



Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority



Coastal Protection & Restoration Authority Board Meeting
346 Civic Center Blvd.
Barry P. Bonvillain Civic Center
(formerly known as the Houma-Terrebonne Civic Center)
Houma, Louisiana 70360
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

Chairman Haase, Executive Assistant, Coastal Activities	Present
Charles Reulet, DNR	Present
Don Johnson, DOTD	Present
LDWF	Absent
Celena Cage, DEQ	Present
Robby Abboud, LED	Present
Joey Breaux, LDAF	Present
Dan Rees, DOA	Present
Billy Broussard, LDI	Absent
Casey Tingle, GOHSEP	Absent
Karen Gautreaux, Gov’s Advisory Comm- Co-Chair	Present
Scott Burke, Barataria Basin	Present
Monica Gorman, Pontchartrain Basin	Present
Bill Bubrig, Plaquemines Parish Coastal Zone/ Mississippi Delta Basin	Absent
Dwayne Bourgeois, Terrebonne Basin	Present
Bill Hidalgo, Atchafalaya Basin	Absent
Laurie Cormier, Calcasieu/Sabine Basin	Present
Stephen Sagrera, Teche/Vermillion Parish	Absent
Michael Ince, Designee for the Lieutenant Governor	Absent
John Lane for Pres. McInnis, Breton Sound Basin	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

III. Opening Remarks – Terrebonne Parish President Gordy Dove (video:02:47:01)

IV. Approval of Agenda

Motion by: Ms. Gautreaux
Second by: Rep. Zeringue
Unanimously Approved

V. Approval of Minutes

Motion by: Mr. Bourgeois
Second by: Mr. Lane
Unanimously Approved

VI. Old Business/Announcements *Announcement made by Charles Sutcliffe regarding upcoming Resilience Meeting on August 21, 2023 @ 10:00am*



Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority



- VII. **CPRA Implementation Update— Greg Grandy, CPRA (video: 02:32:44)** Mr. Grandy presented to the board that there are 109 active projects, 45 of them are in construction, 61 are in E&D, with 3 more in the planning stage. Of the projects now being constructed, 31 are hurricane protection projects and 39 are creating marsh. Marsh creation leads the way in E&D with 39 projects moving toward the construction phase. Mr. Grandy updated the board on the following projects: **Elliot Jones Pump Station (Terrebonne Parishes):** Mr. Grady stated that construction on the Elliot Jones Pump Station in Terrebonne Parish is progressing. It's located within Elliot Jones Canal along the Western Tie-In Alignment of the Morganza to the Gulf Hurricane Risk Reduction System near Gibson, LA. The project involves constructing a pump station to provide additional pumping capacity out of the Chacahoula-Gibson Basin to reduce the risk of flooding in areas on the south side of the basin and on the northern bank of Bayou Black. The \$12 million project is funded by GOMESA. The project consists of a 1,000 CFS pump station and braced floodwalls, a partial dredging of Elliot Jones Canal, levee tie-ins, an access road, and removal of the existing gate at the project site. As far as progress to date, the contractor has installed all of the compression pipe piles, H-piles, and Precast Pre-stressed Concrete (PPC) piles. They are continuing construction on the remaining features, including the sheet pile installation, which is nearing completion. We expect project completion in December of this year. And just a few weeks ago, Terrebonne Parish cut the ribbon on this pump station to celebrate its completion. **Rosethorn Tidal Protection (Phase 1) (Jefferson Parish):** The Lafitte area has a history of flooding caused by tides, rainfall, and tropical systems. From 1994 to 2004 the USACE conducted several Reconnaissance and Feasibility Studies to identify and propose measures of flood control; it recommended providing structural protection in the area to an elevation of 7 feet. Mr. Grandy stated that the project we're featuring today is the first of two construction jobs in the community of Rosethorne that will provide additional protection from a 10-year rainfall or tidal event flood. The Rosethorne Tidal Protection projects are being led by the Lafitte Area Independent Levee District (LAILD) with support from (CPRA). CPRA has dedicated \$37.3M to the projects and are funded with a combination of 2010/2011 Surplus, GOMESA, and Capital Outlay Funds. In closing, Mr. Grandy shared that the Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion – groundbreaking ceremony was a success and a long time coming. He also announced that the FY 24 Conservation & Restoration Partnership Fund is now accepting applications. And gave a few highlights (see slide) of Asst. Secretary Shannon Estenez visit from the Dept. of Interior.
- VIII. **Federal Update on Morganza to the Gulf and West Shore Lake Pontchartrain- Col. Cullen Jones, USACE (video: 02:17:12)** Col. Jones provided the board with updates of the Morganza to the Gulf which is 98 miles of levee, consist of 23 environmental control floodgates, 10 roadway/railroad flood gates, and a HNC lock complex. Col. Jones stated that this system will provide a 1% risk reduction, 200,000 residents will be protected, and it will provide a safe harbor for navigation travel. He stated that the mission of the project is: Working with CPRA and Levee Districts to deliver a world class levee system design to reduce flood risk for the citizens of Terrebonne and Lafourche Parishes. The cost to complete initial construction is: \$5.0B, with the federal share being \$3.2B and a non-federal match of \$237M. In Col. Jones' update on the West Shore Lake Pontchartrain which is 18 miles of levee in the St. John & St. James parishes. This project provides a 1% risk reduction against hurricane/storm surge for 60,000 residents/businesses in these areas. There has been a significant cost increase which has drawn the attention all the way up to headquarters with Gen. Spellmon. The WSLP total project cost increased from \$760M to \$3.7B.



