

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. MARY LEVEE DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING

NOVEMBER 12, 2015
FRANKLIN, 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, Kenny Arceneaux, Barry Broussard, Luther Smith and with Wayne Cantrell Jr. 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, CB&I Co.; Patrick Landry, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority; Reid Miller, Miller Engineers; Kevin O’Gorman, T. Baker Smith; and, members of the public and media.

Mr. Terry moved to dispense with the reading and to approve the October 8 regular meeting minutes. After a second by Mr. Vidos, the motion carried unanimously.

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

Mr. Joe Lazaro with Bayou Backer Erosion Control gave a presentation on the company’s erosion control product.

Reid Miller of Miller Engineers reported his office was still working on the right-of-ways on the properties along the Bayou Choupique levees.

CB&I’s Jeff Pena reported that a ribbon cutting ceremony was held October 22 on the Franklin Canal Pump Station. Mr. Pena stated a substantial completion certificate was signed and issued on October 26. Mr. Pena also reported all pumps are running well.

Mr. Miller reported Hanson Canal Yellow Bayou projects are both close to being completed. Mr. Miller reported the contractors expected completion date is middle of December.

Kevin O’Gorman with T. Baker Smith reported his office received authorization to advertise for bids on the Siracusaville section of the Morgan City Levee Improvements Project. Mr. O’Gorman reported his office is continuing to move forward with Final Design for the Lake End Park to Justa Street portion which are due in December. Mr. O’Gorman reported that his office is currently waiting for the mitigation letter from the USACOE. Mr. O’Gorman stated the LA 70 portion went on DNR public notice on October 27. Mr. O’Gorman reported his office is waiting for the USACOE to file it and wait for any comments.

Mr. Pena reported the DNR permit for the Bayou Chene project has been received. Mr. Pena stated the USACOE is waiting on engineering division to finalize their parts of the process and once that is complete they will be submitting it up to division for approval. Mr. Pena also reported his office presented the USCG with an update on the project on Oct 13 and they have since submitted a letter of no objection to the corps after the meeting.

Mr. Pena reported his office received additional comments from DNR on the Bayou Teche project, which required additional modeling. Mr. Pena stated an additional response is being drafted by his office now.

Mr. Matte reported on the weekend of the ribbon cutting ceremony for Franklin Canal Pump Station the Weather Service prediction of extraordinary high tides required the closure of the barge gate on October 24. Mr. Matte stated that he and Mike were able to pump the Canal down by 1 foot in anticipation of heavy rains; October 25 they operated the pumps at full capacity for eight and a half hours. Mr. Matte also reported the annual USACE levee inspections were completed on October 20 and 21 and there were no additional or major issues discovered. Mr. Matte reported on Nov 3 he attended a briefing on the USACE’s new mitigation model that is called Louisiana Wetland Rapid Assessment Method (LRAM) to be used by the New Orleans

District in lieu of the Modified Charleston Method, the comment period is still open and SMLD plans to comment.

Mr. Matte introduced the proposed 2016 budget that will be up for adoption at the December meeting.

Mr. Matte reported the Certificate of Substantial Completion for Matt Durand is ready to be signed. Mr. Hebert motioned for Mr. Matte to sign the above stated certificate. After 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. Crappell and carried unanimously.

Attest:

Barry A. Broussard, Secretary
St. Mary Levee District