



# Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority



Coastal Protection & Restoration Authority Board Meeting  
Wednesday, June 26, 2024 at 9:30 AM

Barry P. Bonvillian Civic Center (Houma-Terrebonne Civic Center)  
346 Civic Center Blvd., Houma, LA 70360

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**

Chairman Gordon Dove	Present
Dustin Davidson for Sec. Tyler Gray, DENR	Present
Cole Garrett for Sec. Shehan, LDWF	Present
Sec. Giacometto, DEQ	<b>Absent</b>
Gina Campo for Comm. Barras, DOA	Present
Lieutenant Governor Billy Nungesser	<b>Absent</b>
Tony Alford, Gov's Advisory Comm	Present
Samantha de Castro for Pres. Matthew Jewell, Barataria Basin	Present
Cong. Joseph Cao, Pontchartrain Basin	Present
Chad Courville Teche/Vermillion	Present
Dwayne Bourgeois, Terrebonne Basin	Present
Bill Hidalgo, Atchafalaya Basin	Present
Laurie Cormier, Calcasieu/Sabine Basin	<b>Absent</b>
Robert Jordan Teche/Vermillion Parish	<b>Absent</b>
John Lane, Breton Sound Basin	Present
Rep. Zeringue, Ex-officio, Designee of the Speaker of the House	Present
Sen. Hensgens, Ex-officio, Designee of the President of the Senate	<b>Absent</b>

**III. Approval of Agenda**

Motion by: Mr. Alford  
Second by: Mr. Bourgeois (Mr. Bourgeois made a motion to move agenda item IX up to current item)  
Unanimously Approved  
Motion made by Chairman Dove to add Pres. Bergeron to agenda to give a Welcome (unanimously approved)

**IV. Presentation of 2024 R. King Milling Distinguished Coastal Service Award- R. King Milling & Gordon Dove, Chairman (was previously agenda item IX)** Chairman Dove and the CPRA Board honored Reggie Dupre, Executive Director of the Terrebonne Levee and Conservation District, with the R. King Milling Distinguished Coastal Service Award. This award was established in 2022 to honor individuals or organizations that epitomize Milling's unwavering support for the state's coastal program. Reggie Dupre has been a lifelong steward for coastal protection and restoration, much like King Milling. His commitment to Louisiana's Coastal Program and the people of south Louisiana is unmatched.

**v. Welcome- Parish President Jason Bergeron**



vi. **Approval of Minutes**

Motion by: Mr. Bourgeois  
Unanimously Approved

vii. **Old Business/Announcements**

viii. **CPRA Implementation Update — Glenn Ledet, Jr., CPRA (video: 00:31:19)**

Mr. Ledet updated Chairman Dove and the CPRA Board on the latest progress of various projects around the coast. Projects discussed included Terrebonne HNC Island Restoration (\$38.7 Million/NRDA-The proposed island will include ~35 acres of a variety of habitats (225,000 CY of sand fill)) and Bayou Terre Aux Bouefs Ridge Restoration Phase III (The total project cost about \$65 million and used a combination of CPRA/state surplus funds, NFWF and RESTORE dollars). CPRA has 107 Active Projects with 43 of them are in construction, 59 in engineering and design, with 5 more in the planning stage. Of the projects now being constructed 33 are hurricane protection projects and 36 are creating marsh. Marsh creation leads the way in E&D with 26 projects moving toward the construction phase. Mr Ledet briefly provided information regarding CPRA projects that are in Construction: Point Coupee Atchafalya Basin (now in construction, estimated cost \$282, 000, and is being led by the Point Coupee Parish Government); the North Vermillion Bay Shoreline Protection (estimated cost of \$9.2 million, and it is being led by the Vermillion Parish); East Delacroix Marsh Creation & Terracing (to be bid in the next 6 months); Sunset Levee Uppder Barataria Risk Reduction (estimated cost \$8.1 million, being led by Lafourche Basin Levee District); and the St. Charles Parish Crawford Canal/Sunset Pump Station (bids openig soon, led by the St. Charles Parish). Mr. Ledet also provided a few updates on CPRA events over the past month: He and CPRA staffers participated with the Western Caucas Foundation Energy & Conservation Field Tour & Forum (Davis Pond Tour & Coastal 101 presentaion); Old River Control Structure Tour (with the USACE, Gov. Landry and CPRA); NRSC meeting, Nicholl's Coastal Center should be completed by the end of the year; and the Foreign Delegation visited the Center for River Studies and toured Davis Pond.

ix. **Hurricane Protection and Morganza to the Gulf Update – Reggie Dupre, TLCD (video: 00:58:19)**

