The Board of Commissioners of the Bossier Levee District met in regular session on Wednesday,

 June 12, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. at the Levee Board Office, 3404 Industrial Drive, Bossier City, Louisiana.

 The President, Tim Larkin, called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL PRESENT: Commissioners – LARKIN, ALLEY, MONTGOMERY, MOORE, and STELLY.

 Staff: Mark Long, Devan Jordan, Deanna Rabb, Josh Monroe with DOTD, and counsel for the Bossier Levee

 District, Mr. Daniel J. Baker.

 ABSENT: BANTLE

 The first order of business was the opening prayer by Commissioner Alley and the Pledge of Allegiance

 by Commissioner Larkin.

 On motion by Alley, seconded by Stelly, and unanimously passed, the Board dispensed with the reading of the minutes and approved the minutes of the regular Board Meeting previously held on May 8, 2024.

**REQUESTS BY VISITORS:**

 Mr. Brian Evans with Brew Crew, LLC submitted a permit request to demolish an existing vacant structure

and associated site improvements to prepare the site for proposed redevelopment at 1980 Airline Drive. A 510

square foot prefabricated drive thru coffee shop (Seven Brew) is proposed that would include a 280 square foot

storage/cooler structure, dumpster enclosure, driveways, sidewalks, parking, site lighting, service utilities,

landscaping, and a drainage pipe within the BLD control area on Lateral B-1.

 On motion by Montgomery, seconded by Alley, and on recommendation from the Applications Committee

 the Board (except for Commissioner Moore who abstained), approved the permit submitted by Brew Crew, LLC

 to demolish the existing structure and build a new drive thru coffee shop – Seven Brew to be located on Airline

 Drive near Lateral B-1. No comments from the public. (PERMIT #2024 - 21)

 Comcast Cable Communications, LLC submitted a permit request to place fiber optic cable via directional

 bore within the BLD control area along Shady Grove Ditch. It was noted that the ditch is paved and the City has

 been maintaining it although technically being within the BLD control area

 On motion by Moore, seconded by Alley, and on recommendation from the Applications Committee

 the Board approved the permit submitted by Comcast. No comments from the public. (PERMIT # 2024 – 23)

 Ryan Estess with Raley & Associates, Inc. on behalf of their client Parc Properties, LLC requested

 an outfall drainage structure and utility easement for the sewer force main within the BLD control area on Willow

 Chute Bayou.

 On motion by Stelly, seconded by Alley, and on recommendation from the Applications Committee the

Board approved the permit request for the structure and easement contingent upon the updated change

being reflected on new maps indicating the width of the servitude shown at 30’ and not 25’. No comments from

the public. (PERMIT #2024 - 28)

**OLD BUSINESS:**

 The Board was updated on information received from the Bid Opening on June 5th, 2024 regarding the

proposed purchase of two (2) new tandem diesel dump trucks with 16 cubic yard dump beds needed due to age

and downtime associated with our current trucks including extensive maintenance requirements and costs.

 On motion by Alley, seconded by Stelly, and on recommendation from the Applications Committee they

 authorized the BLD to purchase two (2) new dump trucks.

 **NEW BUSINESS:**

 The Board reviewed the submitted plats received from the MPC for review, approval, and or authorization

 of No Objection Letters from the Bossier Levee District.

 1). Willow Chute Commercial Subdivision Unit No. 6

The Board discussed the Willow Chute Commercial Subdivision plat and stated that a LONO would be

issued administratively after the designated control area and language are updated on behalf of the BLD by the Operations Coordinator, Mark Long.

**LEVEE AND DRAINAGE REPORT**

**Red Chute Bayou Channel Slope Repairs**

- July 24, 2019 – Vicksburg Corps conducted a damage assessment of high-water damages on Red Chute Bayou; no determination as of November 11, 2019.

- December 9, 2019 – Donald Walker, Chief of Vicksburg Corps Emergency Management called and advised that the Vicksburg Corps would be providing funding for approximately 10 bank caving sites along the levee.

- December 10, 2019 – Captain Papia with the Vicksburg District made a site visit to assess the bank repair areas.

- March 30, 2020 – received letter dated March 24, 2020, from the colonel of the Vicksburg District Army Corps denying

our request for PL 84-99 funding for bank caving repairs.

