

IBERIA PARISH LEVEE, HURRICANE,
AND CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING SPECIAL MINUTES

DATE: Monday, May 8, 2017

TIME: Twelve (12:00) O'Clock P. M.

PLACE: Iberia Parish Courthouse, Council Chambers
300 Iberia Street - 4th Floor, New Iberia, LA 70560

ATTENDANCE: James Stein, Benson Langlinais, Roy Pontiff,
Lauren Brown, Scott Ransonet, and Edwin Leblanc.

ABSENT: Ronald Gonsoulin, James Landry, and Patrick Broussard.

OTHERS: Executive Director Ray Fremin and Mitch Andrus.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman James Stein called the meeting to order.

PRAYER AND PLEDGE

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Benson Langlinais, seconded by Lauren Brown, that the Iberia Parish Levee, Hurricane, and Conservation District does hereby approve the April 6, 2017 minutes as published.

This motion having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: James Stein, Benson Langlinais, Roy Pontiff, Lauren Brown, Scott Ransonet, and Edwin Leblanc.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Ronald Gonsoulin, James Landry, and Patrick Broussard.

And the motion was therefore passed on this 8th day of May, 2017.

PERSONS TO ADDRESS

None.

SPECIAL BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED

(Comments accepted from the general public)

A motion was made by Lauren Brown, seconded by Roy Pontiff, that the Iberia Parish Levee, Hurricane, and Conservation District does hereby recess its Special Session and convene into Public Hearing to receive public comments on business to be discussed.

This motion having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: James Stein, Benson Langlinais, Roy Pontiff, Lauren Brown, Scott Ransonet, and Edwin Leblanc.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Ronald Gonsoulin, James Landry, and Patrick Broussard.

And the motion was therefore passed on this 8th day of May, 2017.

Upon hearing no comments, a motion was made by Benson Langlinais, seconded by Lauren Brown, that the Iberia Parish Levee, Hurricane, and Conservation District does hereby recess its Public Hearing and reconvene into Special Session.

This motion having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: James Stein, Benson Langlinais, Roy Pontiff, Lauren Brown, Scott Ransonet, and Edwin Leblanc.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Ronald Gonsoulin, James Landry, and Patrick Broussard.

And the motion was therefore passed on this 8th day of May, 2017.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Balance

Executive Director Ray Fremin, Jr. reported the following:

- Account Balance of \$98,228.60
- Accounts Receivable of \$8,844.66
- Total \$107,073.26

B. Monthly expense spread sheet

Executive Director Ray Fremin, Jr. provided an expense spread sheet through the end of the month of April.

Executive Director Ray Fremin, Jr. provided a brief update on Legislation being followed in regards to levee districts.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Update Report AFPC (Acadiana Flood Protection Coalition) (Julie Rosenzweig)

In absence of Ms. Rosenzweig, Executive Director Ray Fremin, Jr. stated that the Coalition met and discussed HB 259 and decided that they would pursue a wait and see approach on said legislation. Mr. Fremin stated that their next meeting will be held tomorrow at Community First Bank.

B. Update on HB 259 Constitutional Amendment

Executive Director Ray Fremin, Jr. stated that the proposed amendment would allow each levee district to assess up to a 5 mill property tax. He stated that the bill was put forth into legislation by Representative Jerome Zeringue, a coastal Representative. He further stated that the bill is moving forward with support from other areas of the state, but not fully supported by Iberia Parish Legislators. He noted that should said legislation pass, it'll appear on the October ballot.

It was also noted by Chairman Stein that the District plans to meet with the Iberia Parish Legislative Delegation in order to

discuss alternative funding mechanisms.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discuss concerns with CWPPRA Demonstration Project LA 16 and the potential removal of a successful project.

Royal Engineering Representative Mitch Andrus spoke in regards to four approved CWPPRA demonstration projects at Shark Island all constructed in 2014. He explained that the soil here is very weak and alternatives were being sought after in order to protect the shoreline. He proceeded to explain that Royal Engineers submitted a design and was accepted, with said design installed and monitored for three years, along with four other demonstrations, but is now being removed at the request of NRCS. He then provided a PowerPoint presentation outlining details of said projects.

Executive Director Ray Fremin, Jr. noted that said project is working, and further that there hasn't been a real response from NRCS regarding the removal of said project. He suggested that something be sent to NRCS requesting an explanation of why the removal of said project is being requested. Upon further discussion, it was noted that said site was for testing and that NRCS had the right to request removal.

- B. Discuss and Consider a Resolution in support of Senate Bill 249 filed by Senator Norby Chabert to provide for 85% of the funding received by the state from GOMESA funds be disbursed annually to the Coastal Levee Districts for the purpose of hurricane protection within the coastal parish where the revenue is allocated. (Ray)

A motion was made by Benson Langlinois, seconded by Lauren Brown that the Levee District does hereby discuss Summary No. 10 in support of Senate Bill 249 filed by Senator Norby Chabert to provide for 85% of the funding received by the state from GOMESA funds be disbursed annually to the Coastal Levee Districts for the purpose of hurricane protection within the coastal parish where the revenue is allocated.

Chairman James Stein questioned if the proposed Resolution is premature because the bill is not in final form yet. Mr. Fremin stated that he thinks there are more amendments to come, and does not know what the final draft will be. He noted that Senator Chabert's focus is to get more money to levee districts for protection as there is a lot of money focused on restoration. In regards to the question of prematurity, Mr. Fremin stated that he is unsure, but by the next official meeting said legislation will be close to ending. Chairman Stein commented that the legislators may amend said legislation to something the District may not agree with.

A substitute motion was made by Roy Pontiff, seconded by Lauren Brown, that Summary No. 10 supporting Senate Bill 249 filed by Senator Norby Chabert to provide for 85% of the funding received by the state from GOMESA funds be disbursed annually to the Coastal Levee Districts for the purpose of hurricane protection within the coastal parish where the revenue is allocated, be tabled at this time and monitored until further information is available. (Summary No. 10)

This motion to table having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: James Stein, Patrick Broussard, Benson Langlinais, Roy Pontiff, James Landry, Ronald Gonsoulin, Lauren Brown, Scott Ransonet, and Edwin Leblanc.
NAYS: None.
ABSENT: Ronald Gonsoulin, James Landry, and Patrick Broussard.

And the motion to table was therefore passed on this 8th day of May, 2017.

C. Update on ALBL workshop held May 4th and 5th

Executive Director Ray Fremin, Jr. reported that information provided was mostly centered on different legislations and the how they're working to re-authorize the NFIP.

CORRESPONDENCE

Reminder: All board members must complete a Tier 2.1 Personal Financial Statement and submit it to the ethics board by May 15th. Copies have been sent by email to all members and additional copies can be obtained from Ray **or** can be downloaded from ethics.la.gov, (form 417s).

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

June 1, 2017

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made by Roy Pontiff, seconded by Benson Langlinais, that the District does hereby adjourn.

All members present voted affirmatively and the motion carried unanimously.

I hereby certify the fore going to be exact and true:

Ray Fremin, Jr., Executive Director
Nem/