

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. MARY LEVEE DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING

JANUARY 4, 2015
MORGAN CITY, LOUISIANA

The St. Mary Levee District (“SMLD”) met on this date with President William Hidalgo, Sr., presiding and the following board members present: James Vidos, J.P. Hebert, Will Terry, Norris Crappell, Barry Broussard, Luther Smith, Wayne Cantrell Jr., and with Kenny Arceneaux absent.

Also present: Tim Matte, St. Mary Levee District Executive Director; Michael Brocato, Operations Manager of St. Mary Levee District; William Bourgeois, SMLD Attorney; Jeff Pena and Nicole Cutforth, CB&I Co.; Patrick Landry, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority; Reid Miller, Miller Engineers; Kevin O’Gorman, T. Baker Smith; Mayor Ratcliff, Town of Berwick; Mayor Frank Grizzaffi, City of Morgan City; Mayor Donna Laceslin, Town of Baldwin; President David Hanagriff, St. Mary Parish; Duval Arthur, Homeland Security; Mayor Harris, City of Franklin; and, members of the public and media.

Mr. Hidalgo discussed the threat of possible flooding from the Atchafalaya River with a projected crest of 9.5 foot. Mr. Hidalgo stated that Governor Jindal declared a state of emergency on Dec 30 as did St. Mary Parish and Terrebonne Parish. Mr. Hidalgo reported that emergency planning is underway and preparatory steps to closing Bayou Chene are being taken.

Capt. McClellan with U. S. Coast Guard stated plans to enforce vessel traffic restrictions and to ensure vessel and structures on the waters in the area are safe during the high water have begun.

In accordance with the draft of Resolution 16-01, Mr. Vidos motioned to approve Resolution 16-01 to authorize Mr. Hidalgo to declare a State of Emergency and authorizing any expenditures and/or contracts deemed necessary in response to the forecasted flood threat from the Mississippi River, the Atchafalaya River and related bodies of water. Following a second by Mr. Crappell, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Matte reported all permitting will cease and cattle will have to be removed from the levees once Phase II of the flood fight has been reached. Mr. Matte also reported that traffic on the levees will be restricted and patrolling of the levees will be increased by the St. Mary Parish Sheriff’s Office. Mr. Matte stated that the USACOE will hold a stakeholders meeting on Thursday at the Morgan City Municipal Auditorium to discuss the opening of the Morganza Spillway.

Mr. Broussard motioned to expand the agenda to take action on closing roads along the levees. Following a second by Mr. Crappell, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Hebert motioned to authorize the closure of the road from the bottom of the levees from Calumet to the Franklin Area. Following a second by Mr. Crappell, 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. Hebert and carried unanimously.

Attest:

Barry A. Broussard, Secretary
St. Mary Levee District