- Waiting for further direction from the Corps on repair requirements.

- July 8, 2021 – Lanny Barfield, with the USACE Vicksburg District, advised that the Vicksburg District recently requested approval from the MVD for funding approval to repair of the sites.

- May 10, 2022 – Received an email from Craig Prestwood, Senior Project Manager, with the USACE Vicksburg District

advising that our request for bank stabilization repairs has been approved by the MVD and that they are getting ready to send

 in a funding request to MVD for design and data collection.

- July 21, 2022- BLD provided a right-of-entry to Patrick White with the Vicksburg District for surveying and site assessment needed for plan design for bank stabilization repairs.

- September 12, 2022 – Soil survey for bank stabilization design started.

- October 12, 2022 – Topo survey for bank stabilization design near completion.

- May 4, 2023 - PDT meeting conducted through WEBX; major topic was discussion of unexploded ordinances within project limits. It is anticipated that the project delivery date will be in the fall of this year.

- May 11, 2023 – submitted right-of-way authorization documents to Corps.

- January 9, 2024 – USACE awarded a contract for bank stabilization on (9) sites on Red Chute Bayou..

- May 2, 2024 – work delayed due to high water.

**Red Chute Levee Raise Project**

- Mitigation analysis for levee raise was conducted by Nixon Engineering and Dewberry Consultants.

- October 31, 2019 – Nixon Engineering delivered mitigation report.

- December 8, 2019 – Kurt Nixon and Jacob Lesue presented the board with mitigation study results.

- March 11, 2020 – Kurt Nixon submitted a revised mitigation study report with recommendations for a levee raise and mitigation

**Levee Inspection Compliance**

- BLD has completed an inspection and report of deficiencies on the Red River Levee including items listed on the USACE 2019 and 2021 Levee Inspection Report.

- Work to remove encroaching items and the correction of deficiencies is ongoing.

**Red River Levee Certification**

- May 8, 2018 – sent letter to Corps requesting their services in providing new levee certification.

- February 7, 2020 – we received word from Craig McRaney with the Vicksburg Corps that the levee can be raised above

elevation of Lock and Dam 5 Road; Mr. McRaney also advised that the levee district should submit a request for a 408

permit to raise the levee in the areas with insufficient freeboard.

- February 10, 2020 – a conference call was held with several members of the Vicksburg Corps; the purpose of the call wasto seek guidance on how to expedite the permit for the levee raise and to request that the Corps provide assistance in obtaining

 the permit. Very little new information was obtained from the call; the Corps did say that they would research

the Congressional Authorization for the levee to determine if any restrictions such as an additional congressional authorization would be needed to raise the levee.

- September 9, 2020 – hired Kurt Nixon to review options for levee certification.

- January 11, 2021 – held conference call with Vicksburg Corps and discussed 408 permit requirements for raising the areas with deficient free board on the Red River Levee north of Lock and Dam 5.

- March 3, 2021 – Kurt Nixon provided progress letter on status of the 408 permit.

- April 12, 2021 – conference call held with Katy Breaux and members of the Vicksburg Army Corps of Engineers to discuss

a Risk Assessment to be used for levee certification.

- April 22, 2021 – conference call with Vicksburg Corps to discuss Risk Assessment; Katy Breaux advised that the Corps has obtained funding for the Hydraulic Analysis portion of a Risk Assessment

- June 8, 2021 – spoke with Katy Breaux, Project Manager with Vicksburg Corps and she advised that work on the Hydraulic Analysis portion of the Risk Assessment should be completed by the end of July 2021.

- On August 17, 2021, Raley and Associates completed work on cross sectioning and topo survey of a 6.0-mile segment of

the levee from lock and Dam 5 road north.

- January 4, 2022 – received a status update on the CORPS H&H Analysis for the Red River Levee; the H&H Analysis is complete however they are waiting on new risk assessment classification guidance before issuing a report.

- March 28, 2022 – a meeting with the Vicksburg Corps and local officials was held; Will McRae with the Vicksburg Corps Levee Safety Center presented Corps recommendations for a path forward on levee accreditation and discussed an in-depth levee risk assessment to be cost shared with the Corps and local entities; estimated cost range between $250,000.00 and $750,000.00.