Mr. Dupre presented to CPRA (Mr. Ledet accepted on behalf of the agency) The Founder's Award for CPRA and a certified frame copy of Act 69 of the 2005 Extraordinary Regular Session (first constitutional amendment that dedicated 100% of all offshore oil & gas revenue to coastal restoration, coastal protection, and infrastructure needs directly related to coastal wetland losses). Mr. Dupre updated the board on the Morganza to the Gulf project which is a 98 mile system that goes from Gibson, LA to Lockport, LA with 70 of the 98 miles being in Terrebonne Parish and the other 28 in Lafourche Parish (expanding two parishes and three levee districts). Mr. Dupre also updated on their largest project which is the HNC Lock Complex, this project was built (Phase 1) with Restore funds, total cost \$115. Million, total dredge: 1.1 million cubic yards, with a total of 143 acres-marsh creation. Phase 2 has been awarded with the current cost being \$324 million, with an expected completion date of mid 2028 (also funded by Restore).



- **Dwayne Bourgeois – NLLD**

Mr. Bourgeois provided the board with an update in regards to Morganza to the Gulf and how it ties into the NLLD (easter tie-in), from LaRose crossing from the SLLD with a future closure in the GIWW (East Closure). Mr. Bourgeois stated that they are working to tie those two large federal level systems together. The Morganza to the Gulf Reach 2 work has been done with funding from the NLLD and CPRA. This project is a \$2.8 million contract, \$2.5 million in surplus funds via CPRA, it created 130,000 cubic yards, +7.5 ft and 3.6 miles. Some other projects that NLLD are working on are: Lockport to Larose- Reach D2/D3 (\$2.899M contract; \$1M-CPRA, 190,000 cubic yards; TLBB Raceland Prairie (\$4.8M contract, \$4.225M capital outlay, 100,000 cubic yards); TLBB Hollywood Canal (\$6M contract. \$5.527M GOMESA funded).

- **Nicholas Matherne- SLLD**

Mr. Matherne updated the board on the SLLD progress and future plans. He stated that a portion of the SLLD levee system is incorporated along a portion of the Morganza to the Gulf alignment. The SLLD has been doing some preparatory work to advance the improvements of those portions of the alignment. Slides were presented taking a look into what the SLLD is facing in the Northern part of South Lafourche (Delta Farms Area in Larose; section F), the Section F of the system is partially made of earth and levee and then connects into a floodwall that was partially built by the USACE (improved at one point by the SLLD). The floodwall in this area is a +11 elevation, the earth and levee is a +13, ultimately they are authorized as parts of Morganza to the Gulf in this area to a +16 (still some work to do in the future). On the opposite side of Bayou Lafourche (part of the Morganza to the Gulf) is Section C-North Levee Improvements that follows along the intracoastal canal and then moves southward, ultimately tying into reach L (SLLD funded). All South Lafourche levee districts have been working to get funding to improve this section of levee to a +13 (should be complete in the next month or so). Section C-South Levee Improvements (FEMA reimbursed), the levee district has been working with FEMA to repair some damage from Hurricane Ida by adding 2ft of material on the flood side. Mr. Matherne also updated on the Larose Floodwall Vessel Impact Barrier-Section F (\$1M-GOMESA/\$1.1M-SLLD) used to install a vessel impact barrier to protect that investment of the floodwall along the GIWW); D-North Ramp (\$500k-GOMESA); Section E-North Levee Improvements (utilizing \$2.3M of GOMESA funding plus another \$.15M-Surplus Funding, \$500,000-SLLD) to stockpile material from nearby borrow pits along Section E of the levee system (raising to a +16); Section F Berm Improvements (\$1.7M-GOMESA, \$100K-Surplus, \$2M-SLLD); Section A-East & West Levee Improvements (A-East: \$3.4M-GOMESA (raising to 19.5ft), \$3.6M-Surplus and A-West: \$4.4M-GOMESA) to lift levee to 19.5ft; LaRose “Ted Gisclair” Lock (Cost Estimate: \$36.5M, Committed: \$5M-GOMESA, \$5M-SLLD, \$15M-Lafourche Parish HMGP with an \$11.5M shortfall).

- **LTC Weander-USACE New Orleans District**

LTC Weander provided a brief update to the board on the Morganza to the Gulf. LTC stated that nearly a half billion dollars of federal investment has gone into the region. Of that \$469M, there are 14 separate structures currently designed. Six of those are funded for construction. Reach A Contract award is anticipated by the end of next month. The USACE is currently designed to Reach F and look to have that design completed no later than FY 25.

