

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. MARY LEVEE DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING

JULY 8, 2021
MORGAN CITY, LA

The St. Mary Levee District (“SMLD”) met at the Emergency Operations Center, Morgan City on this date with President William Hidalgo, Sr., presiding and the following board members present: Norris Crappell, J.P. Hebert, Daniel Lipari, Kenny Arceneaux, Andrew Mancuso, Will Terry, and with Luther Smith and Mike Ortiz absent.

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

Mr. Terry moved to dispense with the reading and to approve the June 10 regular monthly minutes. After a second by Mr. Lipari the motion carried unanimously.

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

Ms. Alyssa Cart with Darnell, Sikes, & Frederick presented the audit report for the year 2020. Ms. Cart stated an unmodified opinion was issued which is the best possible that can be given. Mr. Terry moved to accept the 2020 audit, which was seconded by Mr. Arceneaux and carried unanimously.

Mr. Matte reported Senator Alain’s office has issued a Capital Outlay request to provide state funds to assist us in understanding and addressing the flooding in the area west of the Charenton Canal. Mr. Matte stated that a possible meeting will be held next week for a follow up on the funding from CPRA.

Mr. Reid Miller of Miller Engineers reported that his office has answered and addressed all the comments that were received from CPRA for the Yokely Levee Extension Project. Mr. Miller stated that his office is waiting on the COE/OCM permit as well as the DOTD permit. Mr. Miller stated that his office estimates the project will go out for bid in late July.

Mr. Robert Karam of T. Baker Smith reported that the design work continues for the Lakeside Flood Protection project and will be meeting with contractors in the near future on the cost estimates. Mr. Karam stated that the contract on the Morgan City Pump Station Project contract has been fully executed and will have a preconstruction meeting within the next 30 days.

Ms. Nicole Cutforth reported that the northern steel sheet pile are installed and cut to grade and crews continue working on final cap plate installation on Phase 2 (Floodwall and Receiving Structure) of the Bayou Chene project. Ms. Cutforth also reported the south jacket timber fender wall installation is nearly complete, while the north jacket timber fender is 90% complete; piles need to be cut to grade and capped. Ms. Cutforth stated the barge has been moved onto a dry dock for final outfitting prior to launch, however while being transferred significant damage occurred to the bottom shell of the barge, Bollinger has begun the process of cutting out all damaged sections and making repairs on Phase 3 (Floodgate); blasting and painting is underway, 8 tanks are complete. The installing of cross-drains, side drains, and canal gates for Phase 4A of the project continues. Ms. Cutforth reported her office will be accepting bids on July 21 for the Phase 4B portion of the project. Ms. Cutforth also reported the proposed advertisement dates for Phase 5 of the project are July 13, 20, and 27, a non-mandatory pre bid meeting is proposed for July 28 and the proposed bid opening will be by August 12.

Ms. Cutforth reported her office has received quotes for Phase 2 of the Bayou Teche Project.

Mr. Matte reported that SMLD had meetings with the USCG regarding additional restrictions on vessel traffic transiting the construction area of the Bayou Chene Flood Protection project. Mr. Matte also reported some members of the Police Jury of Assumption have expressed an interest in exploring a more aggressive closing regimen for the Bayou Chene structure. Mr. Matte stated that the gauge portion of the Watershed Initiative is due to begin before the end of

the year. Mr. Matte also reported that SMLD has attended several meetings with landowners, farmers, and seafood industry representatives to discuss addressing the flooding in areas west of the Charenton Canal; Senator Allain hosted a meeting with these various interests and brought in members of the staff of CPRA.

Mr. Crappell moved to authorize awarding the bid to the low bidder for Phase 2 of Bayou Teche. After a second by Mr. Hebert the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Mancuso moved to authorize the approval to advertise for bids Phase 5 of the Bayou Chene Flood Protection Project. After a second by Mr. Hebert the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Terry moved to authorize to pay half the cost for 30 days or until the next meeting for a standby vessel for the Bayou Chene Flood Protection Project. After a second by Mr. Hebert the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Lipari moved to authorize approval of CO#5 for Phase 3 of the Bayou Chene Flood Protection Project. After a second by Mr. Crappell the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Mancuso moved to authorize approval of CO#2 for Phase 4A for the Bayou Chene Flood Protection Project. After a second by Mr. Hebert the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Terry moved to authorize approval of extension of the building lease for SMLD's office. After a second by Mr. Mancuso the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Arceneaux moved to authorize the purchase and installation of camera system for the Bayou Teche Flood Control Structure. After a second by Mr. Crappell the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Mancuso moved to authorize the purchase and installation of gauges for the Bayou Teche and Bayou Chene Flood Protection Projects.

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

Attest:

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