

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. MARY LEVEE DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING

MARCH 12, 2015
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., Will Terry, Luther Smith, Barry Broussard, Norris Crappell, and Kenny Arceneaux.

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 and Nicole Cutforth, CB&I Co.; Reid Miller, Miller Engineers; Kevin O’Gorman, T. Baker Smith; Rick Dugas, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority; Mike Lowe, Corp of Engineers; and, members of the public and media.

Mr. Terry moved to dispense with the reading and to approve the Feb 12 regular meeting minutes. After a second by Mr. Broussard, the motion carried unanimously.

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

Mr. Mike Lowe with the US Corp of Engineers (USACOE) announced the Mississippi River forecast would be at 11’ on the 20th which would begin the USACOE’s Stage 1 Flood Fight. Mr. Lowe reported the permit process for the Bayou Chene project is still ongoing.

Mr. Reid Miller, with Miller Engineers reported that the plats are completed and have been submitted for the proposed Bayou Choupique levees. Mr. Miller reported that he and Mr. Matte will meet with the Town of Baldwin’s mayor next week.

Mr. Miller reported the Yokeley Levee project is still on hold as some of its funding is to be allocated to help assist with Franklin Canal Pump Station.

CB&I’s Jeff Pena reported a monthly update conference call was held on Mar 4 on the Franklin Canal Pump Station project. Monthly conferences on the first Wednesday of each month will follow. Supplies and equipment are being ordered and the contractor plans to start in the field during May or June. Mr. Pena also reported the gas line has been completely installed.

Mr. Miller reported the Hanson Canal project is expected to be finished by April or May and then the contractor will begin on the Yellow Bayou project.

Mr. Miller reported the Wax Lake East Levee project is ongoing; the weather has slowed the process down. Mr. Miller stated materials have been removed from the borrow pit and the area near Cotten Road has been cleared. Mr. Miller also reported an amendment is needed for additional professional services which will bring the total contract to the amount of \$35,000 which will include inspection services. Mr. Terry motioned to authorize Mr. Hidalgo to sign said amendment. Following Mr. Broussard’s second, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. O’Gorman with T. Baker Smith reported his office is working on the final design plans and specifications for the Siracusaville section of the Morgan City Levee Improvements Project which are due at the end of April. The permit has been submitted to DNR for the section from Lake End Park to Justa Street and a site visit meeting has been set with CPRA for next week. Mr. O’Gorman also reported the analysis is ongoing on the geotech work done on the Hwy 70 segment. Mr. O’Gorman stated his office is working on the preliminary designs for this segment.

Mr. Pena reported, as did Mr. Lowe, the Bayou Chene project is still in the permitting process. His office is ready to start design once all the comments are received from the various agencies on the preliminary report. Mr. Pena also reported the USACOE has navigation concerns and a response letter is currently being drafted. Mr. Pena announced his office is waiting modeling results prior to sending the response as backup. Mr. Pena said his office is also in the process of drafting a letter to the vessel companies to gather additional data.

Mr. Pena stated that an amendment is needed for additional services for additional permitting time for the Bayou Chene project. Mr. Broussard moved to authorize Mr. Hidalgo to sign the amendment mentioned above for the amount of \$46,160.20. Following Mr. Vidos' second, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Matte discussed the ongoing levee patrols by the St. Mary Parish Sheriff's Office. Mr. Matte also reported a meeting on Mar 23 will be held with the USACOE on flood fighting.

Mr. Brocato had a presentation on some of the ongoing projects and maintenance that was done.

Mr. Pena discussed the amendment for the Bayou Teche Flood Control Structure which includes Phase I (preparing the permit application) & Phase II (submitting the permit application, addressing comments, and wetland delineation). Mr. Hebert motioned to authorize Mr. Hidalgo to sign the said amendment in the amount of \$54,731.00. Following Mr. Terry's second, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Matte reported that the renewal of Miller Engineers Master Service Agreement is up for review. Mr. Hebert motioned to renew the agreement, which was seconded by Mr. Smith and carried unanimously.

Mr. Matte reported on the Executive Order issued by the President which establishes new Federal Flood Risk Management Standard. Mr. Matte explained a resolution has been drafted by SMLD expressing concerns that these one size fits all standards could be detrimental to Louisiana. Mr. Crappell motioned the resolution be implemented to the Administration. Following Mr. Cantrell's second, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bourgeois reported a resolution providing support for a House Bill that states that the SMLD should legally assume the rights and obligations of the ABLD pertaining to contractual relationships with the USACOE regarding federal levees within St. Mary Parish. Mr. Arceneaux motioned said resolution be supported by SMLD. Following Mr. Smith's second, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Terry motioned to amend the agenda to add the payment of an invoice for the gas line project and approval of the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire for the upcoming audit. Following Mr. Hebert's second and a roll call, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Hebert motioned to approve the payment of the gas line project for the Franklin Canal. Following Mr. Crappell's second, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Arceneaux motioned to authorize Mr. Hidalgo and Mr. Broussard to sign the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire. Following Mr. Broussard's second, the motion carried unanimously.

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

Attest:

Barry A. Broussard, Secretary
St. Mary Levee District