



Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority



Coastal Protection & Restoration Authority Board Meeting
Wednesday, November 16, 2022
21490 Koop Drive
St. Tammany Parish Council Chambers
Mandeville, LA 70471
9:30AM

The following constitute minutes of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board Meeting and are not a verbatim transcript of the proceedings. Audio and video recordings of the meetings are available for viewing and kept at the Office of the Governor-Coastal Activities Office in Baton Rouge, LA.

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call, Opening Remarks: President Guy McInnis, Pledge & National Anthem

Chairman Kline, Executive Assistant, Coastal Activities	Present
Charles Reulet, DNR	Present
Pat Landry, DOTD	Present
Randy Myers, LDWF	Absent
Brian Tusa for Sec. Brown, DEQ	Present
Pat Witty, LED	Present
Joey Breaux, LDAF	Present
Barbara Goodson, DOA	Present
Billy Broussard, LDI	Absent
Christina Dayries for Casey Tingle, GOHSEP	Present
Karen Gautreaux, Gov’s Advisory Comm-Chair	Absent
Scott Burke, Barataria Basin	Present
Monica Gorman, Pontchartrain Basin	Present
Bill Bubriq, Plaq Parish Coastal Zone/ Mississippi Delta Basin	Present
Dwayne Bourgeois, Terrebonne Basin	Present
Bill Hidalgo, Atchafalaya Basin	Present
Laurie Cormier, Calcasieu/Sabine Basin	Present
Stephen Sagrera, Teche/Vermillion Parish	Present
Rep. Zeringue, Ex-officio, Designee of the Speaker of the House	Present
Sen. Hensgens, Ex-officio, Designee of the President of the Senate	Absent
Michael Ince, Designee for the Lieutenant Governor	Absent
President Guy McInnis, Breton Sound Basin	Present
Rep. Ray Garafalo (guest member)	In attendance

III. Welcoming Remarks– President Mike Cooper, St. Tammany Parish (video: 0:2:35)

IV. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Ms. Gorman
 Second by Ms. Cormier
 Unanimously Approved

V. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Ms. Goodson
 Second by Ms. Cormier
 Unanimously Approved



VI. Old Business/Announcements

VII. 2022 Year in Review— Chip Kline, Chair (video: 0:21:44) Chairman Kline presented to the board CPRA's 2022 Year in Review: A few accomplishments mentioned were the largest marsh project in history initiated (Lake Borgne, 2,770 acres) plus multiple other "largest ever" projects in the works. Largest number of active dredges working on coastal projects. \$120 Million in new Surplus appropriation for 2022. \$2.7 Billion to USACE for Hurricane Recovery and Protection. Chairman Kline also noted some policy accomplishments being: First Net Zero Plan in the Gulf South; Initiated First Offshore Wind Energy Lease Sale in the Gulf of Mexico; Designated Atchafalaya Basin as LA's First National Estuarine Research Reserve (in process); 12 State Agencies Completed Resilience Report Cards to broaden adaptation across government in response to coastal crisis; Federal Funding Progress: RISEE and Breeze Acts passed committee and WRDA at Goal Line.

VIII. CPRA Implementation Update— Bren Haase, CPRA (video: 0:36:04) Mr. Haase presented to the board that there are 94 active projects. 34 of them are in construction, 57 are in E&D, with 3 more in the planning stage. Of the projects now being constructed, 20 are hurricane protection projects and 42 are creating marsh. Marsh creation leads the way in E&D with 32 projects moving toward the construction phase. Mr. Haase updated the board on the following projects: **Atchafalaya Delta Wildlife Management Area Campground:** This \$4 million project is part of the effort to restore recreational opportunities following the Deepwater Horizon oil spill (NRDA). The campground, which is a popular and heavily-used area during duck hunting season Located at the Wax Lake Campground. **Yokely Levee Extension:** The completion of this project was just recently celebrated with St. Mary Parish. This project, in conjunction with the Bayou Teche Floodgate, closes the gap to create continuous flood protection from the Wax Lake Outlet to the Charenton Canal Raised levee & floodwall protect to elevation of 10.5', which matches the existing protection of the federal levee system. CPRA contributed a total of \$4M in GOMESA funding to the project. In the event of an incoming hurricane, new 820-foot removable aluminum floodwall system will be deployed at two different locations on the Charenton Canal in 6-8 hours. This system closes the loop from the Wax Lake Outlet to the Charenton Canal. Mr. Haase stated that CPRA is committed to protecting and restoring the coastal areas of our state, including significant investment here in St. Tammany Parish. Since 2007, CPRA has completed seven projects and implementing another five projects, representing a total investment of \$143 Million in St. Tammany Parish. Earlier this year, the Louisiana Legislature approved funding for three additional flood risk reduction and resilience projects in St. Tammany Parish, with an estimated value of \$13.7M.