MORGANZA TO THE GULF LEVEE SYSTEM¹
FEDERAL WORK UNDERWAY

Cost to Complete Initial Construction: \$5.0B
 Federal Share: \$3.2B
 Federal Funding Received: \$440M
 Non-Federal Match (In-Kind Work): \$237M

Project Mission: Working with CPRA and Levee Districts to deliver a world class levee system design to reduce flood risk for the citizens of Terrebonne and Lafourche Parishes

Federal Construction Started

- Humble Canal Sector Gate Preload \$11M
- Complete by September 2023

WSLP – COST GROWTH
 Primary Cost Drivers

Total Project Cost increase from \$760M to \$3.7B

To deliver authorized project by 2027 - \$2B total investment

To deliver to 2060 - \$3.7B total investment

Levees and Floodways (\$330M increase)	Pump Stations (\$300M increase)	Future Lifts (\$1.3B increase)
Mitigation (\$250M increase)	Relocations/PED/SAA (\$240M increase)	State Preferred Mitigation (\$480M increase)

MITIGATING FUTURE COST INCREASES

What MVD/MVN has completed:

- Cost Engineering Initiatives
- WSLP Independent Review of CWE- NAD
- Moved Studies across MVD (Regionalization)
- Balancing WL/WF across MVD
- Greater use of PCX

What MVD/MVN will accomplish:

- Greater transparency
 - Feasibility Report uncertainty
 - Future Supplemental requests
- Routinely updating Cost Estimates
- Ensuring transparency and accomplishing appropriate design maturity
- Senior Leader led cost estimate review
- Feasibility cost breakdown by contract
- Future cost risk audits (Comite – SWD, WSLP – NAD)

IX. **Local Update on Morganza to the Gulf and other Levee Projects – Reggie Dupre, Terrebonne Levee and Conservation District; Dwayne Bourgeois, North Lafourche Levee District; Nicholas Matherne, South Lafourche Levee District (video:01:34:33)** Mr. Dupre provided the board with a brief update on the present and the future of the Morganza to the Gulf (see slides 1-2 below).

