



Coastal Protection & Restoration Authority Board Meeting

Wednesday, June 17, 2026, 9:30 AM CST

Edward Dufresne Community Center

274 Judge Edward Dufresne Parkway

Luling, Louisiana 70070

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.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VYE1XDECVeE>

I. Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance

II. Roll Call

Chairman Gordon Dove, GOCA	Present
Mr. Charles Reulet for Sec. Dustin Davidson, DOCE	Present
Mr. Matthew Weigel for Sec. Tyler Bosworth, LDWF	Present
Mr. Brian Tusa for Sec. Burdette, DEQ	Present
Mr. Brandon Burris for Billy Nungesser, Lt. Gov Office	Present
Mr. Tony Alford, Gov's Advisory Comm	Present
Pres. Matthew Jewell, Barataria Basin	Present
Mr. Joseph Cao, Pontchartrain Basin	Present
Mr. Chad Courville Teche/Vermillion	Absent
Mr. Dwayne Bourgeois, Terrebonne Basin	Present
Mr. Bill Hidalgo, Atchafalaya Basin	Present
Mr. Robert Jordan Teche/Vermillion Parish	Absent
Mr. John Lane, Breton Sound Basin	Present
Mr. David Richard, Calcasieu/Sabine Basin	Absent
Mr. Stephen Sagraera, At Large	Absent
Pres. Keith Hinkley, At Large	Present
Mr. Craig Romero, At Large	Absent
Rep. Zeringue, Ex-officio, Designee of the Speaker of the House	Present
Sen. Hensgens, Ex-officio, Designee of the President of the Senate	Absent

President Jewell welcomes the board and guest to St. Mary Parish (video: 0:2:31)

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion by: Pres. Jewell
Seconded by: Mr. Lane
Unanimously Approved

IV. Approval of Minutes

Motion by: Mr. Hidalgo
Second by: Mr. Weigel
Unanimously Approved

V. Old Business / Announcements (video: 0:05:01)

(Mr. Hidalgo informed the board that he and the St. Mary Levee District made a tour last month of the river structure. He stated that it seems to be the CORPS desire to keep the 70/30).



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VI. CPRA Implementation Update – Michael Hare-Executive Director, CPRA (video 00:07:51)

