

Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority – West (SLFPA-W)
Technical, Operations, and Maintenance Committee Meeting
Tuesday, March 8, 2016

The Technical, Operations, and Maintenance (TOM) Committee of the SLFPA-W met on Tuesday, March 8, 2016 with the following members present: Mr. Gaddy, chairman, Mr. Julien, and Mr. Wilkinson. Also in attendance were: Mr. Bosch, Mr. Monzon, Mr. Noel, and Ms. Noll.

Mr. Gaddy called the meeting to order in the board room at the SLFPA-W Office, 7001 River Road, Marrero, Louisiana, at approximately 2:38 PM.

The Committee unanimously approved the agenda as presented.

There were no public comments.

The Committee reviewed and unanimously approved the minutes from the previous meeting, dated February 4, 2016.

Mr. Alem and Mr. Eickenberg of Braun Intertec gave a presentation regarding recent cone penetrometer test (CPT) borings on the Mississippi River Levee (MRL) in the area of the Celotex failure. The Committee discussed the presentation and proposal provided by Braun.

Mr. Noel provided a report on safety incidents since the last meeting and an update on the safety policy/program efforts underway with Keystone Engineering. The Committee will continue to be updated on safety matters.

The Committee reviewed two handouts: 1) an update on lifts and armoring status and 2) a prioritized list of levee sections to be lifted, based on risk and need. Handout #2 detailed recent survey information and projected lift schedule dates from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Mr. Monzon stated that the USACE armoring program has been delayed 8 – 12 months. The Committee discussed different options since full funding is not available to complete the full lift prior to armoring program and indicated that whatever funds are available they be dedicated to the lifts, so as to ensure system certification.

Mr. Noel and Mr. Monzon provided an update regarding the West Closure Complex (WCC) operations and maintenance status. The Committee will be updated again at next month's meeting.

The Committee discussed the cost allocation for operations and maintenance (O&M) for cooperative endeavor agreements between SLFPA-W, the West Jefferson Levee District (WJLD), and the Algiers Levee District (ALD). The Committee unanimously approved the proposed cost allocation methodology and the new minimum and maximum splits: 30% ALD/70% WJLD and 40% ALD/60% WJLD, respectively.

The Committee discussed the BP Settlement, in addition to existing emergency and capital project funds. The Board will need to determine where they want to direct the one-time dollars from the BP Settlement.

The Committee reviewed the 2017 draft budget and requested staff to incorporate some additional changes.

Mr. Gaddy gave a brief overview of the updated strategic plan, stating the desire to finalize it in order to adopt the plan at the next board meeting.

Mr. Noel stated the need to update the environmental permitting authority. The Committee unanimously approved this for consideration and approval at the next Board meeting.

The Port of New Orleans has provided leasing information for the Todd Shipyard location, which was higher than anticipated. The Committee requested additional information to assist in determining the future use of the Brooklyn Avenue Building and will be updated at the next meeting.

Regarding geophysics testing, Mr. Noel provided an update on conversations with LSU Geologist, Dr. Juan Lorenzo and Arcadis. The Committee requested staff continue to follow up with LSU, Arcadis and CPRA concerning geophysics technology application opportunities. Staff was also asked to evaluate the desirability and viability of using the geophysics monitoring methods suggested by Braun Intertec in today's CPT presentation.

The Committee reviewed quotes for a Sutron iridium transmission system for the WCC, Bayou Segnette Pumping Station, and other locations in the SLFPA-W system. The Committee requested an AFE with additional information for the Sutron Iridium transmission system comparing the various options.

Mr. Monzon provided a Director's report of activities for the month of March and informed the Committee on pending issues. The Committee requested staff review and research the analysis of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) building.

Mr. Gaddy announced that the next regularly scheduled TOM Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2016, at 2:30 PM at the office of Julien Engineering, 2916 General Degaulle Drive, Suite 200, New Orleans, Louisiana.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 5:11 PM.