



Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority



Coastal Protection & Restoration Authority Board Meeting

Wednesday, August 21, 2024

9:30 AM

Edward Dufresne Community Center

274 Judge Edward Dufresne Parkway

Luling, LA 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.

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 & Mr. Lang, DEQ	Present
Lieutenant Governor Billy Nungesser	Present
Tony Alford, Gov's Advisory Comm	Present
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	Present
Robert Jordan Teche/Vermillion Parish	Present
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	Absent

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion by: Mr. Mr. Courville
Seconded by: Lt. Gov Nungesser
Unanimously Approved

IV. Approval of Minutes

Motion by: Mr. Alford
Seconded by: Mr. Hidalgo
Unanimously Approved

V. Old Business/Announcements

vi. **CPRA Implementation Update — Glenn Ledet, Jr., CPRA (video: 00:19:01)** Mr. Ledet updated the board on the latest progress of various projects around the coast. CPRA has 107 Active Projects with 42 of them are in construction, 60 in engineering and design, with 5 more in the planning stage. Of the projects now being constructed 32 are hurricane protection projects and 36 are creating Mr. Ledet provided updated information on **Construction:** of the following projects: **Larose floodwall** included vessel impact protection for the Larose to Golden Meadow GIWW floodwalls with \$1.1M GOMESA funding and \$1.1M from SLLD.

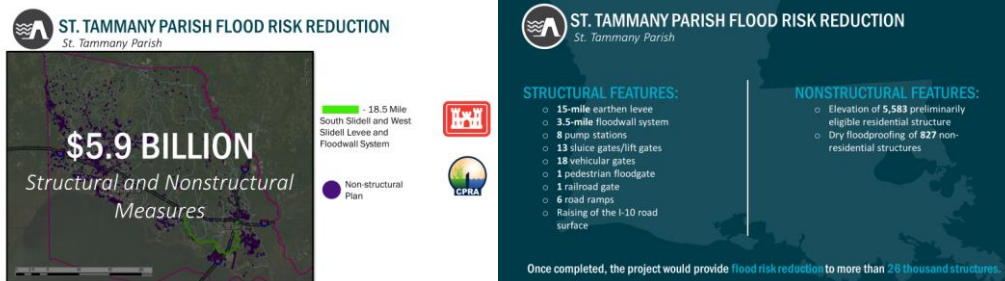


The Bayou La Loutre is NRDA funded and- US Aqua Services is working on construction of the ridge starting with Reach 1 with just a couple months left. Clearing and grubbing reaches 2 and 3 will follow. Marsh Creation Component: CPRA is finalizing the Change Order to incorporate MCA 8 into the Lake Borgne project. **Mid Breton** is currently dredging into MCA 1 which is a CWPPRA project but led by CPRA. **Engineering & Design Updates - Cheniere Au Tigre Shoreline Protection** will be bid in the next 6 months and the estimated cost is \$2.2M. **Bayou Cane Marsh Creation** has a construction permit issued, is scheduled for advertisement in May 2025 and the estimated cost is \$31.6M. Mr. Ledet also provided **Restoration Updates**

REGIONAL PROJECTS



Mr. Ledet’s update on Hurricane Protection & Flood Risk Reduction provided updates on St. Tammany Parish Flood Risk Reduction: \$5.9B Structural and Nonstructural Measures. Recommended Plan includes structural and nonstructural measures for a total cost of \$5.9B and a BCR of 1.6. The project calls for a mix of structural and non-structural methods to reduce the flood risk to more than 26 thousand structures. He stated that they hope to include the project in WRDA 2024 for authorization.





vii. **USACE Update – Col. Jones, USACE New Orleans District (video: 00:53:38)** Col. Jones provided the board with an updated on West Shore Lake Pontchartrain in the 3 Phases of Complete Work; Ongoing, and Complete work. **COMPLETE WORK:** Levee Test Section (WSLP-101), Sand Placement 1 & 2; Clay and Sand Stockpile; Access Road Construction; and Pile Load Testing. **ONGOING:** Awarded nine contracts totaling over \$360M in levee construction representing 14.5 of 185 total miles of levee and floodwall; WSLP-110 final inspecting is scheduled for August. **UPCOMING:** Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2024 has freed up \$450MM of DRSA-17 funding, specifically Resiliency construction funds; WSLP contracts 109 and 114a expected to be awarded in FY2024, 114 being awarded in FY25 and 103a & 110a are expected to be awarded in FY26; WSLP-115 St. James EDR scheduled to be completed in Aug 2024. Col. Jones also provided updates on **NOV-Wilkinson Canal Pump Station:** (Pump 1&2 Currently operations; to be removed for service/maintenance, Pump 3: Wet test complete; operational at reduced capacity (1500 rpm),




Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority



Pump 4: Repairs on hold until new contract awarded; Est. Final Return to Service: TBD. Dependent on new contract award (NOV-NF-W-05b.2b).