- x. **Federal Update – Neal McMillin, DENR (video: 01:43:12)** Mr. McMillin provided a brief update the board starting with the FY2024 Army Coprs Work Additonal Funding Project & Purpose: This is when Congress



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passes their annual appropriations, there's unspecified dollars and the CORP takes 60 days, works with OMB and chooses the best value of the remaining projects that aren't specified. Mr. McMillin stated that Louisiana did quite well, especially in the New Orleans District (they got \$123M additional dollars). And for the Coastal Program, West Bank & Vicinity got \$2.2M to start the pre-construction engineering and design for levee lifts on their system. Then Southwest Coastal got \$20M to build 2miles of shoreline protection. Mr. McMillin highlighted funding for FY2025 that they are pursuing to earmark: Morganza at \$93M (with four members of Congress supporting it); West Bank & Vicinity at \$38.5M and a few other projects (see slide below). He also provided a quick brief on WRDA 2024 Developments (2<sup>nd</sup> slide below):

FY2025 Community Project Funding / Congressionally Directed Spending Project and Purpose		Amount	Supporting Member(s)	WRDA 2024 Developments - Provisions in Play				
		\$179-190M		Request	In Senate?	Senate Section	In House?	House Section
Morganza to the Gulf	Advance critical features	\$93M	Cassidy, Kennedy, Graves, Scalise	Clarification of HSDRRS Payback provision	No	N/A	Yes	308
West Bank & Vicinity	O&M activities including dewatering sector gates	\$38.55M	Kennedy	Authorization of St. Tammany Flood Risk Management project	Yes	203	Yes	401
Southwest Coastal	Construct two additional miles of shoreline protection	\$20M	Kennedy	Authorize Lake Pontchartrain Barrier study	Yes	201	Yes	201
Upper Barataria Basin	Initiate design for levee construction & construct access roads	\$10M - \$21M	Cassidy, Kennedy, Graves (\$21M)	Expansion of Alexandria to the Gulf study area	Yes	205	Yes	203
MIRGO Ecosystem Restoration	Advance construction	\$5M	Cassidy, Kennedy	Extension of 3017 authority to raise HSDRRS levees after settlement, subsidence, etc.	Yes to 2029	346	Yes to 2033	302
Southwest Louisiana	Living shoreline, habitat restoration, and public access	\$3.825M	Higgins	Address Pointe Celeste Pumping Station	Yes through levee rehab program	335	Yes through environmental infrastructure	338
Lower Mississippi River Comprehensive Study	Expedite completion of study	\$3.5M	Cassidy	Extension of Section 1020 cross crediting authority	No	N/A	Yes	302
St. Tammany Parish	Sign PPA & start design	\$3.25M - \$3.5M	Cassidy, Kennedy, Scalise	Larose to Golden Meadows rehab and inspection program	Yes	222	No	N/A
South Central Coastal	Sign PPA & start design	\$1M	Kennedy, Higgins	Morganza to the Gulf tie in to Upper Barataria Basin	Yes	328	Yes	209
Bayou Sauvage / Venetian Isles	Conduct engineering & design to create marsh in Bayou Sauvage from dredging in Venetian Isles	\$650K	Cassidy	Address PPA policies related to indemnification and indefinite OMR&R	Yes through GAO study	233	No	N/A
Lake Pontchartrain & Vicinity	Initiate General Reevaluation Report to evaluate 200-year level of risk reduction	\$500K	Kennedy	Amendments to Sec. 1043 authority for greater NFS leadership	Yes	102, 347	Yes, partially	302
Pointe Celeste Pumping Station	Rehabilitation	\$200K	Kennedy					

Mr. McMillin also provided recaps on the SHORES Coalition D.C. Fly In (largest SHORES Coalition Fly in to date, with 83 members making up 17 groups, 105 Congressional meetings (covering 31 states & 2 territories), Unified leadership with attendance from CPRA, LDWF and LDENR, members from TX, MS, and DC participating. The Western Caucas Louisiana Visit (June 23-24) was a success with Caucas Chairman Newhouse, and 34 Congressional staffers in attendance. The attendees were able to tour the Davis Pond Freshwater Diversion structure and outfall area, as well as Chevron's Oronite refinery and Venture Global LNG facility in Plaquemines Parish. In closing, Mr. McMillin shared with the board that he and Exec. Director of CPRA, Glenn Ledet, Jr., would be traveling to DC for Glenn's testimony on June 27<sup>th</sup> before the House Oversight Hearing on Project Labor Agreements

**xi. Public Comment**

**xii. Adjourn**

Motion by: Mr. Bourgeois  
Second by: unanimously approved