

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. MARY LEVEE DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING

MARCH 16, 2023
FRANKLIN, 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, Andrew Mancuso, J.P. Hebert, Luther Smith, Norris Crappell, Kenny Arceneaux, Mike Ortiz and with Daniel Lipari absent.

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

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

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

Mr. Robert Karam with T. Baker Smith reported FTN is continuing with the modeling effort on the final two alternatives. Mr. Karam stated his office has had numerous project team meetings to discuss preliminary results and changes to alternatives.

Mr. Karam reported his office is continuing to meet with SMLD to discuss project alternatives for the Lakeside project. Mr. Karam stated his office is working with the geotechnical engineer to schedule the exploration to collect additional data.

Mr. Karam reported that the contractor is continuing to progress on erecting the metal building, drainage excavation, and installing the discharge flume concrete for the Morgan City Pump Station Project and plan to begin moving pump equipment by the middle of April. Mr. Karam stated that the contractor’s projected completion date is April 30th.

Ms. Nicole Buranzon with APTIM reported a final substantial completion inspection was conducted on Feb 15th on the Bayou Chene project and an outage was noted with the power supply on the EP Breaux this week and is currently being addressed.

Mr. Matte reported that the USACOE has moved into flood fight status due to the Mississippi River stage at New Orleans is now over 11’. Mr. Matte stated they are in Phase 1 of the flood fight with no other anticipated responses are in the plans. Mr. Matte also reported the Atchafalaya River is now at 4.62’ and expected to crest next week at 4.8’.

Mr. Arceneaux motioned to expand the agenda to add an item to authorize a 408 request to allow Cleco to relocated power lines and power poles due to USACOE’s project. After a second by Mr. Crappell, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Terry moved to authorize the above mentioned 408 request. After Mr. Hebert’s second, it carried unanimously.

Mr. Terry motioned to authorize SMLD to enter into a contract with Camo Cutters for grass cutting for the Bayou Chene properties. After Mr. Mancuso’s second, it carried unanimously.

Mr. Arceneaux moved to authorize joining the Louisiana Attorney General lawsuit to seek relief from risk rating 2.0 portion of the NFIP. After a second by Mr. Hebert, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Hebert moved to authorize landowner near the Myette Point to Verdunville #2 boat launch to gate the bottom of the levee at the road to block traffic. After a second by Mr. Terry, 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