

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
ST. MARY LEVEE DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING

February 20, 2025  
Morgan City, LA

The St. Mary Levee District (“SMLD”) met on this date with President William Hidalgo, Sr., presiding and the following board members present: Will Terry, J.P. Hebert, Andrew Mancuso, Mike Ortiz, Carla Davis, Mike Thomason and with Kenny Arceneaux absent.

Also present: Tim Matte, Executive Director; Michael Brocato, Operations Manager; Gerard Bourgeois; William Bourgeois; Reid Miller, Miller Engineers; Graham Denton, T. Baker Smith; and members of the public.

Mr. Mancuso moved to dispense with the reading and to approve the Jan 16 regular monthly minutes. After a second by Mr. Terry, the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Hidalgo presented the payables report, which Mr. Mancuso moved to approve. Following Ms. Davis’s second, the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Matte also presented the Statement of Revenues by sources and Summary of Expenditures with comparison to budget of the St. Mary Levee District.

Mr. Graham Denton with T. Baker Smith reported within the next two weeks his office plans to send out an environmental professional to perform a site assessment of potential wetland areas that could be affected by the proposed alignment for Phase 2 of the West of Charenton drainage study. Mr. Denton stated that once the site assessment is completed Olsson can run proposed condition models and his office can start conceptual designs.

Mr. Denton reported his office is currently to complete design plans for a small weir to be installed adjacent to the earthen plug and his office submitted an engineering estimate to complete design of the proposed weir and for contractor solicitation and construction admin. Mr. Denton stated that his office has submitted an engineering design estimate to complete the 60% design phase for the Lakeside Flood Protection Project.

Mr. Brocato reported levee clearing debris is ongoing and the contractor has completed three levee sections. Mr. Brocato stated battery backups at Bayou Chene has been installed as well as the weather stations, they are currently working on updates. Mr. Brocato also reported he has received quotes for grass cutting on Avoca and is still looking them over.

Mr. Matte reported the development of the CPRA 2029 Master Plan has begun with a meeting of the Coastal Advisory team, modeling, risk assessments and hindcasts were discussed. Mr. Matte also reported SMLD modeling effort in reviewing storm scenarios impacts on the Bayou Chene structure is underway and by next month’s meeting they should be able to present some of that analysis.

Mr. Mancuso motioned to authorize T Baker Smith to proceed with the design of Lakeside Flood Protection Project. After a second by Mr. Terry, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Terry motioned to authorize Mr. Hidalgo to sign an IGA with CPRA for pump station and drainage improvements for Drainage District No. 2A and to authorize any steps necessary to implement such agreement, which was followed by Mr. Mancuso’s second, it carried unanimously.

Mr. Mancuso motioned to authorize Mr. Hidalgo to sign an IGA with St. Mary Parish Government to implement the pump station and drainage improvements for Drainage District No. 2A. After a second by Ms. Davis, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Mancuso motioned to engage GIS Engineering for design and assistance with implementation of the Pump Station and Drainage Improvement Project. After a second by Mr. Ortiz, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Hebert motioned to engage APTIM for desktop review of options to file amendments to NFIP map in the vicinity of Franklin.

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

Attest:

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Kenneth Arceneaux Jr., Secretary/Treasurer  
St. Mary Levee District