**REGULAR MEETING**

**April 1, 2020**

The Board of Commissioners for the Lafourche Basin Levee District met pursuant to Governor John Bel Edward’s executive order (Proclamation Number JBE-2020-30) issued to provide for additional measures to address the COVID-19 emergency. The Lafourche Basin Levee Board of Commission certified that as a result of the COVID-19 emergency, it would be unable to attain attendance of a quorum at this meeting other than through electronic means. Accordingly, this meeting was held by Teleconference. The notice of the call-in information was included in the agenda which was posted and sent out in accordance with law, including the certification set forth above and was called to order by its President, James P. Jasmin, at 6:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by President James P. Jasmin.

Present: Commissioners… Craig Carter, Assumption Parish; Whitney Jasmin, Jr., St. John the Baptist Parish; Russell Loupe, St. Charles Parish; Eric Matherne, St. Charles Parish; Michael McKinney, Sr., Ascension Parish; Gary Watson, St. John the Baptist Parish; Kevin Hebert, St. Charles Parish; President James P. Jasmin, St. James Parish; Jeffery Henry, Ascension Parish and Marlin Rogers, St. Charles Parish were present. .

A quorum was present to conduct business.

Messrs. Larry Buquoi, Attorney; Donald Ray Henry, Executive Director and Ivy Chauvin, Sr., Assistant Executive Director was present.

The meeting opened with a prayer and the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Adoption of the agenda was motioned by Commissioner Jeffery Henry and seconded by Commissioner Michael McKinney, Sr. President Jasmin called for a roll call vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:

YEAS:

* Gary Watson
* Jeffery Henry
* Craig Carter
* Russell Loupe
* Eric Matherne
* Whitney Jasmin, Jr.
* Marlin Rogers
* Kevin Hebert
* Michael McKinney, Sr.
* James P. Jasmin

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

By a roll call vote of 10 yeas, 0 nays, 0 absent and 0 abstained. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

There were no Public comments in reference to agenda items.

On motion of Commissioner Gary Watson, seconded by Commissioner Michael McKinney, Sr., the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 4, 2020 be accepted and filed in the minutes of the Board.

President Jasmin called for a roll call vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:

YEAS:

* Gary Watson
* Jeffery Henry
* Craig Carter
* Russell Loupe
* Eric Matherne
* Whitney Jasmin, Jr.
* Marlin Rogers
* Kevin Hebert
* Michael McKinney, Sr.
* James P. Jasmin

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

By a roll call vote of 10 yeas, 0 nays, 0 absent and 0 abstained. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

On motion of Commissioner Jeffery Henry, seconded by Commissioner Russell Loupe, the following cash available for distribution of the month of February 29, 2020 be accepted and filed in the minutes of the Board.

**FIRST AMERICAN BANK:**

**Checking account balance Jan 2020 $ 98,980.75**

**Deposits/Transfer In – Feb.**

**Revenues/Refund 296,535.48**

**Interest on Checking 17.52**

**Funds transferred in 250,000.00**

**Operating Expenses/Other 246,251.07**

**Funds transferred out 29,169.96**

**TOTAL ACCOUNT BALANCE FEB. 29, 2020 $ 370,112.72**

**LAMP**

**Account balance – Feb. 4,252,233.65**

**Funds transferred in 29,169.96**

**Funds transferred out 250,000.00**

**Interest Income Earned 5,247.19**

**TOTAL ENDING BALANCE FEB. 29, 2020 $ 4,036,650.80**

**INVESTMENTS: BNY**

**Discount Notes/T-Bills/Bonds 7,047,696.49**

**TOTAL CASH & INVESTMENTS AS OF FEB. 29, 2020 $ 11,454,459.98**

President Jasmin called for a roll call vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:

YEAS:

* Gary Watson
* Jeffery Henry
* Craig Carter
* Russell Loupe
* Eric Matherne
* Whitney Jasmin, Jr.
* Marlin Rogers
* Kevin Hebert
* Michael McKinney, Sr.
* James P. Jasmin

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

By a roll call vote of 10 yeas, 0 nays, 0 absent and 0 abstained. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

