

IBERIA PARISH LEVEE, HURRICANE, AND CONSERVATION
DISTRICT MINUTES

DATE: Thursday, February 6, 2014

TIME: Six (6:00) O'Clock P.M.

ATTENDANCE: James Landry, James Stein, Benson Langlinais, Ronald Gonsoulin, Alfred "Todd" Landry, Frank Minvielle, and Patrick Broussard.

ABSENT: Scott Saunier and Ronald Hebert, Jr.

OTHERS: Randy Moertle, Rickey Huval - Assessor, Jacques Cousin - Legal Counsel, Councilman David Ditch, Mike Pugh - Royal Engineers, and Pat Landry & Stan Aucoin - CPRA.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None.

IV. PERSONS TO ADDRESS

None.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED

A motion was made by Mr. James Stein, seconded by Mr. Ben Langlinais that the Iberia Parish Levee, Hurricane, and Conservation District does hereby recess its Regular Session and convene into Public Hearing to receive public comments on business to be discussed.

And the motion was therefore passed on this 6th day of February, 2014.

Chairman Gonsoulin welcomed Mr. Ricky Huval, Iberia Parish Assessor, stating he had requested his attendance to speak in reference to demographics, millages, and the asset values in Iberia Parish.

Mr. Huval stated that his role as an assessor is placing value to property, and re-valuing the property every four years. He explained that at this point he is not seeing a big increase in property values one way or the other, though he anticipates a decrease if it becomes true that insurance rates increase as much as it is anticipated. He expressed his concerns should the value south of Hwy. 90 decrease, the millage rates can be increased. He stressed that this will affect the entire Parish, because the entire Parish is revalued.

Mr. Huval continued to explain if the millage goes up, everyone north of Hwy. 90 will see an increase in millages, hence paying more taxes. He noted that everyone south of Hwy. 90 will most likely pay less, but the millage would still go up. He expressed the importance because the entire Parish is involved, and not just those south of Hwy. 90. Mr. Huval further provided data regarding millages of Iberia Parish.

Upon hearing no further comments, a motion was made by Mr. Ben Langlinois, seconded by Mr. Patrick Broussard, that the Iberia Parish Levee, Hurricane, and Conservation District does hereby recess its Public Hearing and reconvene into Regular Session.

And the motion was therefore passed on this 6th day of February, 2014.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Updates on:

- Weeks Bay Project

It was stated that there was nothing new to report on this particular project.

Mr. Mike Pugh explained that the installation of the wall for the demonstration project funded through CWPPRA will start next week at Shark Island, with anticipation of completion by early March. He further explained that this demonstration project consists of four different stretches, each segment being 1,500 feet. A study of each segment will be done for eighteen months and whichever portion does the best will hopefully be utilized more.

Chairman Gonsoulin requested that NEW BUSINESS, ITEM D be discussed at this time, while Legal Counsel Jacques Cousin is present.

- ### D. Review outcome of a meeting with Royal Engineers & Consultants, LLC.

Chairman Gonsoulin stated that a meeting was held with Royal Engineers in order that the proposed contract between the two entities be reviewed. He further stated that the District Attorney's Office felt that they are not qualified to review such contract due to specific terms used in the contract and requested that the draft be forwarded to CPRA for review. He then explained that it is customary for CPRA engineers to review similar contracts of the like.

Mr. Jacques Cousin, Legal Counsel confirmed that he has sent the contract to Baton Rouge for experts to review.

Mr. Jacques Cousin exited the meeting.

Chairman Gonsoulin noted that he took it upon himself and made a request on behalf of the Levee District to CPRA for \$150,000 to be used for operational funding. He stated that Mr. Zeringue will make the request to the Committee and report back.

VI. OLD BUSINESS (continued)

- Delcambre-Avery Canal Project, TV-57

It was stated that a decision has yet to be made if CPRA or the Iberia Levee District will be running the project and managing the funding.

- Capital Outlay Requests

It was stated that a meeting will be set with Mr. James Lee of Facility Planning and Control in order that the contract be signed for the use of \$250,000 in Capital Outlay funds towards the

Delcambre-Avery Canal Project.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discuss and consider forming a Conservation Task Force.

Chairman Gonsoulin stated that forming this Task Force would be to solicit advertising funds from different businesses who would see a benefit of the District passing a tax. He stated that this Task Force would represent the Port of Iberia and the businesses from that area, with a proposed force consisting of Patrick Broussard, Frank Minvielle, and Joey Zagar.

