

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. MARY LEVEE DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING

SEPTEMBER 11, 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, Luther Smith, Kenny Arceneaux, and with Barry Broussard 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.; Kevin O’Gorman, T. Baker Smith; 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 August 14 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. Smith’s second, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Miller, with Miller Engineers reported that the Town of Baldwin’s attorney is still working on the title search detailing the property ownership surrounding the proposed Bayou Choupique levees due to some discrepancies that were found.

Mr. Miller reported that surveying has been completed along Industry Road for the Yokeley Levee project and his office along with the Parish is discussing where the alignment will be.

CB&I’s Jeff Pena reported that the bids for the Franklin Canal Pump Station project have been accepted, with Sea Level Construction being the lowest bidder. Mr. Pena stated the bid opening was held June 3 and CPRA has moved forward to award the contract with a pre-construction meeting to be held.

Mr. Pena reported the next step to move the Bayou Teche Project forward is to find funding.

Mr. Miller reported the construction company, Sea Level Construction, has release their tentative schedule for the construction of Hanson Canal and Yellow Bayou. Mr. Miller stated surveyors would be on site next week and equipment on site the following week.

Mr. Miller reported a letter of comment was received from the USCOE Operation Division on the Wax Lake East Project. Mr. Miller stated the drawings would be revised and resubmitted.

Mr. Kevin O’Gorman of T. Baker Smith reported design work is set to begin on moving the pump station located near Teche Regional Hospital closer to Lake Palourde now that the alignment of the levee has been changed. Mr. O’Gorman stated the Hellenic property owners have agreed to donate all the right of ways and borrow material that will be needed for the project. Mr. O’Gorman also reported the first portion of the project to advertise for bid will be Lake End Park to Justa Street; his office will apply for the construction permit in the near future.

Mr. Crappell motioned to authorize Mr. Hidalgo to sign the amendment to the engineering contract for the design work regarding the roadway improvements as well as the movement of the pump station that was provided in the preliminary project budget for the Morgan City Levee Improvement project. After a second by Mr. Smith, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Pena reported that the Bayou Chene project is currently in the permitting process. Mr. Pena also reported Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will be sending out revised letters to the landowners regarding mitigation plans of their properties and landowners will have

30 days to respond. Mr. Pena stated his office is currently waiting on permit resolution to proceed with preliminary designs.

Mr. Matte reported that SMLD would be responding to the Restore Act with a letter along with the Parish Government to try to get funds for several of the levee district's projects. Mr. Matte stated the funds are intended to be primarily used for coastal restoration or protection related to the oil spill.

Mr. Matte reported that he contacted the Acting Deputy, Mr. Troy Constance, regarding the Cooperative Endeavor Agreements (CEA) that have been signed with the City of Morgan City, St. Mary Parish Government and the Town of Berwick and is still waiting to hear from him. Mr. Matte reported the West Gordy Levee Improvement Project has been completed. Mr. Matte reported that a follow up meeting with Shona Gibson, a FEMA representative, regarding Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRM) has been scheduled. Mr. Matte plans to discuss adoption of DFIRMS with "seclusion" of the City of Morgan City and the Wax Lake East Area.

Mr. Matte reported Levee Inspections have been scheduled for October 28 & 29.

Mr. Bourgeois reported that he is currently waiting on a revised draft from the USACOE attorney concerning the PPA.

Mr. Hidalgo 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