<h3>WEST SHORE LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN</h3>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Levee Test Section (WSLP-101) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sand Placement 1 & 2 Clay and Sand Stockpile Access Road Construction File Load Testing Ongoing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awarded new contracts totaling over \$360M in levee construction representing 14.5 of 18.5 total miles of levee and footwall WSLP-110 final inspection scheduled for August Upcoming <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2024 has freed up \$450M of DR5AA-17 funding, specifically Resiliency construction funds WSP-1 contracts 109 and 114a expected to be awarded in FY2024, 114 being awarded in FY23 and 109a & 109b are expected to be awarded in FY28 WSP-115 St. James EDR scheduled to be completed in Aug 2024 St James Resiliency Study VTAM Memo is at HQ for review 	<h3>NOV – WILKINSON CANAL PUMP STATION</h3>  <h4>Pump Station Design Capacity and Status</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design capacity: 1,500 cfs (4 pumps @ 350 cfs each) Current capacity: 500 cfs (Pumps 1 & 2 @ 250 cfs each) Hurricane Season 2024: 2 pumps operational (Pumps 1 & 2), PS @ 50% capacity, Pump #3 available at reduced capacity (1,500 gpm) Hurricane Season 2025: Pumps 1-4 operational, PS @ 100% capacity Simulations show that reduced pump capacity has no impact on water levels at HWY 23, assuming road is at elevation 0 to 2 ft NAVD The 25-year event is not expected to threaten HWY 23 <h4>Pump Operation and Repair Tracker</h4> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Green</td> <td>Yellow</td> <td>Red</td> <td>Red</td> </tr> </table> <p>Pumps 1 & 2: Currently operational, to be removed for retrocommissioning. Est. Final Return to Service: TBD. Dependent on NOV-NF-W-05b.2b contract award.</p> <p>Pump 3: Will test complete, operational at reduced capacity (1,500 gpm). Est. Final Return to Service: TBD. Dependent on new contract award (NOV-NF-W-05b.2b).</p> <p>Pump 4: Repairs on hold until new contract awarded. Est. Final Return to Service: TBD. Dependent on new contract award (NOV-NF-W-05b.2b).</p> <h4>Project Timeline</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May 2019 – Wilkinson PS Technical Services contract awarded Feb 2022 – Pumps #3 & #4 removed for repairs, PS operates at 50% capacity Apr 2023 – Pumps #3 & #4 returned for reinstallation, Pump #4 shutdown during trial run on 04/28, Pump #3 operated successfully May 2023 – Dec 2023 Pump #4 removed, returned to the shop, dismantled, and inspected. On steamered replacement of level coolers was required for Pumps #3 & #4. Jan 2024 – NOV-NF-W-05b.1b contract expired. Jan 2024 thru Jul 2024 – FOT determined path forward, developed Performance Work Scope (PWS) for new contract and requirements for FAC of previous contract. Aug 2024 – Awaiting SBA approval of JV. Q4FY25 – New Contract Award (NOV-NF-W-05b.2b) 	1	2	3	4	Green	Yellow	Red	Red
1	2	3	4						
Green	Yellow	Red	Red						

Lafitte Study Area: STATUS (see slide below)