LOCAL & STATE INVESTMENTS TO DATE

Terrebonne Levee District	\$300 Million
State of Louisiana	\$300 Million
HNC Lock Complex (RESTORE Act)	\$400 Million
Terrebonne Parish Flood Control	\$200 Million
Total State & Local Investment	\$1.2 Billion
Federal Funding Appropriated to date	\$440 Million
Federal Funds Expected FY 2024	\$ 28 Million
TOTAL INVESTMENT	\$1.668 BILLION

Completed or under construction along 98-mile MTG alignment:

- 80 miles of levees
- 14 navigable floodgates
- 2 navigable non-Federal Lock Complexes
- 1 HNC Lock Complex
- 11 environmental structures

TERREBONNE PARISH CONSOLIDATED GOVT PROJECTS

LOCK STRUCTURES & PUMP STATIONS

Bayou Terrebonne Lock Complex Project Complete & Operational	Boudreaux Canal Lock Complex Project Complete & Operational	Bayou Terrebonne Pump Station 450 CFS - In Final Design
Hanson Canal Pump Station Project Complete & Operational	Elliot Jones Pump Station 1,000 CFS Capacity Project Complete & Operational	Bayou Black Pump Station 1,000 CFS Capacity In Design

- Mr. Bourgeois updated the board on the environmental benefits of the Morganza to the Gulf. The (MtG) is not a typical river levee system. Instead, it is a hybrid levee system which includes flood control structures and special features designed into the levee alignment to benefit the **environment**. It's the Largest open levee system in the U.S. - MtG contains one lock, 22 floodgates, and 23 environmental control structures that daily allow the natural ebb and flow of the tide through the risk reduction system. The list of environmental benefits are: Confronting Increased Tropical Cyclone Frequency and Strength, Sustaining Louisiana Fisheries and Culture, Protecting Results observed Marsh Recovery and Restoration. Mr. Bourgeois stated that the socio-economic benefits are: Protecting Disadvantaged Communities and Lower Middle-Income

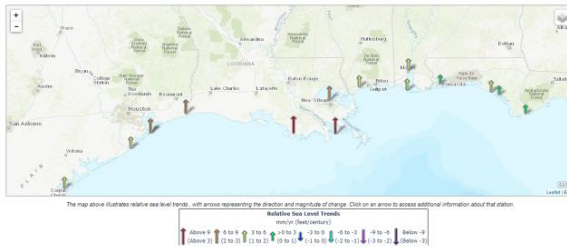


Populations, Climate and Economic Equity Solutions, and Protecting Existing and Authorized Coastal Restoration Projects.

MORGANZA TO THE GULF ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

Adapting to High Sea Level Rise

The Morganza part of Louisiana is ground zero for the **highest** Relative Sea-Level Rise in the world



MORGANZA TO THE GULF SOCIO-ECONOMIC BENEFITS

Protecting Disadvantaged Communities and Lower Middle-income Populations

- The MIG system provides significant flood risk reduction benefits to **low to moderate income families** in rural areas that help avoid the physical and economic hardships of extreme weather.
- The positive benefits of the MIG for underserved and marginalized communities, including those of color and Indigenous peoples, were captured in the design and justification for the project.
- Regional economic growth resulting from proposed action will also create additional jobs, thereby benefiting minority and/or low-income groups living within the project area.
- Recovering from natural disasters takes much longer for disadvantaged populations. Completing MIG would greatly improve the resilience of these communities.



- Mr. Matherne updated the board members on the South Lafourche Levee System which consist of 48miles of Levee & Structures; 56’ wide Floodgate in Larose; 56’ wide lock in Golden Meadow; 6 Pump stations (1.2M gallons/min); 13’ high levees on North End and 16-18’ high levees on the South end.

X. Update on Adaptive Management Program – Darin Lee, CPRA (video:01:49:58) Mr. Lee updated the board on adaptive management and how CPRA uses it as a structured process for making decisions over time through active learning; enables adjustments to be made in projects and in programs as new information becomes available; and embraces the scientific approach that involves identifying explicit goals and objectives, developing and implementing management actions; assessing the system’s response to the actions and using that knowledge to make management decisions through all projects and programs throughout all stages of development.

