



**Coastal Protection and  
Restoration Authority of Louisiana**

**Coastal Louisiana Levee Consortium**

**State Capitol Building  
House Committee Room 5  
900 North Third Street  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802  
September 8, 2020  
9:30 a.m. - 12 Noon**

- I. Call to Order - Chip Kline, Chairman CPRA- 9:36 a.m.
- II. Roll Call - Chairman Kline asked Monica Salins Gorman to call roll based on the parishes/levee districts/authorities:
  - × Atchafalaya Basin Levee District
  - × Grand Isle Independent Levee District
  - √ Lafourche Basin Levee District- Eric Matherne
  - √ North Lafourche Conservation, Levee & Drainage District- Dwayne Bourgeois
  - √ Pontchartrain Levee District, Monica Salins Gorman
  - √ South Lafourche Levee District, Windell Curole
  - × Terrebonne Levee & Conservation District
  - × Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority (SLFPA) East
  - × Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority (SLFPA) West
  - × Lafitte Area Independent Levee District
  - √ St. Mary Levee District- Bill Hidalgo
  - × Iberia Parish Levee, Hurricane and Conservation District
  - × Chenier Plain Coastal Restoration and Protection Authority
  - √ Amite River Basin Drainage & Water Conservation District- Dietmar Rietschier
  - × Non-Flood Protection Asset Management Authority

- × The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans
- × Acadia Parish Police Jury President/Designee
- × Lafayette Parish Mayor President/Designee
- × Jefferson Davis Parish Government
- √ St. Tammany Levee, Drainage & Conservation District- Suzanne Krieger
- × Tangipahoa Parish President
- √ Plaquemines Parish President/Government- Don Beschel
- × Livingston Parish President

NO QUORUM

Guests:

Joining the CLLC was the Coastal Protection & Restoration Authority (CPRA) Chairman Chip Kline, as well as Charles Sutcliff with the Office of the Governor- Coastal Activities. Additional guests were Robert Spears, Tyler McCloude, John Faust, Jacob Loeske, Jennifer Marusak, Bob Jacobsen, Mitch Marmande, Katie DeRoche, and Donald Ray Henry.

III. Approval of Agenda - (no quorum)

Public Comments? Motion by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Passed \_\_\_\_\_ Failed \_\_\_\_\_

IV. Approval of Minutes - (no quorum)

Meeting of December 16, 2019

Public Comments? Motion by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Passed \_\_\_\_\_ Failed \_\_\_\_\_

V. Introduction and Purpose- Chip Kline, Chairman CPRA

Chairman Kline began recalling the past couple of weeks and acknowledged all of those effected by Hurricane Laura. He said that much is left to do and so many are still without so much and he asked that we all continue to show our support and prayers. Onto the business at hand, Chairman Kline reminded members and guests that the Consortium had been established as an advisory commission of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board. As such, it was created by Act. No. 387 of the Regular Session of 2014

specifically defined in LA. R.S. 49:214.6.8. Chairman Kline reminded members and guests of the purpose to facilitate communication and coordination of efforts of the levee districts, flood protection authorities, and parishes that make up its membership; to protect coastal Louisiana, its people, property and resources; to increase awareness and understanding of integrated coastal protection, including but not limited to conditions, issues, strategies, and policies of flood control, coastal levee systems, hurricane risk reduction systems, and mitigation projects; and to provide one unified voice that is representative of the coastal levee community in communicating information necessary for decision making to policymakers at the state and federal levels and to the Coastal Protection and Restoration Board and the Authority.

VI. Election of Officers- (no quorum, so recommendations were taken)

- a. Chair- Dwayne Bourgeois nominated by Eric Matherne and seconded by Windell Curole
- b. Vice Chair- Bill Hidalgo nominated by Dwayne Bourgeois and seconded by Monica Gorman
- c. Secretary- Monica Gorman nominated by Eric Matherne and seconded by Bill Hidalgo

Public comments: None

(Motion) Close Nominations: Eric Matherne moved to close said nominations and seconded by Bill Hidalgo.

