MINUTES OF MEETING

TECHE-VERMILION FRESH WATER DISTRICT

February 25, 2025

The Board of Commissioners met on the above date at the Teche-Vermilion Fresh Water District office located at 315 South College, Suite 110, Lafayette at 10:00 a.m. Member’s present were: Mr. Edward Sonnier, Mr. Tommy Thibodeaux, Mr. Keith Hensgens, Mr. Donald Segura, and Mr. Samuel Grimmett. In addition, present were: Mr. Donald Sagrera, Ms. Wendy Dupuis, Mr. Larry Carmer, PE, PLS, Mr. Alex Lopresto, Mr. Ivy Thibodeaux, Mrs. Jody White, Mrs. Kristy Thibodeaux, Dr Whitney Broussard, Mr. John Istre, Mr. Cecil Knott, Ms. Amanda Blanchard, Mr. Jake Beniot, Mr. Dee Stanley, Mrs. Bessie Foret, and Mr. Blake Cotton.

At this time the Public meeting, the Chairman called for any public comment regarding the Agenda. There was no comment.

Upon motion by Mr. Thibodeaux and seconded by Mr. Segura, the minutes of the previous meeting of January 28, 2025, were accepted and approved. Motion unanimously carried.

Upon motion by Mr. Segura and seconded by Mr. Hensgens, the Board approved to pay 100% for the Electrical Upgrade at the Pump Station once all as built plans have been completed and reviewed. Motion unanimously carried.

Dr Whitney Broussard updated the Board on the Bayou Amy Water Quality Study stating that they have picked out 3 locations to install the gauges. Once gauges are installed data will be observed and recorded for 12 months.

Minutes of Meeting

February 25, 2025

Page 2

Upon motion by Mr. Segura and seconded by Mr. Hensgens, the Board approved Sellers and Associates to proceed with surveying the inlet channel. Motin unanimously carried.

Upon motion by Mr. Segura and seconded by Mr. Hensgens, the financial statements for the period ending December 31, 2024 and 4th Quarter Budget Comparisons have been approved and accepted. Motion unanimously carried.

Upon motion by Mr. Hensgens and seconded by Mr. Thibodeaux, the financial statements for the period ending January 31, 2025, have been approved and accepted. Motion unanimously carried.

Upon motion by Mr. Thibodeaux and seconded by Mr. Hensgens, the Board approved the Executive Director to collaborate with Lafayette Consolidated Government and Sides and Associates in a mailout that informs residents of the parish how rainfall runoff can carry undesirable pollutants into our water bodies. Motion unanimously carried.

Upon motion by Mr. Thibodeaux and seconded by Mr. Hensgens, the Board approved uploading ULL’s web interface that will display the daily water elevation, flow and other information from throughout our watershed. Motion unanimously carried.

Upon motion by Mr. Segura and seconded by Mr. Thibodeaux, the Board moved to approve all expenses for Board Members and appropriate staff to attend the Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana Workshop at the Crowne Plaza in Baton Rouge, LA on April 30 – May 2, 2025. Motion unanimously carried.

The District did not pump in January 2025.

Minutes of Meeting

February 25, 2025

Page 3

The Director’s Report is attached.

Upon motion by Mr. Segura and seconded by Mr. Hensgens, no further business was brought forth, therefore, the meeting adjourned.

Director’s Report for February 2025 meeting

1. Lafayette Consolidated Government requests that we join them in a mailout that informs residents of the parish how rainfall runoff can carry undesirable pollutants into our water bodies, focusing on individual sewer system discharge. We would have the opportunity to inform the residents that the district provides a dependable freshwater flow that helps reduce pollution and eliminates stagnation in our waterbodies as water flows through the municipalities. The mailout would be going to 20,000 houses in unincorporated Lafayette Parish through the AWS garbage bill. Our district would need to provide the content we for a 8.5X11 sheet. LCG is anticipating cost of 22 cents per page ($4,000). We would need to have the design done and approved by March 14.
2. ULL web interface- We have been entering daily water elevation, flow and other information from throughout our watershed on the web interface forms that ULL has designed for us. We feel that we are ready to make this information available on our website. We would like to demonstrate the interface and allow Sides and Associates to explain how we can do this.
3. ALBL will sponsor the annual workshop on May 1-2, 2025. It will be held at the Crown Plazza in Baton Rouge. The agenda is in your packets. There are several presentations that will be beneficial for us to attend. We need approval for commissioners and appropriate staff members to attend.
4. Water quality monitoring was conducted on February 4, 2025. The watershed was still draining from earlier rainfall with the most recent rainfall before sampling being received on January 31. One inch of rainfall was recorded at the Krotz Springs Pump Station on that date.

The Corps of Engineers had both the Bayou Darbonne and Bayou Courtableau structures fully open to drain the northern parts of the watershed into the floodway. Being that water levels were above threshold, there was no need to run pumps to supplement flow.

-2-

\* Dissolved Oxygen content was below the previous 8-year average and many samples were at or near the previous 8-year low for January. Except for only one site, dissolved oxygen content was above the DEQ impairment threshold which is a good thing. The warmer that average temperatures and stormwater runoff are probable causes for the lower that average dissolved oxygen content. As usual, the dissolved oxygen content for the Atchafalaya River site was higher than for water within the watershed and dissolved oxygen content increased in downstream parts of both Bayou Teche and the Vermilion River.

\* The water temperature was above the previous 8-year average for January. Within the watershed, the water temperature ranged from the upper 50’s to lower 60’s degrees Fahrenheit. The water temperature for the Atchafalaya River site was the lowest of all at 49.1 degrees Fahrenheit. It is interesting to note that the water temperature recorded for the Vermilion River at Surrey Street was 41.36 degrees Fahrenheit on January 22, 2025, when air temperatures reached a record low for a short time.

\* Salinity, as indicated by Conductivity, was low for all sample sites on Bayou Teche as well as the Vermilion River. There was an increase in salinity at the GIWW site which is where the Vermilion River crosses the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway. The flow from rainfall is helping to prevent saltwater intrusion in downstream parts of the watershed but high salinity is still present in Vermilion Bay as indicated by conductivity readings from the gauges at Cypremort Point and Lake Fearman.

\* Water clarity, as indicated by Secchi disk readings, for all except the Belle Place site was below the previous 8-year average for January. This indicates that the rainfall runoff water that is in the waterbodies of the watershed is carrying above the average sediments for January.

\* A lab sample was collected at each of the 24 sample sites and delivered to Element Lab in Lafayette, La. for analysis for fecal coliform. Results of analysis for each of the 24 samples found that the most probable number (MPN) of colonies per 100 ml was below the DEQ threshold for primary contact which is a good thing.

-3-

5. Dr. Habib and I have been asked to present the results of the modeling

of the Vermilion River during Hurricane Barre that the ULL Flood Center

Conducted for us. Dr. Habib will be presenting the results. The

presentation will take place on February 27 at the Acadiana Watershed

meeting.

1. Pumping Report- We did not pump so far in January or February. The Corps has both the Bayou Darbonne and Bayou Courtableau Structures open to maximum capacity draining the northern part of the watershed into the floodway. Bayou Courtableau elevation above the drainage structure is at 18.73’. The threshold elevation is 16.73’ during January and February and will increase to 17.63’ on March 1. We received 5.75” of rain at Krotz Springs in January and so far, 3.75 in February.