DRAFT

**REGULAR MEETING**

**February 7, 2024**

The Board of Commissioners for the Lafourche Basin Levee District met this day in regular session at its official domicile at 21380 Highway 20 in Vacherie, Louisiana. The public was invited to attend via Teleconference and at the LBLD office. The meeting was called to order by its President, James P. Jasmin, at 6:00 P.M.

The meeting opened with a prayer and the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Present: Commissioners… Craig Carter, Assumption Parish; Arthur Bosworth IV, St. James Parish; Gary Watson, St. John the Baptist Parish; Eric Matherne, St. Charles Parish; President James P. Jasmin, St. James Parish; Russell Loupe, St. Charles Parish; Steven Joseph, Ascension Parish; Jeffery Henry, Ascension Parish; Larry Sorapuru, St. John the Baptist Parish and Marlin Rogers, St. Charles Parish were present. Kevin Hebert, St. Charles Parish, was absent.

A quorum was present to conduct business.

Messrs. Donald Ray Henry, Executive Director; Ms. Melanie Broden, Accounting Specialist, Ms. Astrea Jupiter, Administrative Assistant, Mrs. Sara Long, Human Resource Specialist, and Mrs. Yolanda Brown, Administrative Assistant, were present. Mr. Spencer Long, Attorney, was present.

President Jasmin asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. Vice-President Arthur J. Bosworth, IV made the motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Jeffery Henry seconded his motion. President Jasmin called for a vote. The motion passed.

There were no public comments on the agenda items.

On motion of Commissioner Jeffery Henry, seconded by Vice-President Arthur J. Bosworth , the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 10, 2024 be accepted and filed in the minutes of the Board. President Jasmin called for a vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:

YEAS:

* Arthur Bosworth IV
* Larry Sorapuru
* Russell Loupe
* Gary Watson
* Jeffery Henry
* Craig Carter
* Eric Matherne
* Marlin Rogers
* Steven Joseph
* James P. Jasmin

NAYS: None

ABSENT:

* Kevin Hebert

ABSTAINED: None

By a roll call vote of 10 yeas, 0 nay, 1 absent and 0 abstained. The motion passed.

On motion of Commissioner Gary Watson, seconded by Commissioner Craig Carter, the minutes of the Special Call Meeting of January 9, 2024 be accepted and filed in the minutes of the Board. President Jasmin called for a vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:

YEAS:

* Arthur Bosworth IV
* Larry Sorapuru
* Russell Loupe
* Gary Watson
* Jeffery Henry
* Craig Carter
* Eric Matherne
* Marlin Rogers
* Steven Joseph
* James P. Jasmin

NAYS: None

ABSENT:

* Kevin Hebert

ABSTAINED: None

By a roll call vote of 10 yeas, 0 nay, 1 absent and 0 abstained. The motion passed.

On motion of Vice-President Arthur J. Bosworth, IV, seconded by Commissioner Gary Watson, the following cash available for distribution of the month of January 31, 2024 be accepted and filed in the minutes of the Board.

**FIRST AMERICAN BANK:**

**Checking account balance Dec. 2023 $ 305,257.73**

**Deposits/Transfer In – Jan.**

**Revenues/Refund 4,883,895.69**

**Interest on Checking 81.87**

**Funds transferred in**  **250,000.00 Operating Expenses/Other 418,016.97**

**Funds transferred out 0.00**

**TOTAL ACCOUNT BALANCE JANUARY 31, 2023 $ 5,021,218.32**

**LAMP**

**Account balance – Dec. 1,009,239.96**

**Funds transferred in 0.00**

**Funds transferred out 250,000.00**

**Interest Income Earned 4,067.87**

**TOTAL ENDING BALANCE JANUARY 31, 2023 $ 763,307.83**

**INVESTMENTS: BNY**

**Discount Notes/T-Bills/Bonds 5,166,162.32**

**TOTAL CASH & INVESTMENTS AS OF JAN. 31, 2023 $ 10,950,688.47**

No public comments were made. President Jasmin called for a vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:

YEAS:

* Arthur Bosworth IV
* Larry Sorapuru
* Russell Loupe
* Gary Watson
* Jeffery Henry
* Craig Carter
* Eric Matherne
* Marlin Rogers
* Steven Joseph
* James P. Jasmin

NAYS: None

ABSENT:

* Kevin Hebert

ABSTAINED: None

By a roll call vote of 10 yeas, 0 nay, 1 absent and 0 abstained. The motion passed.

