

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. MARY LEVEE DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING

MARCH 14, 2019
FRANKLIN, LOUISIANA

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

Also present: Tim Matte, St. Mary Levee District Executive Director; Michael Brocato, Operations Manager of St. Mary Levee District; Gerard Bourgeois; Jeff Pena, APTIM; Kevin O’Gorman, T. Baker Smith; Jules Darden, Miller Engineers, CPRA and members of the public and media.

Mr. Crappell moved to dispense with the reading and to approve the Feb 14 regular meeting minutes. After a second by Mr. A. Arceneaux, the motion carried unanimously.

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

Mr. Matte presented the Statement of Revenues by sources and Summary of Expenditures of the St. Mary Levee District.

Mr. Jules Darden with Miller Engineers reported the Bayou Choupique project received 3 bids, with Frisco Industrial being the lowest bidder. Mr. Darden stated that the bid is being presented to Baldwin Town Council for approval.

Mr. Darden reported that the Yokely Levee project has cost savings on the embankment portion of the project and the contractors could possibly raise the levee to 10-foot elevation. Mr. Darden stated that a change order has been initiated to change the scope of work and was presented to the Parish Council and has been approved. Mr. Darden reported the contractors are nearly 90% complete with the 8 foot elevation of the levee.

Kevin O’Gorman with T. Baker Smith reported that his office received the as built surveys for the Justa Street Levee project. Mr. O’Gorman stated that his office asked that the contractors dress up the levee before hydro seeding.

Mr. Jeff Pena with APTIM reported his office has received all permits from the USACOE for the Bayou Chene Project. Mr. Pena stated the task order for the 50% design is ongoing. Mr. Pena stated that 95% of the design for Phase 1 which is the dredging portion should go out for bid in June or July of this year. Mr. Pena stated Phase 2-4 will consist of the floodwall, 400’ gate, the Avoca Road, and Tabor Canal and those plans are ongoing.

Mr. Pena reported that the ROW coordination is still ongoing and the landowner is reviewing the ROW request on the Bayou Teche project. Mr. Pena also reported 50% design has been completed and the 95% design has been submitted to LADOTD for their review. Mr. Pena stated that the project could possibly be bid in May.

Mr. Matte reported 54% of the North Bend Project is completed. Mr. Matte stated that he and Gerard are working to get the land acquisitions complete.

Mr. Matte reported that he is continuing to meet with the regional Parish officials for funding of the Bayou Chene Project. Mr. Matte stated that the Governor will be at the EOC March 27 to announce his plans to expend up to \$350,000,000 of Coastal Trust Funds over the next three years.

Mr. Matte reported that most of SMLD activity has been addressing issues due to high water. Mr. Matte stated that SMLD has been assisting the St. Mary Parish in addressing some issues in Amelia, and the City of Morgan City on addressing some issues on the unprotected side of the floodwall. Mr. Matte reported the Mississippi River has crested at 17’ at the Carrollton

gauge in New Orleans. Mr. Matte stated the Atchafalaya River at Morgan City has crested at 8.1.

Mr. Hebert moved to contribute \$5,000 to the Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana for the flood risk coalition. After a second by Mr. Crappell, the motioned carried unanimously.

Mr. Arceneaux moved to accept the resolution for SMLD to declare a state of emergency as a precautionary measure in the case that any needs to handle any problems relating the high water without calling a special meeting. After a second by Mr. Terry, the motioned carried unanimously.

Resolution 3-14-2019

A resolution of the St. Mary Levee District ("District") declaring 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.

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service of the United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has issued numerous warnings along the length of the Mississippi River and the Atchafalaya River, including a "flood warning" for the Atchafalaya River at Morgan City with a predicted crest of near 8.0 feet by Wednesday, March 13, 2019, with additional rises being possible thereafter;

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Louisiana, via Proclamation No. 33 JBE 2019, on February 27, 2019, declared a state of emergency statewide as a result of the high-water threat, beginning on February 26, 2019 and extending through March 27, 2019, with all levee boards being authorized and directed to cooperate with GOHSEP in response to this threat of flooding;

WHEREAS, the St. Mary Parish President, as recorded at Bk #381, #332014, on March 7, 2019, declared the existence of a State of Emergency within St. Mary Parish, in accordance with *La. R.S. 29:727*, due to the threat of flooding from the Mississippi River, the Atchafalaya River and related bodies of water;

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority has issued its Emergency Rule as of March 1, 2019, prohibiting certain activities on levees and flood control structures with said regulation authorizing and directing District to follow and enforce same; and,

WHEREAS, the forecasted serious and historic flooding threaten the health and safety of the citizens of St. Mary Parish and constitutes an exigent circumstance necessitating the declaration of an emergency for procurement purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of St. Mary Levee District, State of Louisiana, that a State of Emergency is hereby declared to exist due to the threat of flooding from the Mississippi River, Atchafalaya River and related bodies of water in St. Mary Parish.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President, William H. Hidalgo, Sr., is hereby authorized and directed on behalf of the District to make any expenditure necessary and to take all necessary action in connection with the threat of flooding from the Mississippi River, the Atchafalaya River, and related bodies of water.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, William H. Hidalgo, Sr., President, be authorized and directed to do any and all act and things necessary, proper, or that may be required to carry out and accomplish the transactions contemplated with regards to the above mentioned request.

And the Resolution was declared adopted on this 14th day of March, 2019.

CERTIFICATE

I, hereby certify that the above and foregoing resolution is a true and exact copy adopted at a special meeting of the St. Mary Parish Levee District Board of Commissioners on the 14th day of March, 2019, in which a quorum was present and voting, and that the resolution adopted is still in effect and has not been rescinded or modified and that is now in full force and effect.

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

Attest:

Barry A. Broussard, Secretary
St. Mary Levee District