The image shows three screenshots from the SWAMP system. The first screenshot is a flowchart titled 'System-Wide Assessment and Monitoring Program (SWAMP)' showing a cycle between 'Data Acquisition', 'Standardized Formating', 'Project Performance', and 'Adaptive Management'. The second screenshot is a map titled 'System Wide Assessment & Monitoring Program (SWAMP) - Coast-wide Reference Monitoring System (CRMS) Barrier Island Comprehensive Monitoring (BICM) Program' showing various monitoring sites like Wetlands (CRMS), Barrier Islands (BICM), Locks/Waterways (SWAMP), and Non-point Source Wetlands (SWAMP). The third screenshot is a 'Hydrology' dashboard showing '389 Active monitoring sites across coastal Louisiana' with a list of measures including Water Level, Salinity, Vegetation, Elevation, Vertical Accretion, Surface Elevation Change, Soil Characteristics, and Land Change.

XI. Update on Integrated River Management as Second Term Coastal Priority – Brian Lezina, CPRA (video: 02:22:57) Mr. Lezina shared with the board the Governor Edwards’ Coastal Priorities: Climate Initiatives Task Force; Pursuing initiatives that will ensure a sustainable oyster industry; Growing, diversifying, and protecting the economy through coastal protection and restoration; Coastal Innovation and Collaboration Hub; Pursuing a more integrated approach to the Mississippi and Atchafalaya Rivers.

The image shows three screenshots from the 'Governor Edwards' Coastal Priorities' dashboard. The first screenshot is the 'Climate Initiatives Task Force' section, listing goals like 'Pursuing initiatives that will ensure a sustainable oyster industry' and 'Growing, diversifying, and protecting the economy through coastal protection and restoration'. The second screenshot is the 'LMRMP - State' section, listing goals like 'Support the long-term sustainability of the coast and reduce land loss to the extent possible' and 'Enhance the health of ecosystems associated with the LMR'. The third screenshot is the 'Nutrient Management' section, listing goals like 'Support nutrient reduction strategies' and 'Reduce sediment by 376,000 lbs'.



XII. Federal Update – Neal McMillin, Governor’s Office (video: 02:37:21) Mr. McMillin provided the members with a recap of hearings regarding Revenue Sharing. Mr. McMillin shared that on July 26, 2023, Governor Edwards testified before the Senate Committee on the Budget for the hearing “Beyond the Breaking Point: The Fiscal Consequences of Climate Change on Infrastructure.”

Senate Budget Hearing – Our Plans and Actions

- Coastal Master Plan**
- Effective Plan prepares for opportunities
 - Shows with investments we can reduce risk even with climate change
- Climate Action Plan**
- Unanimous passage to do our part
 - Attracting \$26 billion in climate-related investment



- Projects & Programs**
- HSDRRS
 - Morganza to the Gulf
 - Southwest Coastal
 - Miss-Barataria Sediment Diversion
 - Relocation of Isle de Jean Charles community
 - Watershed Initiative
 - LA-1

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF COASTAL ACTIVITIES

Senate Budget Hearing – RISEE Act

- The RISEE Act came up in three instances.
- Gov. Edwards' testimony on how fulfilling the Coastal Master Plan requires resources, hence RISEE.
 - Discussion with Chairman Whitehouse on the importance of revenue sharing to address the coastal crisis of losing up to 5,000 square miles of land.
 - Q&A with Sen. Kennedy on the lack of parity with GOMESA and the wise use of such funds in Louisiana.



Gov. Edwards Testimony on the RISEE Act

States and more funding to achieve their unique resilience objectives. As I described earlier, we can make sure, scientifically driven increases that would position our state as a stronger position even after fifty years of change – but only if we secure the resources needed to act. Congress has been changing proposals out there, including the Chairman's Rebuilding in America's Vulnerable Economies and Ecosystems (RISEE Act). The model of linking federal revenue with the state losing the activity through revenue sharing has been a proven concept for over 100 years. In Louisiana, we have consistently dedicated such funds to coastal restoration and protection. Applying revenue sharing more broadly to offshore activities is a reasonable way to allow coastal states to bring the energy situation into something much more. Otherwise, we will be having more significant revenues to repair and rebuild while never getting ahead of the problem because we are reacting to the latest emergency. Proactive, locally-informed investments, as would be funded by the RISEE Act, are essential to combat the challenges from the changing climate.