On motion of Commissioner Eric Matherne, seconded by Commissioner Marlin Rogers, the following resolution was proposed and approved.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners approve to ratify the Board’s vote of approval at its January Committee meeting to substitute Commissioner Jeffery Henry in place of President James Jasmin to attend the Meet and Greet with the Louisiana Legislative Delegation and to meet with the Congressional Delegation to discuss the Upper Barataria Risk Reduction Project on January 23-27, 2024 in Washington, D.C.

President Jasmin called for a vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:

YEAS:

* Arthur Bosworth IV
* Larry Sorapuru
* Russell Loupe
* Gary Watson
* Jeffery Henry
* Craig Carter
* Eric Matherne
* Marlin Rogers
* Steven Joseph
* James P. Jasmin

NAYS: None

ABSENT:

* Kevin Hebert

ABSTAINED: None

By a roll call vote of 10 yeas, 0 nay, 1 absent and 0 abstained. The motion passed.

On motion of Commissioner Larry Sorapuru, seconded by Vice-President Arthur J. Bosworth, IV, the following resolution was proposed and approved.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners approve Amendment No. 1 to Task Order 10-B which is to increase the not to exceed value of the Task Order by $43,432.00.00 to a new not to exceed value of $84,864.00.

Mr. Donald Henry, Executive Director, called Mr. Rodney Greenup, Greenup Industries, to explain the amendment. Mr. Greenup informed the board that the amendment was to for the environmental analysis on Segment 4. The Corps extended the scope and time. Greenup Industries will have to keep up with the PED to continue the analysis.

President Jasmin called for a vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:

YEAS:

* Arthur Bosworth IV
* Larry Sorapuru
* Russell Loupe
* Gary Watson
* Jeffery Henry
* Craig Carter
* Eric Matherne
* Marlin Rogers
* Steven Joseph
* James P. Jasmin

NAYS: None

ABSENT:

* Kevin Hebert

ABSTAINED: None

By a roll call vote of 10 yeas, 0 nay, 1 absent and 0 abstained. The motion passed.

On motion of Commissioner Jeffery Henry, seconded by Commissioner Larry Sorapuru, the following resolution was proposed and approved.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners approve the annual physicals for employees performed at St. Joseph Medical Clinic beginning in March.

President Jasmin called for a vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:

YEAS:

* Arthur Bosworth IV
* Larry Sorapuru
* Russell Loupe
* Gary Watson
* Jeffery Henry
* Craig Carter
* Eric Matherne
* Marlin Rogers
* Steven Joseph
* James P. Jasmin

NAYS: None

ABSENT:

* Kevin Hebert

ABSTAINED: None

By a roll call vote of 10 yeas, 0 nay, 1 absent and 0 abstained. The motion passed.

Attorney Spencer Long entered the meeting.

On motion of Commissioner Craig Carter, seconded by Commissioner Marlin Rogers, the following resolution was proposed and approved.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners approve to purchase safety shoes for the employees of the Lafourche Basin Levee District as per the Board’s Safety Plan with a voucher amount of $180.

President Jasmin called for a vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:

YEAS:

* Arthur Bosworth IV
* Larry Sorapuru
* Russell Loupe
* Gary Watson
* Jeffery Henry
* Craig Carter
* Eric Matherne
* Marlin Rogers
* Steven Joseph
* James P. Jasmin

NAYS: None

ABSENT:

* Kevin Hebert

ABSTAINED: None

By a roll call vote of 10 yeas, 0 nay, 1 absent and 0 abstained. The motion passed.

On motion of Commissioner Larry Sorapuru, seconded by Commissioner Craig Carter, the following resolution was proposed and approved.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners approve for the Board and/or staff to attend the National Hurricane Conference in Orlando, FL on March 24-28, 2024.

Commissioner Eric Matherne stated that he attended a meeting yesterday and was informed that Sunset will be starting in the middle of March. He said that Mr. Donald Henry may need to be here to coordinate those efforts. Mr. Henry stated that he will be monitoring it very carefully. Commissioner Marlin Rogers asked Mr. Henry what staff will he need to take the this. Mr. Henry stated that he was not sure. It is always a last-minute decision. Commissioner Rogers said that when hurricanes come, we hand out sand bags or evacuate. He does not feel the staff or anyone should go.

President Jasmin called for a vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:

YEAS:

* Arthur Bosworth IV
* Larry Sorapuru
* Russell Loupe
* Gary Watson
* Jeffery Henry
* Craig Carter
* Eric Matherne
* Steven Joseph
* James P. Jasmin

NAYS:

* Eric Matherne
* Marlin Rogers

ABSENT:

* Kevin Hebert

ABSTAINED: None

By a roll call vote of 8 yeas, 2 nay, 1 absent and 0 abstained. The motion passed.