Mr. Hare provided the board with updates on continuous coastal projects. He highlighted that CPRA currently has 34 projects in active construction, 71 in E&D, and 3 in Projects in Planning (107 Active Projects). Mr. Hare also announced a change from last month's northeast turtle bay marathon project and that it has reached the 30% design milestone (they are scheduled to have openings this month) and look forward to that project moving forward. Mr. Hare announced that CPRA is currently advertising NW Little Lake Marsh Creation, increment 2 Project: Adv: April 2026 and bid opening June 25, 2026; Terrebonne Houma Navigation Canal Vegetative: Adv-April 2026 and Bid opening- July 8, 2026. They've recently opened for bid the following projects: West Belle Headland Repair (bids opened June 2, 2026-bids under review—they were able to successfully draw down approximately \$80M from FEMA for repairs); Sabine Refuge Marsh Creation Cycle II- Permanent Pipeline Inspection (bids opened June 4, 2026-bids under review). He also noted that a public webinar for restoration plan east was held earlier this month and they're aiming to have that plan completed by this fall with advertising early into the fall of 27, with the Shanka River Bridge restoration cost estimating that project going to bid in early 2027. Mr. Hare also provided a quick legislative update to the board on Act 882 (HB 1193) authored by Rep. Sawyer— this law will allow CPRA to now pre-qualify (like an IDIQ style mechanism construction companies that will help carry out smaller maintenance jobs or even some site clearing or pre-sight prep work before they get large construction companies out. Regarding IDIQ, he stated that CPRA's current IDIQ Quantity and Value (Jan. 2026-Dec 2028): 28 Engineering Contracts; 5 Geotechnical Services (\$7.5M); 8 Surveying (\$12M); and the next solicitation will be early 2028. Since Jan 1st, \$46.M in task orders have been approved to 16 different firms. Mr. Hare also announced that the Restore Council voted to award Chandeleur Island Restoration Project \$90.8 million. A few closing highlights/announcements were: The South American Delegation visit and how great it is to now have people coming here to learn from us to study our structures and meet with the agency and local partners. He also shared that he was honored to speak at the National Governor's Asso annual meeting in NOLA and brief a group of senior policy advisors and chiefs of staffs and enlighten them on CPRA's work and how they move projects forward. In closing, Mr. Hare highlighted the opportunity he had to go out with the USACE, a few private sector companies and several other organizations organized by Restore or Retreat to plant trees. He also shared that CPRA had a great turn out for the Storm Safe Hurricane Preparedness Event open to the community to prepare and get people engaged and prepared for hurricane season. **Leigh Anne Sharp, CPRA (video: 0:26:43)** Ms. Sharp provided a brief update to the board on Brown Marsh at CRMS Sites. Ms. Sharp stated that we're amid vegetation season and so between now and the end of August, crews will be going out to 3,9000 different vegetation stations and will report anything that gives concern. On day one, crew reported findings of plenty of brown marsh in the Terrebonne Basin (found first in the southeast Terrebonne basin), it appears to be extensive throughout the area, but some sites have already recovered and greened up. Ms. Sharp stated that they do not expect to find brown marsh in areas with freshwater connections but if they do find it, it will be reported. She provided an explanation of what happened...Spartina alterniflora is the dominant grass species in LA's coastal salt marshes and the genus sparta is sensitive to acid sulfate which is a product of anaerobic decomposition at high salinity. Meaning, hydrologic conditions over winter and spring set up the event. In conclusion, Ms. Sharp informed the board that they are capturing the data, and what's so great about having a monitoring network is that when they see something strange, they don't have to study it, they already capturing it and contextualizing it in a larger data set.



BID UPDATES

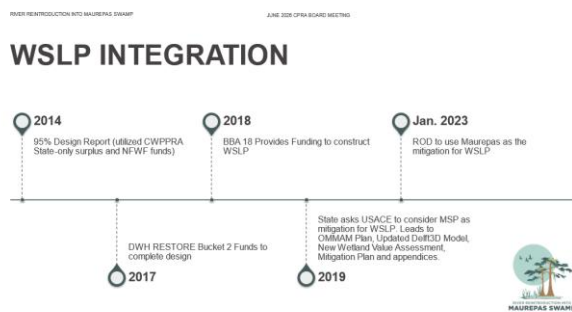
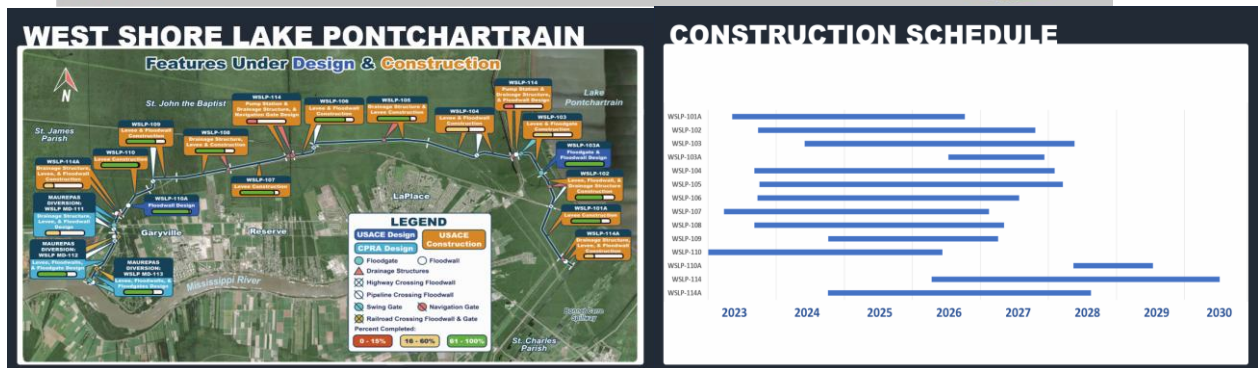
CURRENTLY ADVERTISING	RECENTLY OPENED	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES IDIQ CONTRACTS
Northwest Little Lake Marsh Creation, Increment 2 Project - Advertisement - April 29, 2026 - Bid opening - June 25, 2026	West Belle Headland Repair - Bids opened June 2, 2026 - Bids under review	Current IDIQ Quantity and Value (Jan. 2026 – Dec. 2028) •28 Engineering Contracts -17 General Engineering Services (\$50M) -6 Coastal Engineering Services (\$12M) -5 Limited Engineering Services (\$5M) •5 Geotechnical Services (\$7.5M) •8 Surveying (\$12M) •Next Solicitation: Early 2028 Since Jan. 1st \$4.6M in task orders have been approved Task orders issued to 16 different firms
Terrebonne Houma Navigation Canal Vegetative Plantings Project - Advertisement - April 23, 2026 - Bid opening - July 8, 2026	Sabine Refuge Marsh Creation Cycle II - Permanent Pipeline Inspection - Bids opened June 4, 2026 - Bids under review	
PRE-SOLICITATION MEETING Maurepas Diversion/West Shoreline Lake Pontchartrain Levee Pre-Solicitation Meeting • Informational meeting on three upcoming advertisements over the next year • Meeting held - June 9, 2026 in St. John the Baptist Parish with a virtual option • 34 online and 22 in person for a total of 56 attendees		



