

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. MARY LEVEE DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING

AUGUST 10, 2017
FRANKLIN, LOUISIANA

The St. Mary Levee District (“SMLD”) met on this date with, J.P. Hebert, presiding and the following board members present: James Vidos, Will Terry, Norris Crappell, Luther Smith, Barry Broussard, Alton Broussard, Kenny Arceneaux and with William Hidalgo Sr. absent.

Also present: Tim Matte, St. Mary Levee District Executive Director; Michael Brocato, Operations Manager of St. Mary Levee District; William Bourgeois; Jeff Pena & Nicole Cutforth, CB&I; Reid Miller, Miller Engineers; Thomas Naquin, T. Baker Smith: and members of the public and media.

Mr. Crappell moved to dispense with the reading and to approve the July 13 regular meeting minutes. After a second by Mr. B. Broussard, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Broussard presented the payables report, which Mr. Crappell moved to approve. Following Mr. Arceneaux’s second, the motion carried unanimously.

Reid Miller with Miller Engineers reported that the Phase I Cultural Assessment field work has been completed and the report has been sent to the USACOE for the Bayou Choupiqué Flood Protection Project. Mr. Matte reported that all appraisals have been completed for the project.

Mr. Matte reported on the levees west of Charenton as described in the South Central Coastal Louisiana Flood Protection Study, and stated that are in the CPRA’s State Master Plan as well as SMLD’s Master Plan.

Mr. Miller reported that his office met with the USACOE on Aug 1st to discuss the requirement for a preliminary geotechnical study for the Yokely Levee Project. Mr. Miller reported the 408 permit process may not be necessary as raising the levee to a +8 may be considered routine maintenance.

Mr. Miller reported that the pumps are up and running at S. Willow Street and Franklin Canal Pump Station. Mr. Miller stated that a request for substantial completion should be made within the next week or so. Mr. Miller also reported that the contractors are working on a few more items on punch item list.

Thomas Naquin, of T. Baker Smith, reported that the expected completion date for the Siracusaville section of the Morgan City Levee Construction and Improvements Project had been Aug 9, 2017. But, weather days will extend it to the end of the month. Mr. Naquin reported that the sheet pile work is nearly completed in front of the pump station and sheet pile driving should starting in the vicinity of the Cajun Coast Welcome Center. Mr. Naquin reported that the contract has been awarded for the LA 70 portion and that a preconstruction meeting will be held next week with an anticipated notice to proceed date in mid-September. Mr. Naquin stated that his office is working on the final design for the Justa Street levee with an anticipated advertisement date as early as mid-September.

Jeff Pena, of CB&I, reported that his office continues to coordinate with the USACOE on the 408 permit process for the Bayou Chene Project and that the 60% design is on hold awaiting the resolution on that process. Mr. Pena stated that his office continues its coordination with CPRA to review the model runs on the Increase Atchafalaya project. Mr. Pena reported that his office has received the new modeling results from CPRA and is currently reviewing them.

Mr. Pena reported that his office has received all the permits for the Bayou Teche project. Mr. Pena stated that his office has obtained the right-of-ways from the land owners. Mr. Pena also reported a meeting was held with the state on July 27 regarding the funding application.

Mr. Matte reported that the attorneys are still looking into concerns with some title searches for the tracts that are being considered for cattle grazing.

Mr. Matte reported that a meeting was held with the landowners, which includes Cabot and the J M Burguieres Co., and with the USACOE real estate staff to discuss land right requirements for the North Bend Phase B project. Mr. Brocato stated that a meeting was also held with utility and pipeline companies for relocating their utilities.

Mr. Matte reported that the USACE's Annual Low Water Inspection boat ride will be held Aug 17.

Mr. Brocato reported that SMLD has two maintenance repairs to be made on the West Atchafalaya Basin Levees near Verdinville. Mr. Brocato stated that bids were received on Aug 9 and that the low bidder was Southern Constructors in the amount of \$56,858.

Mr. Matte presented the amended budget to properly reflect the Flood Fight expenditures and reimbursements. Mr. B. Broussard moved to adopt said amended budget. Following a second by Mr. Arceneaux, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Terry moved to authorize Mr. Matte to submit letters to the Congressional Delegation regarding the renewal of the National Flood Insurance Program. After a second by Mr. Crappell, the motion carried unanimously. Mr. Matte stated that the letters will be sent to Sen. John Kennedy, Sen. Bill Cassidy, and Rep. Clay Higgins.

Mr. Arceneaux moved to authorize Mr. Hidalgo to sign a CEA with U. S. Fish and Wildlife Services to operate a walking/biking trail from Yellow Bayou to the boat launch at Franklin Canal Pump Station. After a second by Mr. Terry, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Hebert asked for further comments and did not receive any. Mr. Terry moved for adjournment, which was seconded by Mr. Crappell and carried unanimously.

Attest:

Barry A. Broussard, Secretary
St. Mary Levee District