

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. MARY LEVEE DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING

AUGUST 13, 2015
FRANKLIN, LOUISIANA

The St. Mary Levee District (“SMLD”) met on this date with President William Hidalgo, Sr., presiding and the following board members present: James Vidos, J.P. Hebert, Wayne Cantrell Jr., Will Terry, Barry Broussard, Norris Crappell, Kenny Arceneaux and with Luther Smith absent.

Also present: Tim Matte, St. Mary Levee District Executive Director; Michael Brocato, Operations Manager of St. Mary Levee District; William Bourgeois, SMLD Attorney; Jeff Pena, CB&I Co.; Patrick Landry, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority; Kevin O’Gorman, T. Baker Smith; Reid Miller & Jason St. Romain, Miller Engineers; and, members of the public and media.

Mr. Terry moved to dispense with the reading and to approve the July 9 regular meeting minutes. After a second by Mr. Crappell, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Broussard presented the payables report, which Mr. Crappell moved to approve. Following Mr. Hebert’s second, the motion carried unanimously.

Reid Miller of Miller Engineers reported his office is currently waiting for three proposals on appraisals for the Bayou Choupique levees.

CB&I’s Jeff Pena reported that all of the concrete piles had been driven for the Franklin Canal Pump Station project. Mr. Pena also reported that the contactor has installed the pile caps along with the trash screen. Mr. Pena stated the pumps and engines have been delivered, however one of the pumps was sent back due to the wrong elevation. Contractors are still on schedule for finishing the project September 29 according to Mr. Pena.

Mr. Miller reported the Hanson Canal is complete and rip rap is installed at the flood wall for erosion protection; contractors will begin installing rock on the Centerville side and then Franklin side for the roadway. Piles are in place at the Yellow Bayou project with the contractors beginning to install pile caps next week.

Kevin O’Gorman with T. Baker Smith reported his office has completed and submitted the final design plans and specifications for the Siracusaville section of the Morgan City Levee Improvements Project and that the project will go to bid in the next few months. Mr. O’Gorman also reported his office sent a draft of the revised plans to the landowners for the rights of way for the Lake End Park to Justa Street portion. Mr. O’Gorman stated that his office received approval to proceed with the alignment. Mr. O’Gorman stated his office is preparing to submit a Joint Permit Application to DNR and USACOE.

Mr. Pena reported the Bayou Chene project is still in the permitting process, he stated CB&I will deliver the signed mitigation contracts to the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources which will allow the district to receive the permit. Mr. Pena also reported their office held a meeting last week with USACOE to discuss the engineering and hydraulics comments and held a meeting with FTN to discuss additional information for the modeling on Avoca Island. Mr. Pena reported that his office has submitted the revised estimate for the Bayou Chene project.

Mr. Hebert motioned to allow Mr. Hidalgo to sign amendment #10 for additional modeling services. Following a second by Mr. Terry, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Pena reported a permit application was submitted two months ago for the Bayou Teche Floodgate. Mr. Pena stated that the rights-of-way were obtained and the field work for Wetland Delineation was submitted June 10. Mr. Pena also reported the project went on public notice August 1st and will end on August 26; a public meeting was held August 25 with Chitimacha Tribe. Mr. Pena reported additional comments were received on the modeling and plans to meet with DNR to discuss.

Mr. Matte stated that a CPRA meeting is to be held on the 19th on the Restore Act Funding.

Mr. Matte reported that in an effort to provide an opportunity for the USACOE to recognize the full authority of the SMLD and has sponsored an Act of the Louisiana Legislature which has passed and been signed by the Governor. Mr. Matted explained a position letter has been drafted and forward to Mark Wingate for his review. On the upcoming Low Water inspection trip Mr. Matte expects the letter to be one of the topics on be discussed.

Mr. Matte reported the Mississippi River reached 15' at the Carrollton Gauge on July 17 which initiated another phase of emergency operations, this action required cessation of all excavation work in the vicinity of the levee; projects with a waiver may return to work. Mr. Matte also reported once the Mississippi River subsides to a level of 11' at the Carrollton gage SMLD will be ready to proceed to work on the levee slides that were found. Mr. Reid Miller has developed costs estimates to address the slides; bids will be accepted next week.

Mr. Bourgeois recommends that the CEA with City of Morgan City and St. Mary Parish for the sheetpile requests be re-approved due to changing of the language and the location of sheetpile. Mr. Arceneaux motioned to authorize Mr. Hidalgo to sign the revised CEA with City of Morgan City and the St. Mary Parish for the request of sheetpile. Following a second by Mr. Broussard, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Matte reported Miller Engineers submitted a proposal to perform an elevation survey along the centerline of the Wax Lake East Levee to meet the USACE survey requirements for submission and inclusion in the LSER for the above mentioned project. Mr. Terry motioned to authorize Mr. Miller to perform the survey on the levees. Following a second by Mr. Broussard, the motioned passed unanimously.

Mr. Hidalgo asked for further comments and did not receive any. Mr. Terry moved for adjournment, which was seconded by Mr. Hebert and carried unanimously.

Attest:

Barry A. Broussard, Secretary
St. Mary Levee District