

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
ST. MARY LEVEE DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING

AUGUST 14, 2014  
MORGAN CITY, 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., Norris Crappell, Will Terry, Barry Broussard, and with Luther Smith and Kenny Arceneaux 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.; Kevin O’Gorman, T. Baker Smith; Reid Miller, Miller Engineers; and, members of the public and media.

Mr. Terry moved to dispense with the reading and to approve the July 10 regular meeting minutes. After a second by Mr. Hebert, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Broussard presented the payables report, which Mr. Terry moved to approve. Following Mr. Vidos’ second, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Miller, with Miller Engineers reported that all the title information that was received from the Town of Baldwin’s attorney for the title search detailing the property ownership surrounding the proposed Bayou Choupique levees was compiled by his office and some discrepancies were found. Mr. Miller stated the Town of Baldwin’s attorney will run some additional title searches.

Mr. Miller reported that surveying has been completed along Industry Road for the Yokeley Levee project and his office has met with the parish and the Parish has decided where the alignment will be.

CB&I’s Jeff Pena reported that the operation and maintenance plan for the Franklin Canal Levee and Floodgate project has been completed and submitted to CPRA.

Mr. Pena reported that the bids for the Franklin Canal Pump Station project have been accepted, and with Sea Level Construction being the lowest bidder. Mr. Pena stated the bid date was extended to August 18<sup>th</sup> and is currently waiting for additional funds by CPRA.

Mr. Pena reported the final report has been completed and submitted for the Bayou Teche Project.

Mr. Miller stated the construction company, Sea Level Construction, should start construction for the Hanson Canal and Yellow Bayou projects in the month of September.

Mr. Matte reported the preliminary design for the Morgan City Levee Construction and Improvement Project for the Cypress Garden and La. 70 levee portion came in at a significantly higher cost than originally estimated and another option is now to be considered. Mr. Kevin O’Gorman of T. Baker Smith reported the additional option would be to move the pump station presently located near Teche Regional Hospital closer to Lake Palourde and use a shorter levee across Fig Street. Mr. O’Gorman stated that the objective of moving the pump station and making the roadway or levee improvement was still to get the levee system FEMA certified. This option was previously considered, but due to cost it had been eliminated from consideration. The soil conditions along the Cypress Gardens levee alignment caused that alternative to be more expensive. The additional estimated cost of this option is \$800,000 and it would bring Brownell Homes into the levee system which they are not part of as of now. Mr. Crappell motioned to support Option 2 to change the levee alignment for the above project. After a second by Mr. Vidos, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. O’Gorman reported additional modeling is ongoing for the breakwater option for Lakeside Subdivision. Mr. O’Gorman stated his office is currently meeting with contractors and suppliers to determine how to install a structure that is cost efficient.

Mr. Pena reported that the Bayou Chene project is currently in the permitting process. Mr. Pena stated landowner coordination is still on going and a drafting of the mitigation plan has commenced.

Mr. Matte reported that the Cooperative Endeavor Agreements (CEA) have been signed with the City of Morgan City, St. Mary Parish Government and the Town of Berwick and was delivered to the USACOE. Also reported by Mr. Matte was an update on the bike trail that was presented by Mr. Schoeffler with the Boy Scouts. Mr. Matte stated that Michael Brocato will go out for bids again for the gates that will be on the levees.

Mr. Bourgeois reported that he attended a meeting along with Mr. Matte with the USACOE and their attorney concerning the PPA and that discussions are still ongoing. Mr. Bourgeois also reported that a CEA has been drafted by the Port of Morgan City Harbor & Terminal District and recommended that the district approve the agreement. Mr. Broussard motioned to enter into the CEA with the Port of Morgan City. After a second by Mr. Vidos, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bourgeois read aloud in full the millage resolution for 5 mills to be adopted. Mr. Hidalgo requested comments from the general public in attendance. There were no comments; therefore Mr. Hebert moved to adopt the 2014 millage resolution of 5 mills. Following a second by Mr. Vidos, with a roll call vote the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Terry motioned Mr. Matte be named the levee district representative for the insurance coalition of the Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana. After a second by Mr. Hebert the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Blaine Crochet with Darnell, Sikes, Gardes & Frederick presented the audit for the year 2013. Mr. Crochet stated that the District's financial statements received an "unmodified" opinion indicating that the financials present fairly the financial position of the District. The only finding reported had to do with a lack of segregation of duties, which is common for small organizations. Mr. Hebert motioned to accept the 2013 audit, which was seconded by Mr. Crappell and carried unanimously.

Mr. Matte reported on the Deferred Compensation Plan for the employees of the levee district. Mr. Matte stated the employees could contribute to the retirement plan while the district would match the employee contributions up to 10% of their salary. Mr. Terry motioned to add the deferred compensation plan as a benefit for the employees of the levee district. After a second by Mr. Crappell the motion carried unanimously.

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

Attest:

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Barry A. Broussard, Secretary  
St. Mary Levee District