- VII. West Shore Lake Pontchartrain and Maurepas Diversion Update- Bradley Dourant, USACE Project Manager and Brad Miller, CPRA Project Manager (video 0:46:20)** Mr. Dourant updated the board on the great progress being made in conjunction with their partners CPRA, LPV and other parishes on the WSLP project. He provided a brief overview on the ongoing work with St. John the Baptist and St. Charles parishes as well as St. James by highlighted some of their accomplishments: Awarded 12 of 14 USACE contracts to date; awarded last major USACE Contract (WSLP-114) in April for \$419M; total value of construction: \$1.15B. They have 2 remaining contracts for the WSLP-103a T-Wall (2026) and WSLP-110a floodwall (2028). Mr. Dourant stated that everything in orange (slide below) is under construction, which represents 12 of the 14 contracts that the CORPS will be awarding, creating a bit over 13.5 of the 18.5 miles that need to be constructed to revive the critical risk reduction to over 60,000 residents in St. John and St. Charles parishes. He also noted that the 103A contract that they will be awarding next month is going to be placing the preload for the flow hall of 110A which will sit and wait for the construction of the floodwall in a few years. He also noted that the Westerly Constraint 114 project has two 2000cfs pump stations that are in the middle at the reserve relief canal and then again at I-55 on the eastern side of the project which is a very large contract at the tune of \$419M that was awarded in April. This project also represents the path to closing the system and providing surge reduction for the residents. In closing, Mr. Dourant indicated that all USACE levee construction is expected to be completed by the end of 2027, noting that many of the levees have reached a height of 6 to 8ft or even higher in some locations on the eastern end of the 101A. A construction schedule was provided (see below) with construction through 2030. A quick update on St. Jame Parish: St. James has an approved permit to conduct a levee and water control structure along the M2 canal. Now that they have the permit, he stated that they can consider the levee that they are in the design phase for, but in the future look at what alternatives to what's currently authorized might make sense to consider going forward. **(video: 0:57:52)** Mr. Miller updated the board on the River Reintroduction into Maurepas Swamp from where it was to where it is now. Mr. Miller presented that between Baton Rouge north of I-10, the project is designed to take river water about 5 ½ miles just over I-10 benefiting about 45,000 acres, it's also joined to West Shore. He highlighted that portions of the Maurepas Diversion are adjacent to the Westshore, so the CORPS is using benefits from Maurepas as mitigation for the WSLP project. He provided a timeline of the WSLP Integration: In 2014, the project was in 95% design report (CPWPPRA State-only surplus and NFWF funds); 2017, DWH Restore Bucket 2 funds to complete design; 2018, BBA 18 provided funding to construct WSLP; 2019, the state asks USACE to consider MSP as mitigation for WSLP, leading to OMMAM plan, updated Delft3D model, new wetland value assessment, mitigation plan and appendices and in 2023 ROD to use Maurepas as the mitigation for WSLP. He stated this is the first time that the state is building a federal levee, federal CORPS levee. It's also the first time that mitigation is being used from a project they built for the CORPS. So, the integration with the WSLP is about 18mi and the last three miles of the western portion is directly connected to the north diversion and the last three miles is kind of the marsh section. Mr. Miller also presented a construction timeline for Reaches 1-6 (see chart below), Reach 1-3 (start at the river) are put into separate construction packages as well as four and five. Reach six phase one is a dredging canal. In closing, he indicated that this projects goal is to bring freshwater and nutrients into the swamp to benefit almost 45,000 acres of degrading swamp habitat.



