

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. MARY LEVEE DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING

DECEMBER 15, 2022
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: Kenny Arceneaux, Will Terry, Norris Crappell, Andrew Mancuso, Mike Ortiz, J.P. Hebert, and with Luther Smith and Daniel Lipari absent.

Also present: Tim Matte, St. Mary Levee District Executive Director; Michael Brocato, Operations Manager; Nick Molaison, Miller Engineers; Robert Karam, T. Baker Smith; Jerry Carroll, CPRA; Gerard Bourgeois, William Bourgeois; and members of the public.

Mr. Terry moved to dispense with the reading and to approve the Nov 17 regular monthly minutes. After a second by Mr. Mancuso, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Arceneaux presented the payables report, which Mr. Hebert moved to approve. Following Mr. Crappell’s second, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Robert Karam with T. Baker Smith reported Miller Engineers has completed the additional survey transect which has been incorporated in the model for the levees west of Charenton Canal. Mr. Karam stated the flow rate collection costs have been sent to SMLD to review and his office will begin the low water collection once approved.

Mr. Karam reported his office is currently working to finalize construction pricing based on the last meeting with SMLD for the Lakeside Flood Protection project. Mr. Karam stated that his office also met with Eustis Engineering to discuss geotechnical exploration and other potential design alternatives utilizing river sand.

Mr. Karam reported that the contractor is 95% complete with the installation of the permanent sheet pile and has poured the concrete footings, sump slab, sheer walls and columns for the Morgan City Pump Station Project. Mr. Karam stated that the contractors are currently finalizing the form work and rebar for the concrete deck slab. Mr. Karam reported that the contractor plan to pour the structural concrete deck on Dec 22.

Mr. Matte reported the implementation of Phase 5 of the Bayou Chene Project in nearly complete from the transfer switch located on the barge to the existing power line. Mr. Matte stated a few minor items remain and are being addressed. Mr. Matte also reported CLECO is currently constructing the connection from the existing power line to the new Phase 5 power line and after the connection to the existing power line is established a full closure of the structure under shore power will be conducted.

Mr. Matte reported the USACOE sent a crew to investigate the floodwall leakage in the vicinity of 2nd Street in Morgan City and they are currently on site repairing the French drains that run along the floodwall. Mr. Matte also reported the Increase Atchafalaya Flow to Eastern Terrebonne Project is currently being modified, and concerns for this project continue. Mr. Matte stated that he recently attended the annual conference by ALBL and received a FEMA presentation on Risk Rating 2.0 which has caused much of the recent increases in flood insurance premiums.

Mr. Bourgeois reported changes to the Bylaws for the Levee District have been revised to state the new meeting date and the meeting places.

Mr. Matte discussed the amended budget for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2022 and the proposed budget for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2023. Mr. Hidalgo invited public comment.

Mr. Mancuso motioned to adopt the district’s amended budget for FY 2022, which was followed by Mr. Crappell’s second, it carried unanimously.

Mr. Crappell motioned to adopt the district's FY 2023, which was followed by Mr. Arceneaux's second, it carried unanimously.

Mr. Terry moved to authorize the proposed 2023 meeting schedule. After a second by Mr. Mancuso, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Arceneaux moved to authorize CO 6 for the Bayou Chene project. After a second by Mr. Mancuso, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Mancuso moved to authorize the annual rate increase from Bourgeois Law. After a second by Mr. Terry, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Hebert moved to authorize a month to month lease with the Port of Morgan City for storage for the new boat. After a second by Mr. Mancuso, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Arceneaux moved to authorize invoicing the beneficiaries of the Bayou Chene project once name changes have been made to the CEAs. After a second by Mr. Mancuso, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Arceneaux motioned to expand the agenda. Mr. Crappell seconds the motion which carried unanimously.

Mr. Mancuso moved to approve the ROE for the USACOE to enter properties to make repairs. After a second by Mr. Arceneaux, the motion carried unanimously.

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

Attest:

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