<h3>Lafitte Study Area</h3>  <p>The study area is located between Bayou Lafourche and the Mississippi River, from Crown Point to the Lower Lafitte Basin</p>	<h3>STATUS</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The team is moving forward with analysis of non-structural alternatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alternative 1: No Action Alternative Alternative 2: Comprehensive plan to minimize impacts to community through community resiliency and nonstructural features Alternative 5: Community resiliency alternative Alternative 6: Nonstructural plan Future Without Project is under development. Revised Vertical Team Alignment Memo which lays out the scope schedule and budget is currently with MVD under review.
<h3>CHALLENGES / SUCCESSES</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Milestone (Alternative Management Milestone) was completed on 18 December 2023 At this milestone the team identified 11 alternatives including both structural and non-structural features to move forward into the final array of alternatives. The scope of these alternatives resulted in estimated cost of \$6.8 Billion to complete the study, exceeding the \$3 Billion cost to complete studies. The team revisited the array of alternatives and using data from a previous study, Donaldsonville to the Gulf, was able to screen out structural alternatives. This brought the estimate cost to complete to \$3.8Billion. 	<h3>PATH FORWARD</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue the Development of Future Without Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Run new required Q2CRM economic Models to verify the PDT's decision to screen out structural alternatives Project Schedule: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tentatively Selected Plan Milestone: 15 March 2025 Public Review of Draft Report: 15 May 2025 Signed Chief's Report: 15 June 2027

In closing, Col. Jones shared the current status of the **Upper Barataria Basin project**, indicating that the Value Engineering Study was completed in May 2024; Field Investigations and Hydraulic Modeling is nearly complete and 35% Design initiating.

viii. **West Shore Lake Pontchartrain Project – Monica Salins Gorman, PLD and Andrew Beall, CPRA (video:01:13:50)** Ms Gorman brought the board up to date on the Construction Status of WSLP. She indicated that much has gone into this project as the final project footprint was not completed when funded in 2018. USACE, CPRA and PLD worked tirelessly finalizing the levee, levee right of way, relocations, securing the LERRDS (lands, easements, row, relocations and disposal) which is all a NFS responsibility. Building 9 access roads was first and foremost priority- not only building a pathway to building a levee in virgin swamp but building an access to clear the row and build a base for such important flood risk reduction measures. In her update on West Shore Lake Pontchartrain-St. James Parish, Ms. Gorman stated that PLD has the operation and maintenance of the WSLP HSDRRS, in perpetuity, once construction is complete “There is a lot to be learned from this project which should serve as a model for how federal and non-federal partners work together. How early investments tee up projects for success, and how strategic and outside-the-box thinking keeps things moving. “This is Louisiana- it is how we come together, how we work together and how we thrive together. Mr. Beall’s provided updated information on the relocation efforts and the



different pipelines companies, utility companies, and the parish in securing efforts for the approval of design and other rights needed to relocate them for the many construction reaches of the Westshore Lake projects.

TOTAL RELOCATIONS

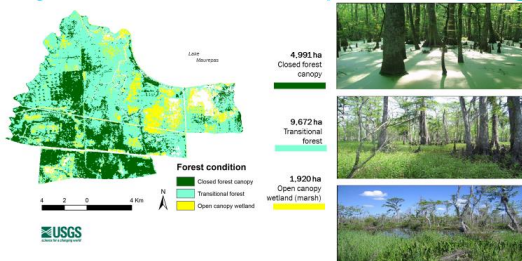
	PIPELINES	COMMUNICATIONS	UTILITIES	ENTERGY TRANSMISSIONS	ENTERGY DISTRIBUTION	TOTAL
ACCESS ROADS (8)	92 (92)	-	-	-	-	92 (92)
WSLP	24 (21)	17 (13)	1 (0)	3 (3)	4 (4)	49 (41)
WSLP / MAUREPAS	13 (6)	8 (0)	5 (0)	2 (2)	4 (4)	32 (12)
TOTAL	129 (119)	25 (13)	6 (0)	5 (5)	8 (8)	173 (145)

Total (Completed)



- ix. **River Reintroduction into Maurepas Swamp – Brad Miller, CPRA (video:01:15:58)** Mr. Miller briefed the board on the latest regarding the project area (St. John the Baptist, St. James, and Ascension parishes), and the project needs which consist of: Lack of flowing freshwater; near-permanent flooding with stagnant water; sediment and nutrient starvation; lack of regeneration; periodic high salinity from saltwater intrusion & drought conditions.

