



Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority



Coastal Protection & Restoration Authority Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 19, 2022

Fredrick J Sigur Civic Center

8245 W. Judge Perez Dr.

Chalmette, LA 70043

9:30AM

The following constitute minutes of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board Meeting and are not a verbatim transcript of the proceedings. Audio and video recordings of the meetings are available for viewing and kept at the Office of the Governor-Coastal Activities Office in Baton Rouge, LA.

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call, Opening Remarks: President Guy McInnis, Pledge & National Anthem

Chairman Kline, Executive Assistant, Coastal Activities	Present
Keith Lovell, DNR	Present
Billy Williamson, DOTD	Present
Randy Myers, LDWF	Present
Stephen Lorio for Sec. Brown, DEQ	Present
Pat Witty, LED	Present
Joey Breaux, LDAF	Present
Pat Forbes for Barbara Goodson, DOA	Present
Billy Broussard, LDI	Present
Christina Dayries for Casey Tingle, GOHSEP	Present
Karen Gautreaux, Gov's Advisory Comm-Chair	Present
Scott Burke, Barataria Basin	Present
Monica Gorman, Pontchartrain Basin	Present
Bill Bubriq, Plaquemine Parish Coastal Zone/ Mississippi Delta Basin	Present
Dwayne Bourgeois, Terrebonne Basin	Present
Bill Hidalgo, Atchafalaya Basin	Present
Laurie Cormier, Calcasieu/Sabine Basin	Absent
Stephen Sagrera, Teche/Vermillion Parish	Absent
Rep. Zeringue, Ex-officio, Designee of the Speaker of the House	Absent
Sen. Hensgens, Ex-officio, Designee of the President of the Senate	Absent
Michael Ince, Designee for the Lieutenant Governor	Present
President Guy McInnis, Breton Sound Basin	Present

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Ms. Gorman
Second by Mr. Burke
Unanimously Approved

IV. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mr. Bourgeois
Second by Mr. Breaux
Unanimously Approved

V. Old Business/Announcements



- VI. CPRA Implementation Update— Bren Haase, CPRA** Mr. Haase presented to the board that there are 95 active projects. 36 of them are in construction, 56 are in E&D, with 3 more in the planning stage. Of the projects now being constructed, 20 are hurricane protection projects and 42 are creating marsh. Marsh creation leads the way in E&D with 31 projects moving toward the construction phase. Mr. Haase announced that the USACE Commits Additional \$46.M for SW Coastal from Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act for a total of \$286M for elevating and Floodproofing structures in Cameron, Calcasieu, and Vermillion parishes. Mr. Haas also stated that CPRA is soliciting new projects for the Atchafalaya Basin Program (CPRA will also hold three public meetings starting at 5:30 pm on the project solicitation process: October 25th in Morgan City, October 26th in Plaquemine, and a virtual one on CPRA’s Facebook page on Oct 27th). CPRA extends and invitation for the public to join them and your neighbors in a conversation about the future of coastal Louisiana, and your community’s priorities and concerns and to preview the updated Master Plan Data Viewer. Evening meals will be provided. The New Orleans Landbridge Shoreline Stabilization and Marsh Creation project is located in the Pontchartrain Basin flanking US Hwy 90 along the east shore of Lake Pontchartrain and areas surrounding Lake St. Catherine. The project will restore 284 acres of brackish marsh, stabilize the shoreline to reduce erosion and interior marsh loss, and maintain the integrity of the East Orleans Landbridge and Lakes Pontchartrain and Borgne. The \$24 million project is funded by CWPPRA with federal sponsor USFWS. The Golden Triangle Marsh Creation project was designed, using RESTORE dollars, to create and nourish approximately 700 acres of marsh between Lake Borgne and the confluence of MRGO and the GIWW. Spanish pass is the largest project by volume to date. It combines a ridge feature and marsh creation. Dredge material source is the Mississippi River, so sandy materials that stack relatively well and do not need containment dikes like the rest of the MC project presented. Project is approximately 7 miles long. Ridge feature is constructed to an elevation of 5 – 5.5 feet. Project is over 70% complete so far. The dredge recently left this site to go work on a project for the Corps, but it will be back in March to finish up the job. In conclusion of his update, Mr. Haase updated the board on the The Large-Scale Barataria Marsh Creation: Upper Barataria Component Project, it will create a little over 1,500 acres of intertidal marsh habitat in the upper Barataria Basin using 8.4 million cubic yards of sediment from Mississippi River borrow areas. The project is being implemented by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, with CPRA as a co-implementing partner. This is NOAA's largest habitat restoration contract in the nation.
- VII. Update on USACE Risk Reduction and Restoration Projects in South Louisiana in IJA/Emergency Supplemental – Nick Sims, USACE** Mr. Sims presented an update on the Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (DRSAA) and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)*Formerly Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)* DRSAA allocates: \$1.95B to MVN, \$20M in Investigations, \$1.5B in Construction, \$391M in MR&T, \$0M in CAP, \$31M in O&M, and \$7M in FCCE. Signed into law September 30, 2021. BIL allocated: \$954M to MVN, \$0M in Investigations, \$296M in Construction, \$537M in MR&T, \$6.4M in CAP, \$115M in O&M, \$0M in FCCE and was signed into law November 15, 2021.
- VIII. Federal and Congressional Update – Neal McMillin, Governor’s Office**
Mr. McMillin updated the board on the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 2022 (On October 11, the leadership of the Senate introduced the substitute amendment to the 2022 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) as a procedural measure to allow for debate and subsequent passage following



Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority



the November elections. The amendment included WRDA 2022. The NDAA amendment included the Senate-passed version of WRDA to serve as a placeholder, until the compromise conferenced version is completed. NDAA has passed for 62 years in a row. Inclusion in NDAA basically ensures passage. This achievement would keep WRDA on a biannual cycle for the 5th Congress in a row. He also updated on Notable Louisiana Coastal Provisions Pending in WRDA 2022 (Authorizations of Upper Barataria Basin & South Central Coastal; Loan Repayment Timing and Options for HSDRRS; Clarify full federal expense for MRGO Ecosystem Restoration; Establish Lower MS River Comprehensive Management Study as full federal; Reaffirm Corps responsible for full federal OMRR&R for Algiers Canal Levees; Addressing the Corps property rights requirement to possess fee title; Extending Sec. 1020 authority for the Corps to accept state crediting plan). He updated on the Pending FY23 USACE Funding, FY23 Appropriations Omnibus, Pending FY23 USACE funding and Revenue Sharing's Chances in a Lame Duck (see full list of projects in presentation on CPRA website).

- IX. State Agency Resilience Progress – Charles Sutcliffe, Governor's Office** Mr. Sutcliffe updated the board on State Agency Resilience Progress. He took the members through a slide deck that included the slide: Why State Agencies? Indicating that we can't leave it up to CPRA alone to work on this problem. The scale of changes in store for coastal LA are too large and carry too many implications to be shouldered by a single agency or a single set of interventions. Government provides all of these essential services to the people of Louisiana—at the end of the day it is about serving people. And we have got to be organized to do that effectively. State Govt is also right between the Feds and the locals acting as a pass through and implementer of federal programs (where the money is) and local needs. By bringing in different state agencies we can also capture their expertise/specialization, grant programs or funding streams, and their stakeholders. 12 agencies completed the exercise (started with 16) and we really got a good cross section of the different types of services and assets being performed by state government. Mr. Sutcliffe said that in working with agency coordinators—they learned so much, and were astonished by the number of programs and services and responsibilities that we (the state) have. Every agency is having their key mission affected to some degree by the impacts of climate change and this will not go away. Mr. Sutcliffe concluded with next steps on how to integrate resilience criteria into Louisiana's capital outlay process: Adopt FEMA's Enhanced State Hazard Mitigation Plan; Develop a more coordinated, strategic, multi-agency approach to managing resilience funding.

- X. Public Comment**

- XI. Adjourn**

Motion by Mr. Lovell
Second by Ms. Gorman
Unanimously Approved