VII. Issues for Consideration by Consortium Members (new- proposed)

Chairman Kline addressed members and guests. Chairman Kline reiterated that he and members of CPRA would like to hear from the representatives and the executive directors of the levee districts and their recommendations for implementation and ideas seeking various funding sources for projects. Much discussion was had among all members, especially S. Krieger, D. Bourgeois, and B. Hidalgo and W. Curole. Chairman Kline asked B. Hidalgo why and what helped pass millage for his levee district. Much discussion was had. Specifically, there needs to be a concentration in the next legislative session to institute the constitutional 5.0 mills to levee districts that are without taxing authority, such as Cameron, Calcasieu, Vermillion, Iberia, and St. Tammany. It is obvious, that the south west areas would have benefited greatly from a flood risk reduction system.

VIII. Issues for Consideration by Consortium Members (new proposed)

Nothing specific was on the agenda, however, any suggestions should be directed to Katie DeRoche, Executive Assistant to Dwayne Bourgeois

IX. Current Issues for Discussion

a. Hurricane Laura

b. GOMESA (Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act)-

GOMESA of 2006 created a revenue sharing model for oil and gas producing gulf states. Under the act, Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, and Texas receives a portion of the revenue generated from oil and gas production in the Gulf of Mexico and directs a portion of revenue to the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). The Office of Natural Resources Revenue disburses GOMESA revenue to both state and local governments. There are two phases of GOMESA revenue sharing, the first being the Phase I, FY 2007-2016, and the second revenue sharing phase (referred to as Phase II) began in 2017 and imposes revenue sharing caps on states. Revenues continue to be shared at a rate of 37.5% with the Gulf producing states and their coastal political subdivisions, and at a rate of 12.5% with the LWCF state assistance program. Revenue sharing under Phase II is capped for most years at \$500 million through FY 2055 for the four states and LWCF combined (although in the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress, P.L. 115-97 increased the cap to \$650 million for FY 2020 and FY 2021). Members of Congress seek to raise or eliminate the cap and some members have advocated to increase the percentages of revenues shared with the Gulf Coast states. D. Bourgeois added to the importance of GOMESA funds to levee districts and members of the CLLC because of the restrictions in how those funds can be spent. Further, he encouraged all the members of the CLLC to take a greater role in supporting the efforts of the GOMESA Coalition.

c. NFIP (National Flood Insurance Program)

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) provides insurance to help reduce the socio-economic impact of floods. The NFIP is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). NFIP set to expire on September 30, 2020 unless Congress postpones it again, which should happen. ALBL funded the NFIP Coalition which has worked tirelessly and sought support to keep NFIP alive. CPRA recently set up the NFIP Sub Committee. D. Bourgeois encouraged all the members of the CLLC to follow this effort closely and support the activities of this CPRA committee.

d. Louisiana Watershed Initiative

“Managing Future Flood Risk in Louisiana Thorough Watershed-Based Solutions”

The 2016 historic flooding throughout Louisiana exposed deficiencies in the state’s approach to floodplain management on all levels of government, and therefore, Governor John Bell Edwards launched LWI governed by the Council on Watershed Management to reform the state’s approach to flood mitigation. CPRA Chairman Kline believes major reforms to come out of the LA Watershed Initiative. Dietmar then commented on the ARBC and the overall watershed approach. D. Bourgeois stated it was suggested to him by Congressman Graves’ office that perhaps funding from the Watershed Initiative could be used as seed money to help with the formation of new levee districts.

e. WOTUS (Waters of The United States)

WOTUS rule defines all bodies of water that fall under the U.S. federal jurisdiction.

D. Bourgeois explained a current WOTUS issue related to non-converted croplands likely impacting many members of the CLLC where we might could seek a ruling as a group.

f. Levee Safety Standards

Discussion was had concerning the Levee Safety Program. There were no significant comments.

g. Annual Report from Consortium to CPRA

h. Public Comment- None

i. Adjourn

Motion by Bill Hidalgo, seconded by Eric Matherne (again, no quorum)

**ATTEST:**



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**Monica Salins Gorman,**  
**Secretary**