Project Area Wetland Loss/Habitat Change

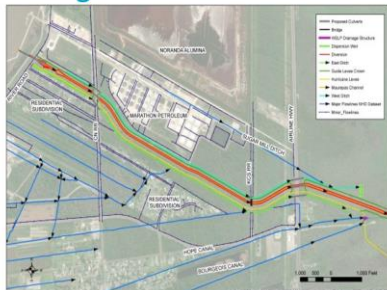


WSLP Integration - West Shore Lake Pontchartrain

- **2014:** 95% Design Report (utilized CWPRA State-only surplus and NFWF funds)
- **2017:** DWH RESTORE Bucket 2 Funds to complete design
- **2018:** BBA 18 Provides Funding to construct WSLP
- **2019:** State asks USACE to consider MSP as mitigation for WSLP. Leads to OMMAM Plan, Updated Delft3D Model, New Wetland Value Assessment, Mitigation Plan and appendices.
- **January 2023:** ROD to use Maurepas as the mitigation for WSLP



WSLP Integration - West Shore Lake Pontchartrain



Reach	Design Completion	Construction Start (Bid Advertisement)	Construction Completion
Reach 6 Phase 2	Q1 2027	Q1 2027	Q3 2028
Reach 6 Phase 1	Complete	NTP Sept 2024	Q3 2026
Reach 5A/B/C	Q3 2025	Q4 2025	Q4 2027
Reach 4	Q3 2025	Q4 2025	Q4 2027
Reach 3	Q1 2025	Q2 2025	Q3 2027
Reach 2	Q3 2025	Q4 2025	Q4 2027
Reach 1	Q1 2026	Q2 2026	Q2 2028



- x. **Lafitte Ring Levee System – Dustin White, CPRA (video: 01:34:56)** Mr. White provided a brief update to the board on and the Lafitte Ring Levee project (Project area consist of Town of Jean Lafitte and surrounding communities of Crown Point, Barataria, and Lafitte. The program seeks to implement a series of flood reduction projects covering 8.5 sq miles. Being that they are more isolated and were left out of federal HSDDRS West Bank & Vicinity located just 2 miles north, the Lafitte area communities are in desperate need of flood protection. The area has been significantly impacted by numerous tropical events, including major storms such as Katrina, Gustav, Ike, Issac and Ida. At the current estimate of \$458M, 10



polders were recommended by a 2004 USACE feasibility study of the area with 7ft flood protection features. Levees and ramps are being constructed to 8.5ft elevation with typical 3 on 1 slopes. To date, there are over \$90M in projects that are completed or under construction and another \$70M budgeted for additional construction. Program funding includes \$86M State Surplus, \$42M GOMESA, and \$27M Capital Outlay.

Design Overview

Advanced Design

\$105 Million
1,375 Acres *
12.5 Miles

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- Crown Point Tidal Protection (Phase 1)
 - 95% Design
 - \$41.7 Million
 - 3.2 miles of Floodwalls / Levees
 - 614 Acres *
 - Phase 1 Funded for Construction
- Goose Bayou Tidal Protection
 - 95% Design
 - \$30.6 Million
 - 4.2 miles of Floodwalls / Levees
 - 363 Acres
 - Phase 1 Need of \$3.3M
- Pallet Basin Tidal Protection
 - 95% Design
 - \$33.1 Million
 - 5.1 miles of Floodwalls / Levees
 - 478 Acres
 - No Construction Funding Secured

x. **Louisiana Wetlands Education Center – Mayor Tim Kerner, Jr., Town of Jean Lafitte (video: 01:43:12)** Mayor Kerner presented to the board updated information regarding the Jean Lafitte Wetlands Education Center. The Center is expected to be a 3,500sqft wetland center and will feature state-of-the-art exhibits, a place to educate the public about the importance of the coast. The center will consist of the following areas: Introduction area; Wetlands Habitat area; Wetlands Building and Restoration Area and a Conclusion area. Mayor Kerner stated that the Wetlands Educational Center is connected to the town’s Nature Preserve and Trail, which is next to the Jean Lafitte National Historic Park and Barataria Preserve which will give visitors a unique first hand look at the wetlands and swamps of Louisiana. The construction on this project is expected to be completed in 2025.

xii. **2025 State of the Coast Conference – Kim Reyher, Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana (video:2:00:52)** Ms. Reyher shared with the board and the public in attendance that the SOC is scheduled for May 20-22, 2025, in New Orleans, LA at the Ernest Morial Convention Center. Ms. Reyher announced what attendees could expect: Keynote speakers during opening reception and all three lunches; Concurrent 90-min sessions (talks, panels, lightning sessions); sponsor reception; poster reception, leadership gatherings and Exhibition Hall networking. The deadline for proposals is Sept 23rd, Poster Deadline is Oct 15th and the Scholarship and volunteer applications open- November with a January deadline and awards being announced in February.

xiii. **Public Comment**

xiv. **Adjourn**

Motion by: Mr. Bourgeois
Seconded by: Pres. Jewell/unanimously approved