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF COASTAL ACTIVITIES

Highlighting the Benefits of Revenue Sharing in House Natural Resources Committee

On July 27, Lafourche Parish President Archie Chaisson testified before the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Energy Resources for the hearing, "Sustaining American Jobs and Economic Growth: Examining the Future of the Offshore Leasing Program."



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF COASTAL ACTIVITIES

Excerpt from Chaisson Testimony

This is why Lafourche has supported legislation like H.R. 1 and the BREEZE Act to help send revenue from the offshore wind lease sales back to the producing states. The SHORES (Sharing Offshore Revenues from Energy Sources) Coalition has made numerous trips to meet with members of Congress to talk about the importance of not only new offshore oil and gas lease sales but also importance of offshore wind revenue sharing. In Louisiana, we have constitutionally dedicated revenue from offshore lease sales to all things coastal and the work that is being done through the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority's Coastal Master Plan.

Additionally, State Representative Joseph Orgeron is working on a state constitutional amendment that would do the same for the revenue generated by offshore wind lease sales. You see, we are tirelessly working to restore our coast and protect our residents and our culture.

FY24 Appropriations – Focus on Senate E&W

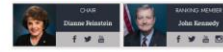
Energy & Water Subcommittee Bill Advanced

S. 2443 CONTAINS SIGNIFICANT INCREASE FOR U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Army Corps Funding: USACE received \$8.93 billion, \$420 million more than FY23 and \$1.58 billion more than the President's Budget.

PEI: Additionally, the Committee created a new account for Planning, Engineering & Design (PED). The driving motivation for the Committee to create this account is the need to have revised and current cost estimates for projects, to avoid significant cost escalations for supplemental projects (see report language below). The Mississippi River Gulf Outlet ecosystem restoration would receive funding through this account.

Project Cost Updates.—The Committee is aware that the Corps has a policy that requires regular updates of the economic and cost of authorized projects that have not yet received construction funds, but such updates are not feasible without funds. The lasting impacts of delinquent updates has become apparent with recent supplemental projects as certain project cost estimates were also causing significant cost escalations. Funding is included for updates to authorized projects that have not received Construction funds where those updates are necessary to reauthorize project costs or verify economic justification.



Senator Kennedy Congressionally Directed Spending: \$36.5 million additional for the J. Bennett Johnson Waterway for Boggs Lock and Dam. This represents his first E&W earmark.

Senator Cassidy Congressionally Directed Spending

- \$25 million for Morganza to the Gulf
- \$18 million for Calcasieu River and Pass
- \$500K for investigation for J. Bennett Johnson Waterway
- \$250K for PED for Mississippi River Gulf Outlet (MRGO) ecosystem restoration

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF COASTAL ACTIVITIES

In the House, support grows with 4 new members joining the RISEE Act, brining cosponsors total to eighteen. 14 Ds and 5 Rs support the bill (newest member: Rep. Troy Carter, D-LA). Army Corps Funding Announcement: On August 1, 2023, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announced the allocation of \$454 million in funding from the 2022 and 2023 Disaster Supplemental bills, as well as the Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act (IIJA). **2022 Disaster Supplemental:** \$826 million provided in total to Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies Account (FCCE), which funding will be covered at full federal expense. •\$135 million to Grand Isle •Additional \$48 million to Ouachita and Black Rivers in AR & LA IIJA \$1 billion was made available for FY24 Operations and Maintenance. •\$42.8 million to Atchafalaya River and Bayous Chene, Boeuf & Black •\$1.55 million to J. Bennett Johnson Waterway

XIII. Public Comment

XIV. Adjourn

Motion by: Ms. Gautreaux
Second by: Rep. Zeringue