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CONSTRUCTION TIMELINE

Reach	Description	Construction
1, 2, & 3	• Inlet Headworks • River Road Crossing • CN Railroad Crossing • Channel 1 Lower Section	Feb 2027 – May 2030
4 & 5	• Airline Highway Bridge • CPKC Rail Crossing • Channel 1 Lower Section	Aug 2027 – Jan 2030
6 Phase 1	• Hope Canal Designing	2024-2026
6 Phase 2	• Chuffal Features • Guide Levee Lift	Dec 2026 – Oct 2028

VIII. Pontchartrain Levee District Multi-Jurisdictional Overview and Projects – Monica Salins Gorman-Executive Director, Pontchartrain Levee District (video:1:18:35) Ms. Gorman provided a brief update to the board on the PLD budget, stating their July 1, 2025-June 20, 2026 budget was derived principally from 3.53 mills ad valorem tax from all of the 6 east bank parish areas and a limited amount of prior year(s) interest and royalties. She also noted that the PLD budget for FY26-27 was adopted March 2026, and it's expected to bring at least \$20M. She stated that the mission is the mainline which is to protect their infrastructure. She indicated that PLD is responsible for over 118 miles of mainline MS River levee for all 6 parishes along the east bank. Ms. Gorman highlighted a few recently completed, current and planned Projects-Mainline MS River Levee: St. Garbiel Levee Enlargement (completed in 2018); Upper Pontchartrain Seepage Control (completed in 2024); Plaquemine Point Seepage Control (completed in 2025); St. Rose Levee Enlargement (under construction); and the Belmont Levee Enlargement (planned). As a result of the disaster relief supplemental appropriations that are upcoming, there are some levee lifts that will be addressed, the St. Rose lift in St. Charles should be complete by the end of July. In closing, Ms. Gorman mentioned other projects of interest led by Pontchartrain Levee District through various partnerships with entities such as USACE, CPRA, or local government, naming a few: Laurel Ridge Levee Extension; Amite River and Tributaries Study; Fish Bayou Control Structure; Upper Amite River Restoration and more.

Mainline Mississippi River Levees

Pontchartrain Levee District is responsible for over 118 miles of mainline Mississippi River levee for all 6 parishes along the east bank.