Mr. James Stein stated that the Delcambre Boat Parade Committee has approached him about donating money to the District. He then questioned how would the District accept these funds, as the District cannot accept money for advertising. He further questioned where would this money go. Mr. Patrick Broussard suggested that the funds go to Step Up Iberia, as it is already arranged with the Greater Iberia Chamber of Commerce to handle funds for advertising. Upon further discussions in regards to forming such Task Force, it was stated that this Force appears to be the same as the Step UP Iberia campaign, as the Force is already in existence. Chairman Gonsoulin stated that this can be used as a vehicle, but the Port still needs to be accessed. He requested that Mr. Frank Minvielle assist with making contact with Port of Iberia businesses.

Mr. Ben Langlinois stated that these gentleman should attend the Step Up Iberia meeting next Tuesday at 11:00 a.m., as this campaign/organization has been in place and working since November. He noted that they are having meetings regularly and are looking for businesses to attend. He explained that the whole idea is for businesses to get involved with the Chamber to promote the positive aspects of what the Levee District is trying to achieve.

Mr. Ben Langlinois then advised the District that this item was initially placed on the agenda as a result of the last meeting, in order that a Conversation Task Force be formed for the sake of promoting the conservation aspects. Mr. Langlinois stated that he and Mr. Broussard discussed the possibilities of how this Task Force could be structured, and visioned that one does not have to be a Levee Board member to serve. He then stated that they would need individuals from the Levee Board to sit on this Task Force to explore how they would want to push forward such ideas. It was stated that Mr. Patrick Broussard would serve as Chairman and Mr. Ben Langlinois would serve as an advisor. Mr. Langlinois stated that he has already spoken with other agencies who would be glad to appoint advisors to the Task Force. It was stated that the Chairman would be tasked to initiate the Task Force.

B. Report from the Task Force in regards to meeting with the Atchafalaya Levee District.

It was stated that there was nothing new to report.

C. Discuss and consider the creation of a bank account.

Mr. James Stein explained that Iberia Parish Government is currently holding donated funds and paying all invoices submitted on the behalf of the Levee District. He further explained when the District begins expending the \$250,000 of Capital Outlay funds, it would be of best interest to establish a District checking account. He questioned, when an account is opened who would take on such financial duties. It was then suggested that Mr. Stacy Singelton,

CPA be contacted as he has offered his assistance to the District. It was then discussed that a meeting be set with the Mr. Singleton as soon as possible so that a checking account be acquired, therefore activity is visible in the account for purposes dealing with Capital Outlay.

Upon discussing which bank to use, Mr. Patrick Broussard suggested that Mr. Benny Menard with Community First Bank be contacted, as he is also involved with Step Up Iberia. Mr. Frank Minvielle stated that he would like Iberia Bank to be considered.

A motion was made by Mr. James Stein, second by Mr. Patrick Broussard authorizing the Chairman to select a bank, open up a checking account, and further authorizing the Chairman and Vice Chairman to sign said checks, with a third person authorized to sign said checks in the event of the absence of one authorized signature. (Resolution No. 2014-03)

And the motion was therefore passed on this 6th day of February, 2014.

- E. Approval of an Invoice from the Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana for Annual Membership Dues for the year 2014, in the total amount of \$500.

A motion was made by Mr. Frank Minvielle, seconded by Mr. Todd Landry, approving payment of an Invoice to the Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana for Annual Membership dues for the year 2014, in the total amount of \$500. (Resolution No. 2014-04)

And the motion was therefore passed on this 6th day of February, 2014.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS

Comments were made in regards to the negative talk throughout the community about the South West Study and it was further clarified that Iberia Parish is not included within the Southwest Study.

Mr. Langlinais stated that CPRA has replied to the Corps of Engineers addressing the comments about the Southwest Study. Upon discussing these comments, it was decided that a Resolution be sent to the Corps supporting CPRA's response in opposition to the Corps comments.

A motion was made by Mr. Patrick Broussard, seconded by Mr. Frank Minvielle supporting the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authorities response in opposition to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) *Southwest Coastal Louisiana Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement*.

And the motion was therefore passed on this 6th day of February, 2014.

It was stated that Mr. Garret Graves, Chair of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority has resigned from the position, and Mr. Jerome Zeringue will be assuming his position.

IX. PLANS FOR NEXT MEETING

- March 6, 2014

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. James Landry, seconded by Mr. Frank Minvielle, that the District does hereby adjourn.

All members present voted affirmatively and the motion carried unanimously.

I hereby certify the fore going to be exact and true:

Ronald Gonsoulin, Chairman

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