COVID -19 State of Emergency: General discussion on actions taken and District’s plans and updates for continued operation – Executive Director, Donald Henry. Mr. Henry informed the Board that he and his staff are taking things day by day for any changes that need to be made for the employees, including the scheduling. All employees have access to PPE and sanitizing products. The maintenance workers are scheduled to come in groups of 6 along with supervisors. Each group will work the Tuesday and Thursday of their work week and then be off for 2 weeks after so that they can quarantine and protect themselves. There are 3 groups for this rotation. Mr. Henry also informed the Board that the spillway will open in a few days because the river is expected to rise to 17 feet. Vice-President Eric Matherne asked if the employees’ temperatures were being taken on a daily basis. Mr. Henry stated no because of the lack of the proper equipment to perform that task. Mr. Matherne stated that he thinks this would be a good idea to get the equipment and send workers home if they have fever. Mr. Henry also stated that Jani King also comes in an extra 3 days to sanitize the office.

On motion of Commissioner Michael McKinney, Sr., seconded by Vice-President Eric Matherne, the following resolution was proposed and unanimously adopted .

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners approve to take no action on purchasing equipment for Levee District and Commissioners to utilize for teleconference and video conference meetings amid the Covid-19 state of emergency and to defer it to the Finance and Committee Meetings for further discussion.

Vice-President Matherne state that he and President Jasmin discussed this agenda item and agreed that more information was needed before making a decision and think it should be moved to the Finance Meeting. Commissioner Michael McKinney, Sr. made the motion to not take action and defer it to the Finance and Committee Meetings. Vice-President Eric Matherne seconded the motion. President Jasmin called for a roll call vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:

YEAS:

* Gary Watson
* Jeffery Henry
* Craig Carter
* Russell Loupe
* Eric Matherne
* Whitney Jasmin, Jr.
* Marlin Rogers
* Kevin Hebert
* Michael McKinney, Sr.
* James P. Jasmin

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

By a roll call vote of 10 yeas, 0 nays, 0 absent and 0 abstained. The motion passed.

On motion of Commissioner Marlin Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Russell Loupe, the following resolution was proposed and unanimously adopted.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners approve the request to begin operations and maintenance for the West Bank Hurricane Protection Levee – Ellington Levee Phase II in St. Charles Parish, Louisiana, Sta. 90+00 to Sta. 145+00.

Vice-President Matherne asked if there were any public comments on this item. Mr. Henry stated that he invited Mr. Sam Scholle to speak on this item. Mr. Scholle stated the parish made the corrections that was requested by the levee board. President Jasmin asked Mr. Larry Buquoi, attorney, if all the paperwork was in order. Mr. Buquoi stated yes, as long as all the corrections were made. Mr. Jasmin asked Assistant Executive Director, Ivy Chauvin, for his thoughts. Mr. Chauvin stated that everything looked good along with the corrections being made. President Jasmin called for a roll call vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:

YEAS:

* Gary Watson
* Jeffery Henry
* Craig Carter
* Russell Loupe
* Eric Matherne
* Whitney Jasmin, Jr.
* Marlin Rogers
* Kevin Hebert
* Michael McKinney, Sr.
* James P. Jasmin

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

By a roll call vote of 10 yeas, 0 nays, 0 absent and 0 abstained. The motion passed.

On motion of Commissioner Michael McKinney, Sr., seconded by Commissioner Jeffery Henry, the following resolution was proposed and unanimously adopted.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners approve to hire one new Mobile Equipment Operator 2 position and one new Administrative Assistant 2 or Administrative Assistant 3 position.

Mr. Henry stated that once the time comes to be able to hire the needed positions, the Board will have already approved it. A lot of catching up will need to take place once everything settles. Only advertising for the position will take place as of now. Vice-President Matherne stated that it may be a good idea to hire someone that is qualified from the district.

President Jasmin called for a roll call vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:

YEAS:

* Gary Watson
* Jeffery Henry
* Craig Carter
* Russell Loupe
* Eric Matherne
* Whitney Jasmin, Jr.
* Marlin Rogers
* Kevin Hebert
* Michael McKinney, Sr.
* James P. Jasmin

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

By a roll call vote of 10 yeas, 0 nays, 0 absent and 0 abstained. The motion passed.

