

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. MARY LEVEE DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING

MAY 19, 2016
MORGAN CITY, LOUISIANA

PROCEEDINGS OF PUBLIC HEARING OF
THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
THE ST. MARY LEVEE DISTRICT

The Board of Commissioners (“Board”) of the St. Mary Levee District (“District”) met to hold a public hearing on levying additional or increased millage rates without further voter approval or adopting the adjusted millage rates after reassessment and rolling forward to rates not to exceed the prior year’s maximum at the Government Operations and Emergency Center, 7327 Hwy 182E, Morgan City, LA on Thursday, on May 19 at 6:00 p.m. pursuant to notice, timely mailed, emailed and/or faxed to each Commissioner. The notice was also posted at the office of the Levee District and forwarded to others in accordance with law.

Mr. William Hidalgo, presiding, called the hearing to order with the following commissioners present: James Vidos, Norris Crappell, Barry Broussard, Will Terry, JP Hebert
Absent commissioners: Luther Smith 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; Reid Miller, Miller Engineering; Jeff Pena & Nicole Cutforth, CB&I; and members of the public and media.

Mr. Matte informed the board the voting on the millage rates would not take place tonight but however the matter will be taken up at the meeting which will be held June 23.

Mr. Hidalgo called for any comments concerning the millage renewal and there were none. Mr. Vidos moved to approve the agenda for the regular meeting which was seconded by Mr. Crappell and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Terry moved to dispense with the reading and to approve the April 21 regular meeting minutes. After a second by Mr. Hebert, the motion carried unanimously.

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

Mr. Hidalgo called for any comments from the public. Mr. Michael Tamporello asked as to when the structure blocking Bayou Chene would be removed. Mr. Hidalgo informed the public the levee district is working to remove the structure as quickly as possible and that the levee district is following public bid law to award the contract to have the structure removed.

Mr. Matte reported that we have two agenda items later in the meeting regarding the Bayou Choupique Flood Protection project and that we would discuss the project under those agenda items.

Reid Miller reported that 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.

Reid Miller with Miller Engineers reported that his office is currently working with the submittals for the South Willow Street Project.

Mr. Matte reported T. Baker Smith’s office issued the notice to proceed for the Siracusaville section of the Morgan City Levee Improvements Project on the first phase of the project. Mr. Matte reported T. Baker Smith’s office is currently awaiting the approval of the Joint Public Notice for the Lake End Park to Justa Street portion. Mr. Matte stated that final design is under way for the LA 70 portion.

Jeff Pena with CB&I 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 his office is working with William Bourgeois to negotiate the purchase of mitigation credits with Kilgore for the Bayou Teche project.

Mr. Pena reported a draft DNR permit was received to remove the Bayou Chene emergency structure. Mr. Pena stated the removal plan for the emergency structure was advertised on May 18, a pre-bid is scheduled for the May 31, and the bid opening is scheduled for June 16.

Mr. Matte reported the USACOE continues to process the updated information on the Wax Lake East Levees. Mr. Matte stated the USACOE has recently informed him that the elevations are now sufficient and they will continue to prepare the formal report. Mr. Matte reported the LSER still requires internal review and it maybe 60 days before receiving that report.

Mr. Matte reported on June 3 Capt. Blake Welborne will replace Capt. McClland of the US Coast Guard, Marine Safety Unit Morgan City; a ceremony will be held at the Morgan City High School Gym. Mr. Matte also reported on June 21 Col. Michael Clancy will replace Col. Hansen as District Engineer at the New Orleans District.

Mr. Bourgeois reported that the Avoca litigation is ongoing.

Mr. Broussard moved to authorize Mr. Hidalgo to sign the MOU with FEMA relating to the January flood, Disaster 3376. After a second by Mr. Hebert, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Matte reported that new office furniture and equipment is needed for the new office and out in the field. Mr. Crappell motioned to authorize SMLD to purchase said furniture and equipment with a second by Mr. Broussard. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Hidalgo reported an amendment for Task Order #1 with CB&I needs approval for additional Engineering Admin services. Mr. Terry moved to authorize Mr. Hidalgo to sign above mentioned amendment. After a second by Mr. Hebert, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Brocato gave a presentation of the areas that SMLD would be considering to lease for cattle operations.

Mr. Matte reported that an appraiser for the Bayou Choupique project to acquire right of ways is needed. Mr. Broussard moved to authorize Mr. Matte to engage an appraiser. After a second by Mr. Hebert, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Matte reported that for the Bayou Choupique project to move forward financial support from SMLD is needed. Mr. Vidos moved to authorize SMLD to contribute up to \$177,000 to the Town of Baldwin relating to the above mentioned project. After a second by Mr. Crappell, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Brocato reported bids were opened for limestone; a bid tabulation sheet has been put together and would like to award the project. Mr. Hebert moved to authorize Mr. Brocato to award the project once Mr. Bourgeois advises on any discrepancies. After a second by Mr. Broussard, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Brocato reported after bids were taken on a storage yard facility for materials from the Bayou Chene emergency structure there were two bidders similar in price and would like to engage in a contract for the lease of the facility. Mr. Terry moved to authorize SMLD to enter into a lease agreement with the lowest bidder for the storage facility. After a second by Mr. Crappell, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Hebert moved to adopt the yearly Emergency Operations Manual. After a second by Mr. Broussard, 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. Crappell and carried unanimously.

Attest:

Barry A. Broussard, Secretary
St. Mary Levee District