SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY – WEST (SLFPA – W)

Finance, Administration, Legal, and Public Information Committee Meeting

Tuesday, June 11, 2013

The Finance, Administration, Legal, and Public Information (FALPI) Committee of the SLFPA – W met on Tuesday, June 11, 2013 with the following members present: Mr. Dauphin, chairman, Mr. Camnetar and Ms. Maclay. Mr. Miserendino, Mr. Roark, Mr. Bosch, Ms. Ford, Ms. Rogers, Mr. Ehrhardt, public information, and Mr. Ryan Daul from Daul Insurance were also in attendance. Mr. Merritt observed the meeting via Skype. Mr. Avant, legal counsel, listened to the meeting via telephone.

Mr. Dauphin called the meeting to order in the Board room at the SLFPA – W Office, 7001 River Road, Marrero, Louisiana, at approximately 6:00 PM.

The Committee unanimously approved the agenda.

There were no public comments.

The Committee reviewed and unanimously approved the minutes from the previous meeting, dated May 14, 2013.

Mr. Daul presented preliminary information for the renewal of insurance policies for 2013-2014. Mr. Daul will email the updated quotes to Mr. Miserendino and Mr. Avant when they are complete. The Committee unanimously agreed to request a special meeting of the Committee to review and approve the final cost of insurance policies.

Mr. Bosch presented the check register, budget, and financial statements for SLFPA – W and its member districts. The Committee unanimously agreed to recommend acceptance of the reports by the Board. He will continue to update the Committee at every monthly meeting.

Mr. Miserendino presented the 2013 amended budget. A question arose over concerns about the cutback in legal representation at meetings. Ms. Maclay asked the administration to investigate having Megan Terrell attend all Board meetings, as there is no cost to the Authority for Ms. Terrell to participate.

The Committee reviewed Commissioners’ expense reports, and approved them for payment.

Mr. Miserendino reported that Bid 256, for Equipment Rental, will be opened on June 17th. The Committee unanimously agreed to recommend approval by the Board.

Mr. Miserendino reported on Bid 257, for the Official Journal, which will be opened on June 27th. The Committee unanimously agreed to recommend approval by the Board.

Mr. Miserendino explained a CEA with the Port of New Orleans, for remediation of the Todd Shipyard area. Mr. Camnetar and Ms. Maclay agreed to recommend approval by the Board. Mr. Dauphin recused himself, because of his prior relationship with the Port.

As finding and managing levee business risks are the exclusive responsibility of the SLFPA-W, Mr. Merritt’s report to the FALPI Committee listed understanding and mitigating the risk of levee failure as a SLFPA-W responsibility. He cited a concern about due diligence, and used current insurance matters as an example. As he cited, the best insurance of all is to perform a geological survey and geophysical scan to identify weak foundations, so they may be strengthened before they are tested. Summarizing discussion was friendly to the proposal of using earth science principles and methods to confirm the levee is safe.

Mr. Miserendino talked about the disposal of levee samples taken from WBV-14c.2 (New Westwego PS to Orleans Village.) Ms. Maclay led a discussion, with the object of documenting the Committee’s reasoning and decisions about SLFPA-W’s samples of the debris-laden Westwego to Marrero levee. Ms. Maclay noted:

1. The FALPI Committee originally regarded studying the samples as a technical matter and deferred to the Authority’s Technical, Operations and Maintenance (TOM) Committee.
2. The outcome was that the TOM Committee deferred the decision to CPRA’s wishes, who had no further need of the samples, and
3. The SLFPA-W samples were thus destroyed.

Ms. Maclay reminded the Commissioners that election of officers for the next two years would be held at the July Board meeting.

Mr. Dauphin announced that the next regularly scheduled Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 9, 2013 at 6:00 PM in the Board Room at the SLFPA – W Office, 7001 River Road, Marrero, Louisiana.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:10 PM.