- July 6, 2022 – re-submitted letter of request to the Vicksburg Army Corps of Engineers for a Semi-Quantitative Risk Assessment on the Red River Levee.

- December 13, 2022 – conference call with Will McCrae, Brandon Cummins, Lanny Barfield and other members of the Vicksburg Corps concerning the Semi-Quantitative Risk Assessment. Will McCrae advised that new guidance for evaluating

a risk assessment would be coming out in February of 2023; he advised waiting for the new guidance before starting the risk assessment.

- March 8, 2023 – Vicksburg Corps met with board and provide updates and recommendations for an NFIP Risk Assessment.

- April 29, 2023 – mailed letter of request for an Accelerated Levee Evaluation (Risk Assessment) for NFIP Purposes to the Vicksburg USACE.

- June 6, 2023 – received cost share agreement and scope of work for the levee risk assessment.

- July 12, 2023 – cost share funding in the amount of $433,000.00 was mailed to USACE this date.

- September 13, 2023 – hired Kurt Nixon to provide a cost estimate to raise an approximate 6-mile segment of the Red River Levee for the purpose of applying for capital outlay funding from the State.

- October 13, 2023 - Kurt Nixon provided a cost for raising a 6-mile segment of the Red River Levee with an estimated cost

of $10,376,768.00.

- December 12, 2023, through December 15, 2023 – Risk assessment team made field observations of the levee; also performed tabletop discussion on potential failure modes.

- Risk assessment ongoing.

**Red River Levee Ponding Area**

- January 5, 2022 – requested surveyor to survey area near Red River Levee Station 147+00 to determine how best to drain an area of ponding water adjacent to the levee.

- April 1, 2022 - received survey information from Travis Sturdivant with Raley and Associates of ponding area and proposed drainage ditch.

**Levee Surfacing**

- Levee surfacing on the Red River Levee from station 460+50 to 520+70 and from station 568+50 to 634+90; approximately 12,640 LF. Received a quote from Newt Brown Contractor LLC in the amount of $245,395.00.

- May 6, 2024 - Levee Surfacing work between station 568+50 and 634+90 has been completed.

- June 10, 2024 – Work between levee station 460+50 and 520+70 delayed due to wet conditions.

**Levee and Drainage Crews**

- Inspecting various construction activities near levees and drainage channels.

- Clearing drainage channel maintenance access along channels located on BAFB.

- Mowing at various locations on levees and drainage channels.

- Drift removal at bridges on Red Chute Bayou.

- Removed storm debris from various drainage channels.

- Herbicide application on drainage channels and fence rows along levees.

- Monitoring high water.

- Cleaning outfall culvert gates.

- Inspecting levees, channels, and drainage structures.

- Servicing and repairing equipment.

**Equipment Purchases**

- Advertised for bids for two 145-HP Tractors; bid opening February 22, 2024. Received low bid from Goldman Equipment

in the amount of $142,026.30 each. Estimated delivery time 90 days.

- Ordered 2024 Ford Expedition; expected delivery time 3-4 months. Cost $52,891.00. Price lower than State contract.

- Ordered two new John Deere FC15R Flex Wing 15-foot rotary cutters through State contract. Estimated delivery 60 days.

- Working on bid documents for 14-16 CY dump truck.

**Surplus Equipment**

- The following equipment is to be sold as surplus.

1. 2003 Case MX 110 with 5313 hours; Equipment # 205.
2. 2016 John Deere 6135E with 520 hours; Equipment # 380.
3. 2016 John Deere 6135E with 326 hours; Equipment # 381.
4. 2009 John Deere 7230 with 4975 hours; Equipment # 207.
5. 2009 John Deere 7230 with 4705 hours: Equipment # 208.
6. 2007 Ford F-450 with 103,566 miles; Equipment # 108.
7. 2000 John Deere Track Excavator with 4790 hours; Equipment # 203.

 On motion by Bantle, seconded by Alley, and unanimously approved, the Board authorized the secretary

on behalf of the Bossier Levee District to process all payments in the amount of $638,185.36 as set forth in the

materials provided for the Board. The Board Meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:34 a.m.

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 Timothy A. Larkin, President Deanna S. Rabb, Secretary