldemar Nelson firm.

Mr. Roark reported on the operations and water control manuals, and provided the Committee with an update on the status of its review process. This topic will be a recurring item on each monthly agenda.

Under the heading of Specific project reviews, the Committee discussed WBV-90 (Western Closure Complex) with regard to the issues of possible structure movement and the modifications to the keel coolers.

The Committee discussed the repair reports from WBV-14c.2 (New Westwego to Orleans Village.) Committee members offered several suggestions to increase the amount of detail in the reports. After continued discussion on certain troubling issues, the Committee agreed to further discuss this at the next Committee meeting.

Mr. Merritt explained his position on the past activities of the Tiger Team by offering his “working papers” as a basis for a possible Board resolution or for writing a letter of reproach to the USACE. Mr. Viera volunteered to draft a short, concise letter which will be emailed to the Committee members for their review.

Mr. Viera related his meeting with the chairman of the SLFPA – E Operations Committee, to discuss the possibility of combining efforts on resolving common issues. He extended an invitation to attend the next SLFPA – E Operations meeting on May 2, 2013.

There were no other matters brought up for discussion.

Mr. Viera announced that the next regularly scheduled Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 14, 2013 at 3:00 PM in the Regional Director’s Office at the SLFPA-W Office, 7001 River Road, Marrero, Louisiana.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 2:10 PM.