On motion of Commissioner Larry Sorapuru, seconded by Vice-President Arthur J. Bosworth, IV, the following resolution was proposed and approved.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners approve to change the dates of the month of February Finance and Committee Board Meetings due to the Mardi Gras holiday. The Finance Meeting will be held on February 19, 2024 and the Committee as a Whole Meeting will be held on February 21, 2024.

President Jasmin called for a vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:

YEAS:

* Arthur Bosworth IV
* Larry Sorapuru
* Russell Loupe
* Gary Watson
* Jeffery Henry
* Craig Carter
* Eric Matherne
* Marlin Rogers
* Steven Joseph
* James P. Jasmin

NAYS: None

ABSENT:

* Kevin Hebert

ABSTAINED: None

By a roll call vote of 10 yeas, 0 nay, 1 absent and 0 abstained. The motion passed.

Commissioner Larry Sorapuru introduced Ms. Denise Burrell, Executive Director of the River Parish Tourist Commission. She thanked everyone for welcoming her and the Chairwoman, Ms. Elizabeth Joseph. As part of the tourist commission, she promote the River Parishes locally and internationally. They represent three parishes. They advertise the greatness of the parishes along with local activities and the history in each parish. Each parish has real flavor along with the adventures that could be had. The commission is trying to unify and create partnerships with entities so that the area can grow economically. One of their goals is to bring in economic dollars to the area. The office is located in LaPlace, LA. They can be reached online. Their meetings will be held every other month and is open to the public.

President Jasmin introduced elected Ascension Parish Councilman, Mr. Oliver Joseph.

Mr. Stokka Brown, CSRS, Inc., gave the highlights on the Upper Barataria Project.

Segment 2 Sunset Levee Rebid

Progress Update

* Owner, Contractor, and State Agreed on contract change order terms
* Team drafted CPRA and Owner IGA amendment
  + CPRA work thru GOMESA for funding and circulating for signatures
* LBLD board approved the contingent award of the contract
* Civix extended the Williams and Phillips 66 pipeline access agreements thru March 31st, 2025
* IGA was mailed by CPRA for LBLD final execution

Next Steps

* Feb 9th Contract Execution with Onshore
* Board to Execute Greenup and GIS CA, RPR, Testing Task Orders

Schedule

* Less than 30 days from Contract Execution to Notice to Proceed
* Anticipated start of construction mid-late March 2024

Segment 3 – Floodgate

Progress Update

* FTN revised the scope of work proposal for the H&H modeling per designer, CPRA, and owner’s representation comments.
  + FTN presenting tonight finding to LBLD
* BKI working on MEP 65% Design
* CPRA has agreed to permitting initiation
  + Greenup Industries drafting a permitting proposal

Next Steps

* Critical Path Item: Complete H&H modeling to inform Structural 95% and MEP 95% Designs
  + Reverse Head design elevations
  + Wave design loads
  + Induced flooding evaluation
* BKI complete MEP 65% Design in the month of Feburary
* CPRA to review comments for the Structural 65% Design comment and responses
* Structural 95% Design kickoff workshop to address critical 65% design comments

Segment 4 – Floodgate to Hwy 90

Progress Update

* Continued progress of Alternatives Analysis
* BKI has finalized the task 1-3 of the H&H modeling scope
* BKI submitted consultants survey of segment 4 alignment to CPRA and USACE
* BKI and LBLD executed amendment to task order 10-A
* Greenup Industries submitted proposal to amendment to task order 10-B

Next Steps

* Greenup and LBLD execute amendment task order 10-B.1
* Complete alternatives analysis BKI and Greenup Industries Scope of Services
* Provide CPRA results and identify path forward

UBRR USACE Status Update

Progress Update

* Currently working on 10% Design
* Consultant Team planned coordination effort regarding PED current scope to accept NFS design efforts

Next Steps

* PED Progress
  + Critical Path Item: ADCIRC model completion by end of March
  + Data collection
  + Begin Risk Assessment and Value Engineering Study
* Implementation of strategy to accept NFS design efforts as independent utility for community stake holders
* LBLD coordination strategy implementation
  + Agree to Interim protection approach moving Forward
  + Coordination of plans and alternatives with CORP, State, and NFS
  + Present plan in March to congressional delegation

Schedule

* 10% Design – April 2024
* 35% Design – May 2024
* 65% Design – Dec 2024
* 95% Design – Jul 2025
* 100% Design – Sep 2025

Mr. Donald Henry stated that the district has been working on the lift of Sunset for 8 years. We had a lot of meetings. It was a monumental moment that we finally got an IGA with CPRA to receive money to finally lift Sunset in St. Charles. Commissioner Larry Sorapuru said that he wasn’t here 8 years ago when this started. He is so proud of this moment. Commissioner Jeffery Henry said that it’s not just leadership, but the total effort of everyone, especially Mr. Eric Matherne for all the time and effort he put in.