IX. Update on St. Tammany Feasibility Study – Amy Dixon, USACE (video: 0:56:55) Ms. Dixon, presented an update to the board members on the St. Tammany Feasibility Study. The Bipartisan Budget Act (BBA) of 2018 (Public Law 115-123), Division B, Subdivision 1, H. R. 1892—13, TITLE IV, CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL, DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY, INVESTIGATIONS: *Funding mechanism limits scope to the flood risk management nature based features will be considered under flood risk management only. The Study conducted in accordance with WRRDA 2014 Section 1001. Tentatively Selected Plan: Mile Branch, Nonstructural, West/South Slidell Levee ~\$4B; 1.8 BCR.



- X. **Update on Implementation of LCA Barataria Basin Barrier Shoreline Feasibility Study Projects – Darin Lee, CPRA (video: 01:19:51)** Mr. Lee briefed the board on the LCA Barataria Basin Barrier Shoreline Feasibility Projects. Between the years of 1932-2010, Louisiana has lost approx. 2006 sq miles. Land loss is the reason behind creating CPRA and the driving force behind their programs and initiatives. Depending on sea level rise, this loss will be anywhere between 1800 to 4200 square miles. Barataria Basin Barrier Shoreline (BBBS) Restoration feature, Caminada Headland and Shell Island (CSI), is to restore and protect the natural barrier shoreline system in order to support reestablishment of a sustainable ecosystem in the Barataria Basin. The CSI project is one of the five initial near-term critical restoration. Considered critical because the barrier shoreline in the Barataria Basin is among those experiencing the highest erosion rate. Relatively advanced levels of investigations already performed in this area provide the potential for construction within the next 10 years.
- XI. **Update on Bayou Lafourche Freshwater Pump Station – Ben Malbrough, BLFWD (video:0:01:41:56)** Mr. Malbrough updated the board on the Bayou Lafourche Freshwater Pump Station, the agreement between CPRA, LDEQ, and Bayou Lafourche Freshwater District was signed in August of 2019. The Groundbreaking ceremony was held on October 21, 2022 with the Governor and a few Congressional Delegation members. The Mississippi River Reintroduction into Bayou Lafourche includes: 4.4 Mil in revenue; Water sales 300,000; 3.4 come from Lafourche and Terrebone; 340,000 to run electricity for pump station; 2 Mil to operate depending on the capital projects. The Pumping Capacity Improvements include: 1 - Water Control Structure - \$2.5 million; 2 - Pumping Capacity Improvements - \$65 million; Thibodaux Weir Removal- \$1.5 million; and Donaldsonville Drainage- \$1.5 million.
- XII. **Gulf Corps and Tribal Youth Conservation Corps– Emily Thornton NOAA and Mary Josie Blanchard, USDO (video:02:19:49)** Ms. Blanchard briefed the board on the Dept. of Interiors RESTORE Tribal Youth Conservation Corps. Native youth along the Gulf Coastal Zone hired for Youth Conservation Corps. The FPL1: Five Tribes in four states, including the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana. Additional FPL1: Coushatta Tribe (LA) joined as a sixth Tribe. FPL3: TYCC, including LA Tribes, approved by each RESTORE Council member. Outcomes include improvements in Gulf Coast Tribal communities, conservation employment experience for Tribal youth, and Tribal youth education. Ms. Thornton updated the board on the GulfCorps Program Overview and Accomplishments (2017-2022): There are 365 crew members that have contributed 337,317 project hours with 1,937 acres of invasives removed. They have worked 126 acres of wetland restoration; 3,835 acres of wetland enhancement; 7,033 acres of upland restoration and 7,694 acres being monitored.
- XIII. **Federal Programs Update – Neal McMillin, Governor’s Office (video: 02:40:04)** Mr. McMillin updated the board on recent developments on revenue sharing legislation. The RISEE Act – S. 2130 and H.R. 9049, removes revenue sharing limitation in GOMESA, plus waives 2% fee for Interior states. Louisiana is forecasted to gain \$1.9 billion over 10 years (FY23-FY32) from this GOMESA provision. Revenue sharing from offshore wind development, split similarly to GOMESA, albeit with no limiting cap. Mr. McMillin stated that under this provision, Louisiana would receive at least \$12.7 million from NOCSF from wind leasing bids to date, plus shared revenues from local wind lease sales in Q1 of 2023. The RISEE Act – \$1B GOMESA Cap Nears in FY22.



XIV. Public Comment

XV. Adjourn

Motion by Mr. Hidalgo
Second by Ms. Goodson
Unanimously Approved

DRAFT