Parish	Miles
East Baton Rouge	14.5 miles
Iberville	28 miles
Ascension	19 miles
St. James	24 miles
St. John	15 miles
St. Charles	18 miles

- Review and provide LONO (Letter of No Objections) for any and all work, specifically excavations, within 150' of the mainline Mississippi River levee and within 300' of a Hurricane Protection Levee
- Provide quarterly and annual inspections and repairs with USACE and CPRA
- Patrol the levee system daily, assuring the integrity of this system, as part of the federal Mississippi River & Tributaries project, is not compromised in any way

Recently Completed, Current and Planned Projects-Mainline Mississippi River levee

St. Gabriel Levee Enlargement
Iberville Parish, completed in 2018

Upper Pontchartrain Seepage Control
East Baton Rouge Parish, completed in 2024

Plaquemine Point Seepage Control
Iberville Parish, completed in 2025

St. Rose Levee Enlargement
St. Charles Parish, under construction

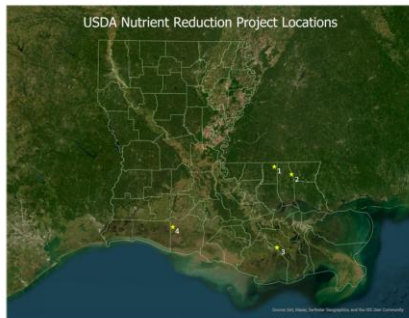
Belmont Levee Enlargement
St. James Parish, planned



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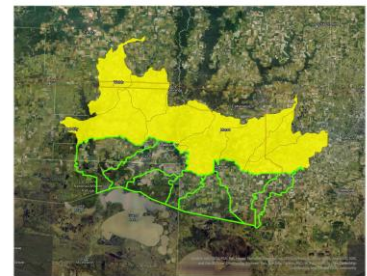
- IX. Update on Louisiana Trustee Implementation Group (LA TiG) Nutrient Reduction Projects- Jon Morton, USDA NRCS (video:1:39:55)** Mr. Morton presented to the board on the 4 Nutrient Reduction Projects located in: \$1.5M-St. Helena/Tangipahoa (dairy), \$1.5M-Washington (dairy), \$3M-Bayou Folse (grazing/ag BMPs) and \$3.5M-Winter Water Holding (rice/crawfish BMPs). Mr. Morton stated that these four projects are funded through the LA TiG RP/EA. He noted that these programs are like NRCS associated farm bill programs, they are voluntary implemented at the watershed (HUC 12) level with 100% cost share opportunity. He explained that their outreach efforts is basically how they get word out which usually consist of face to face visits; text message blasts social media posts etc.... In his dairy project update, Mr. Morton stated the city originally approved (St. Helena/Tangipahoa) 10 of 12 watersheds to be implemented within the project. They are currently working in three of them with producers and have in-stream water quality monitoring at 6 sites. He stated USDA will be seeking LA TiG approval for an additional \$2M to expand the project. Mr. Morton also gave a brief update on the four projects, noting the Crops/Grazing and BMPs has 5 approved watersheds, with an active contract totaling 1,366 acres including fencing and establishing shelters and shade for livestock and nutrient management. The Nicholls State Filtering Wetland Project Phase 1 construction completed in 2024 creating 28 acres. Phase 2 began in 2026 and is expected to be completed by the end of the year creating 135 acres. Also, the Winter Water Holding has 7 priority watersheds with 80 producer contracts totaling 13,993 acres. In closing, Mr. Morton highlighted that the LA TiG just kicked off the next restoration plan and we are he is hoping to expand to an additional eight watersheds in Vermillion, Jefferson and Acadia parishes with an estimated cost of ~\$5M.



- #1 - St. Helena/Tangipahoa (dairy)
- #2 - Washington (dairy)
- #3 - Bayou Folse (grazing/ag BMPs)
- #4 - Winter Water Holding (rice/crawfish BMPs)

LA TiG RP/EA #9 Proposal

- Expand current project to 8 additional watersheds in Vermillion, Acadia, and Jefferson Davis Parishes
- Estimated cost of ~\$5 million
- Rice/Crawfish producer demand for the program is high



- X. Public Comment**

- XI. Adjourn**

Motion by: Rep. Zeringue

Seconded by: Mr. Bourgeois/ Unanimous 2nd