

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. MARY LEVEE DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING

MARCH 10, 2016
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, Will Terry, Norris Crappell, Kenny Arceneaux, Barry Broussard, and Wayne Cantrell Jr. 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; Reid Miller, Miller Engineers; Kevin O’Gorman, T. Baker Smith; Mayor Ratcliff, Town of Berwick; Mayor Grizzaffi, City of Morgan City; and, members of the public and media.

Mr. Terry moved to dispense with the reading and to approve the February 11 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. Vidos’ second, the motion carried unanimously.

Reid Miller with Miller Engineers reported that the Bayou Choupique Flood Protection project is ongoing; a meeting with the Town of Baldwin for the land acquisitions was recently held. Mr. Miller stated that the final plats and title search results are at his office.

Mr. Miller reported that his office held a pre-construction meeting with the contractors for the Willow Street Pump Station project; the contractors have received the notice to proceed with the project. Mr. Miller stated that construction will begin mid-May. New cost estimates will be developed on the Yokely Levee Project and a determination of available funds will be computed and reported back to the Levee District and Parish.

CB&I’s Jeff Pena reported the Franklin Canal Pump Station project has been completed. Mr. Pena reported that his office is currently waiting for the contractors to complete as-builts.

Mr. Miller with Miller Engineers reported the Hanson Canal Yellow Bayou projects have been completed.

Kevin O’Gorman with T. Baker Smith reported the Siracusaville section of the Morgan City Levee Improvements Project contracts and documents should be finalized in the next week. Mr. O’Gorman stated a notice to proceed should be awarded in April once the mitigation plan has been finalized. Mr. O’Gorman reported his office is continuing to move forward with Final Design and discussing mitigation for the Lake End Park to Justa Street portion. Mr. O’Gorman stated the LA 70 portion has been put on public notice by the USACOE.

Mr. Pena reported the design for the Bayou Chene project is still ongoing. Mr. Pena stated the USACOE initiated the 408 permitting process and is currently waiting on engineering division to finalize their parts of the process and once that is complete they will be submitting it up to division for approval. Mr. Pena reported the “Environmental Document” with socioeconomic information was submitted as per their request for the 404 process. Mr. Pena stated that a meeting with the USACOE has been scheduled for March 17th to discuss outstanding issues. Mr. Pena also reported his office received a LNO from Enterprise Pipeline to construct a levee across Tabor Canal.

Mr. Pena reported his office has received four quotes for mitigation credits for the Bayou Teche project. Mr. Pena stated a mitigation letter has been received from DNR stating that 0.4 acres of marsh and 0.8 acres of BLH be purchased for the project.

Mr. Broussard motioned to allow purchase of acreage of land for mitigation for the above mentioned project. After a second by Mr. Hebert, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Pena reported a removal plan is being drafted to remove the Bayou Chene emergency structure and will be presented at the next meeting. Mr. Pena stated after the fact permits were submitted Mar 4 which includes a 250' opening.

Mr. Matte reported that the final LSER reports are not yet complete but the USACOE has forwarded SMLD the analysis of the elevations and do meet the standards.

Mr. Matte reported on FEMA reimbursement. Mr. Matte stated that a site visit is scheduled for next week. Mr. Matte reported SMLD has expended \$3.9 million thus far and the ongoing monthly costs are estimated to be approximately \$207,000.

Mr. Matte reported the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire is up for renewal for audit purposes each year. Mr. Hebert motioned to authorize to sign above mentioned questionnaire, which was seconded by Mr. Crappell and carried unanimously.

Mr. Matte reported the Flood Insurance Reform Coalition is asking for a \$5,000 contribution. Mr. Arceneaux motioned to authorize the signing of said resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Broussard and carried unanimously.

Mr. Matte presented the 2016 meeting schedule for SMLD. Mr. Crappell motioned to accept the schedule, which was seconded by Mr. Vidos and carried unanimously.

Mr. Matte reported the CEA with Drainage District #6 has been signed and is waiting for execution by the SMLD and to invoice DD#6 for the repairs that was done on the backwater levees during the flood fight in the amount of \$226,742. Mr. Terry motioned to authorize Mr. Hidalgo to sign the above mentioned CEA and to invoice DD#6. After a second by Mr. Crappell the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Matte reported that SMLD would like to put a notice to bid out to landowners for a Bayou Chene materials storage facility lease. Mr. Crappell motioned to authorize to go out for bid on the above mentioned, which was seconded by Mr. Cantrell and carried unanimously.

Mr. Matte reported the Avoca Island Mitigation Phase One permit for a proposed mitigation bank on Avoca Island is on hold by DNR.

Mr. Matte reported SMLD would like to hire an appraiser for the Bayou Choupique project from the list of names that was given by the office of Bourgeois Law. Mr. Hebert motioned to hire an appraiser for the said project, which was seconded by Mr. Arceneaux and carried unanimously.

Mr. Matte reported SMLD is in need for a replacement truck for the Operation Manager and a drone for levee monitoring. Mr. Crappell motioned to purchase a 2015 Dodge Ram truck, which was seconded by Mr. Arceneaux. Mr. Hebert motioned to purchase a drone, which was seconded by Mr. Vidos and carried unanimously.

Mr. Matte reported SMLD would like to extend the Cloutier Children Trust property lease for another 60 days. Mr. Crappell motioned to authorize Mr. Hidalgo to sign the above mentioned contract. After a second by Mr. Hebert the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Matte reported an IGA with St. Mary Parish Government is needed to utilize the right of ways along Avoca Road to repair and restore the road to the original condition before the flood fight efforts began. Mr. Crappell motioned to authorize Mr. Hidalgo to sign the said IGA with the Parish. After Mr. Cantrell's second the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Arceneaux motioned to hold an executive session to discuss the pending litigation filed by Avoca Inc. After a second by Mr. Vidos and after a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Arceneaux motioned to reconvene the regular meeting with a second by Mr. Vidos which carried 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