

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
ST. MARY LEVEE DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING

NOVEMBER 13, 2014  
FRANKLIN, LOUISIANA

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

Also present: Tim Matte, St. Mary Levee District Executive Director; Michael Brocato, Operations Manager of St. Mary Levee District; William Bourgeois, SMLD Attorney, Jeff Pena, CB&I Co.; Reid Miller, Miller Engineers; Rick Dugas, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority; and, members of the public and media.

Mr. Terry moved to dispense with the reading and to approve the Oct 9 regular meeting minutes. After a second by Mr. Crappell, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Hidalgo presented the payables report, which Mr. Vidos moved to approve. Following Mr. Crappell second, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Reid Miller, with Miller Engineers reported that the Town of Baldwin’s attorney is having issues with the right-of-ways for the road surrounding the proposed Bayou Choupique levees. Mr. Miller suggested presenting a presentation of the project for the new officials of the Town of Baldwin.

Mr. Miller reported that his office and St. Mary Parish Government has put the Yokeley Levee project on hold to allocate funds to help assist with Franklin Pump Station.

CB&I’s Jeff Pena reported his office is currently working with SJB on the final plans and specs for the gas line and should be going for bid in the upcoming weeks on the Franklin Canal Pump Station project. Mr. Pena stated the pre-construction meeting was held with Sea Level in October and had received their notice to proceed for November 1. Mr. Pena mentioned the contractor plans to start within the next 3-4 months. Mr. Pena also stated the contract that was awarded is the base bid and Alternate 1 which is with 4 bays and two pumps.

Mr. Miller reported the construction company, Sea Level Construction, has begun construction at the site of Hanson Canal and Yellow Bayou.

Mr. Matte reported the permitting is still ongoing for the Wax Lake East Project. Mr. Matte stated the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has an inquiry which has been answered by Miller Engineers and we have received the permit from the USCOE Engineering department. Mr. Matte reported Mr. Miller’s office is currently waiting for the permit from the USCOE’s Regulatory department but the project is currently out for bid.

Mr. Matte reported the permit submittals for the segments including Auburn, Cooks & Collins and the Hellenic Lakefront are still outstanding. Mr. Matte stated once the comment period is closed final designs is the next step. Mr. Matte also stated that a discussion with Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD) was held to discuss utilizing LA70 highway as part of the Morgan City Levee System and Mr. Matte also attended a conference with Shona Gibson with FEMA to discuss the same. Mr. Matte stated after that call Ms. Gibson provided St. Mary Levee District a comment in writing documenting the fact that in order to have a levee certified for map inclusion purposes, only the standards of 44CFR 65.10 needed to be met. Also reported by Mr. Matte was the permitting process has begun for the Siracusa levees.

Mr. Pena reported that the Bayou Chene project design is currently in the permitting process. Mr. Pena stated his office is ready to start design once all the comments are received from the various agencies on the preliminary report. Mr. Pena also reported Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will be sending out revised letters next week to the landowners regarding mitigation plans of their properties and landowners will have 30 days to respond.

Mr. Hidalgo reported at the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CRPA) meeting that was held Wednesday it was announced that St. Mary Levee District was added to the Restore Act funding list, but hasn't been added to a "bucket" as of yet.

Mr. Matte reported that he participated in a meeting with EDA to discuss the project timeline and permitting requirements and has provided them with a permitting/reimbursement schedule. Mr. Matte also reported on the levee inspections that were held on Oct 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> with the USACOE. Mr. Matte stated a preliminary report by the USACOE will be provided to SMLD to provide SMLD with the items that need to be resolved.

Mr. Bourgeois reported that an IGA has been prepared with the City of Franklin regarding the Franklin Canal Flood Control Structure and suggest that the agreement be sent to Franklin for their feedback.

Mr. Matte introduced the proposed 2015 budget that will be up for adoption at the December meeting.

Mr. Hidalgo discussed the Clean Water Act which is proposing expansion of federal control by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and USACOE. Mr. Crappell motioned to authorized Mr. Hidalgo to sign the resolution to oppose the Clean Water Act mentioned. Following Mr. Vidos' second, the motion carried unanimously.

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

Attest:

---

Barry A. Broussard, Secretary  
St. Mary Levee District