Mr. Matthew Martinec, CSRS, updated the Board on the upcoming delegation meetings.

Washington DC Delegation Meetings

**Update**

* Meeting with FEMA headquarters Hazard Mitigation Staff
  + FEMA feedback given to make refinement to application
  + GOHSEP meeting to discuss application
* Delegation Discussions re: UBRR and FEMA request
  + Sen. Cassidy
  + Rep. Carter

Ms. Sarah Olivier, did an update on the master plan.

Strategic Plan Development

* Plan in production
* Template developed
* Draft to ED for review end of February

President Jasmin informed Ms. Burrell, River Parish Tourist Commission, that she can team up with Ms. Olivier because they are both working in the same direction.

Mr. Domoine Rutledge, CSRS, also updated the Board. He informed them that in regards to the approach to bring coordination to the storm water modeling has tremendous potential for us. He wished the whole Board could have participated in the FEMA meeting. Senator Cassidy’s office was instrumental in helping set up the FEMA meeting. We are exploring areas with GOHSEP and CPRA to bring funding from nontraditional resources. This will take a coordinated effort with all of the parishes. Commissioner Matherne asked if we will be able to meet with FEMA in March. Mr. Rutledge stated that they will work on it. Mr. Kyle Galloway, GIS, gave an update on the Sunset Levee Lift and other projects. Mr. Galloway informed the Board that he has been involved with the lift for four of the 8 years Mr. Henry spoke of and is very excited about it. Due to funding restraints, the extent of the lift was limited in this part of the effort. The contractors will not be using Access No. 1. The last segment will be something to look forward to in the future. The immediate next steps will be executing the contracts. They are due to be executed by the end of next week. He and Mr. Greenup have been coordinating with the contracting effort, making sure everything is done in order. The ground breaking ceremony will be discussed in the next preconstruction meeting to try to schedule a date. Mr. Donald Henry asked Mr. Galloway to please coordinate with Mike and Sam before construction equipment moves out so that they can inform the president.

Mr. Ranjit Jadhav, FTN, made a presentation on H & H Modeling.

Main Tasks Completed

1. Developed a basin-wide model
2. Calculated reverse surge on the floodgate using a Hurricane Ida like conditions
3. Induced flooding in south of structure
4. Developed a detailed floodgate model
5. Calculated 3D velocities to help design
6. Flap gate head loss calibration

Timeline of Tasks

* Apr/May 2022 - Initial meeting with CSRS and Initial Scope development
* Mar 20, 2023 - Meeting at USACE with the St. Paul District, CPRA and CSRS to discuss USACE modeling
* May 2023 - FTN receives Notice-to-Proceed
* Aug 2023 - FTN provided reverse head calculations for H. Ida-like
* Sep 2023 - FTN provided additional modeling results
* Oct 2023 - Scope revised after review by CPRA, LBLD, GIS
* Nov 2023 - USACE Provided Basis of Design report; Request for additional 22 storms
* Dec 2023 - Request to model induced flooding
* Jan 2024 - Final floodgate parameters from the Design Team to model
* FTN provided scope for Additional Tasks
* Feb 2024 - Today’s presentationto LBLD
* 4 months - Additional Tasks1&3 to support floodgate design
* 12 months after NTP - All Additional Tasks complete

Proposed Additional Tasks

Following review by CPRA and the Design Team, following tasks are proposed.

1. Quantify maximum reverse head and wave height for 23 storms (96 runs)
2. Quantify maximum reverse head under antecedent rainfall conditions and variable gate closure timings before an advancing hurricane (60 runs)
3. Validate the design assumptions regarding sizing of barge gate opening, cross-check USACE’s assumption of equivalent flow at gate and railroad for Final Geometry (10 runs)
4. Data analysis support and modeling under regular tidal conditions using collected ADCP/multibeam (4 runs)
5. Hurricane surge simulations with 23 storms for induced flooding on the unprotected (south) side of the structure using the Final Geometry (138 runs)

Vice-President Arthur J. Bosworth, IV made a motion to adjourn and Commissioner Jeffery Henry seconded his motion.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

PRESIDENT

01/16/2023