President Jasmin stated to the Board that instead of making a motion to accept the renewal of the insurance, he would like the Board to move it to the Finance Meeting for further discussion and review. He asked Mr. Henry for any input. Mr. Donald Henry stated that we normally renew the insurance in May which is why he chose to put it on the agenda so that the Board can start reviewing the information.

Commissioner Marlin Rogers asked if the conferences that were scheduled in May are cancelled or not. Mr. Henry stated that he had informed the Board last week at the Committee Meeting of the cancellations, which he understands that Mr. Rogers was absent for. Mr. Rogers stated that it might be a good idea to move the May meetings back to its regular schedule since the two conferences are canceled. Mr. Henry stated that the Board would have to vote to put this item on the agenda.

On motion of Vice-President Eric Matherne, seconded by Commissioner Marlin Rogers, the following resolution was proposed and unanimously adopted.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners approve to add to the agenda as #14 and move “Adjourn” to #15, to reschedule the monthly May meetings back to its regular schedule:

Regular Meeting – May 6, 2020

Finance Meeting – May 13, 2020

Committee Meeting – May 20, 2020

President Jasmin called for a roll call vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:

YEAS:

* Gary Watson
* Jeffery Henry
* Craig Carter
* Russell Loupe
* Eric Matherne
* Whitney Jasmin, Jr.
* Marlin Rogers
* Kevin Hebert
* Michael McKinney, Sr.
* James P. Jasmin

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

By a roll call vote of 10 yeas, 0 nays, 0 absent and 0 abstained. The motion passed.

On motion of Commissioner Craig Carter, seconded by Commissioner Jeffery Henry, the following resolution was proposed and unanimously adopted.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners approve to not take action on renewing the insurance with Leo Sternfield and Tommy Landry with Arthur J. Gallagher and to defer it to the Finance and Committee Meetings.

President Jasmin called for a roll call vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:

YEAS:

* Gary Watson
* Jeffery Henry
* Craig Carter
* Russell Loupe
* Eric Matherne
* Whitney Jasmin, Jr.
* Marlin Rogers
* Kevin Hebert
* Michael McKinney, Sr.
* James P. Jasmin

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

By a roll call vote of 10 yeas, 0 nays, 0 absent and 0 abstained. The motion passed.

President Jasmin asked for the engineers to introduce themselves that were on the call. Henry Picard and Michael Chopin with BKI, Oneil Marbrough with GIS Engineering, and Ray Bender and Rodney Greenup with Greenup Industries announced themselves.

Mr. Henry Picard with BKI gave an update on the Upper Barataria Project. GSI addressed comments from CPRA pertaining to slope stability analyses. A revised analysis was delivered in March to CPRA. Geotechnical analysis is complete pending a coordination with CPRA. Vice-President Matherne asked if anything happened after March 11 for the Watershed project. The engineers answered no, everything is up to date for that. If anyone had any other questions after reviewing the packet update, they can feel free to contact the engineers.

On motion of Vice-President Eric Matherne, seconded by Commissioner Marlin Rogers, the following resolution was proposed and unanimously adopted.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners approve to reschedule the monthly May meetings back to its regular schedule:

Regular Meeting – May 6, 2020

Finance Meeting – May 13, 2020

Committee Meeting – May 20, 2020

President Jasmin called for a roll call vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:

YEAS:

* Gary Watson
* Jeffery Henry
* Craig Carter
* Russell Loupe
* Eric Matherne
* Whitney Jasmin, Jr.
* Marlin Rogers
* Kevin Hebert
* Michael McKinney, Sr.
* James P. Jasmin

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

By a roll call vote of 10 yeas, 0 nays, 0 absent and 0 abstained. The motion passed.

Commissioner Craig Carter asked for any additional information for the insurance to be sent out to the commissioners.

Commissioner Russell Loupe made a motion to adjourn and Commissioner Jeffery Henry seconded his motion.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

PRESIDENT

AJ

04/07/2020