February 18, 2013

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District was held on Monday, February 18, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. at the Water District office, 1016 St. Mary Street, Thibodaux, LA

Present were:	Hugh Caffery, Chairman		Larry Dugas
Gene H		Iarrell, Vice-Chairman	Jake Giardina
	Gregory Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer		Francis Richard
	Windell Curole		
Absent:	Ron Animashaun		
Also present were:		Jimmy Ledet; Matt Ledet; Andree Cortez; Paul Olivier; Ty Hebert	
		Heidi Landry; Dayna Barrios; Joseph Fournet; Kevin Rizzo	
		Nick Porto; Bruno Deleo; Jerry Waguespack; Robert Thibodaux	
		Robert Mire; Alma Robichaux, BTNEP; Stevie Smith	
		Henry Templet; Gasper Chifici; Joel Tillery, CH2MHill	
		Ben Malbrough; Executive Dire	ctor; Archie Chaisson, Jr.
		Jana Langley, Administrative Co	pordinator

Chairman Hugh Caffery announced that executive session was not required for the meeting because there have been no changes to the litigation.

Moved by Commissioner Jake Giardina, seconded by Commissioner Larry Dugas to dispense with the reading of the minutes, and approve the minutes of January 23, 2013. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Jake Giardina, seconded by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell to approve the accounts payable for January. Motion carried unanimously.

Ben Malbrough, Executive Director, reported that he included a printout for the Board members of a spreadsheet for the pumping summary for January, and the stages throughout the bayou. Commissioner Jake Giardina suggested that this summary be sent by e-mail each month to the Board. Chairman Caffery requested that the rainfall be included, and Mr. Malbrough stated that he would include the station rainfall in the monthly summary.

Moved by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell, seconded by Commissioner Larry Dugas to approve the finance report for January. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Malbrough advised that Phase 2 Re-introduction into Bayou Lafourche project was advertised starting February 4, and we will be accepting the packages at the District until noon on March 1. We will have two to three weeks to look at the packages received, and see if we can make a selection by the March 18 meeting.

Mr. Malbrough reported that he will be meeting tomorrow with a UP bridge inspector in Donaldsonville regarding the UP railroad culvert. The bridge inspector is having a tentative preconstruction meeting February 26 to clear the culvert out.

Mr. Malbrough stated that the pre-bid meeting was held last Thursday on the pump rehab project. The bid opening will be February 28 at the Division of Administration in Baton Rouge.

Mr. Malbrough informed the Board that Pump #4 was removed. We received a quote for approximately \$35,000 from Houma Armature to repair the motor. In discussions with CH2MHill, a new motor similar to that one is in the \$85,000-\$95,000 range. We will be left with one working spare after the rehab project is complete. Ben stated that Archie and he had discussed this and they would recommend keeping the damaged motor from Houma Armature but not repairing it yet. If something happens and it is needed in an emergency then we would spend the \$35,000 to repair it.

Commissioner Jake Giardina asked Ben to find out how long it will take to repair the motor if it is ever needed. Commissioner Greg Nolan stated that their big motors normally take seven to ten days. Mr. Malbrough stated that he will get an answer to that question.

Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell asked if the spare pump is going to be the one we would go to first. Mr. Malbrough answered that we will have a working spare, and the one needing repair will be another backup.

Mr. Malbrough advised that "Paddle Bayou Lafourche" is April 4, 5, 6, & 7. He spoke to Helen LaFleur and she is looking into what we donated last year monetary wise. Mr. Malbrough stated that another opportunity we would have is to provide a dinner at Nicholls for the paddlers. Chairman Caffery stated that Sodexo would cater it at Nicholls, and we could pay the bill. We could give them a presentation about Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District.

Moved by Commissioner Jake Giardina, seconded by Commissioner Windell Curole and unanimously approved to sponsor a dinner at NSU on April 5 for the "Paddle Bayou Lafourche" event for a ceiling of \$2,500.00.

Ms. Alma Robichaux advised that the "Bayou Lafourche Cleanup" is March 2. They will have two boats in the water with the press on them.

Mr. Malbrough informed the Board that bayou crew employee Gary Eusea will be retiring on March 15. Mr. Malbrough advised that Archie and he discussed what to do moving forward, and they both recommended that we advertise for his replacement. Also, we will advertise again for the pump station position that we tried to fill last year.

Moved by Commissioner Windell Curole, seconded by Commissioner Jake Giardina and unanimously approved to advertise for the bayou crew and pump station positions.

Mr. Malbrough advised that the dredge that Commissioner Curole spoke about last meeting is back. Mr. Malbrough stated that he is available to go Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday to take a look at it. Commissioner Curole advised that they will have some films of it.

Mr. Malbrough reported that he will attend the CPRA's annual plan meeting and the Gulf Council listening session in Houma tomorrow. Commissioner Curole stated that on the website they have the proposal of this year's budget, and all the different projects in the area. The pump rehab project is listed on there. Mr. Malbrough will e-mail the annual plan to the Board.

Joel Tillery, CH2MHill, reported that there was good attendance at the pump rehab pre-bid meeting. Chairman Caffery asked how long before a selection is made, and Mr. Tillery answered It should be late March or early April timeframe.

Commissioner Greg Nolan asked if we had any follow-up on the BP money. Chairman Caffery answered that the District had hired a lawyer to represent us because the taxes that come in will be lower because of the BP oil spill. We filed an action against BP along with all the taxing bodies. Chairman Caffery stated that it may be a year or two before we really get any resolution on that.

Commissioner Windell Curole stated that he sent a booklet to Ben regarding land ownership. Mr. Malbrough stated that he will e-mail the booklet to the Board.

Chairman Caffery asked if all the people along the bayou been mailed a notice about the "Bayou Lafourche Cleanup", and Ms. Robichaux answered no they did not have the funds this year. A discussion was held regarding a mail out, and it was decided that it was too late to do the mail out this year.

A discussion was held regarding obtaining e-mail addresses of everyone who lives along the bayou. Commissioner Curole recommended putting an article in the paper requesting e-mail addresses of everyone who lives along the bayou to keep them informed.

Mr. Nick Porto asked if the "Paddle Bayou Lafourche, and "Bayou Lafourche Cleanup" information was put in the Donaldsonville Chief. Ms. Robichaux stated yes it has but anything he could do to help get something in there would be awesome. She stated that the cleanup has been sent out to all the press. Ms. Robichaux advised that the press release goes out but whether they put it in or not is not their decision. Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell and Commissioner Larry Dugas stated that they didn't see it in the Chief. Ms. Robichaux stated that a phone call is probably warranted, and she will check with their public relations person. Mr. Chaisson stated that he has a couple of signs left and asked if anyone wants one. Mr. Deleo stated that he will be put a sign in his yard.

Moved by Commissioner Jake Giardina, seconded by Commissioner Larry Dugas and unanimously approved the meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Hugh Caffery, Chairman