



Coastal Protection & Restoration Authority Board Meeting

Wednesday, July 15, 2026, 9:30 AM CST

The Coastal Center at Nicholls State University

426 Ardoyne Drive

Thibodaux, Louisiana 70310

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=EzkJnWq2v2s>

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	Present
Mr. Dwayne Bourgeois, Terrebonne Basin	Present
Mr. Bill Hidalgo, Atchafalaya Basin	Present
Mr. Robert Jordan Teche/Vermillion Parish	Present
Mr. John Lane, Breton Sound Basin	Present
Mr. David Richard, Calcasieu/Sabine Basin	Present
Mr. Stephen Sagrera, At Large	Present
Pres. Keith Hinkley, At Large	Present
Mr. Craig Romero, At Large	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. Bourgeois**

Seconded by: **Mr. Alford (unanimously approved by board)**

IV. Approval of Minutes

Motion by: **Mr. Hidalgo**

Seconded by: **Mr. Lane (unanimously approved by board)**

V. Old Business/Announcements: *Mr. Hidalgo reminded the board of the 70/30 split and stated that they (St. Mary Levee District) are following the actions of the Corps. (video: 0:11:40)*

VI. CPRA Implementation Update – *Michael Hare, CPRA Executive Director (video:0:12:40)*

Mr. Hare provided a brief implementation update to the board, starting with a quick overview noting there are 107 active projects with 33 projects in active construction, 72 in the engineering and design phase, and 2 in planning. He also provided updates on projects with significant activity since last month. **The Industrial Park Improvements:** - Bid opening was held and the project will be awarded to Otwell Services, LLC.; **Chandeleur Island Restoration** -- was awarded another \$90M from the



Restore Council; **Raccoon Island** – CPRA is reviewing the 95% Design Report and all appendices. The 95% Design Meeting was held on 06/15/2026. The cost estimate includes an adjustment for fuel prices. **Mangrove Bayou Marsh Creation** - Scope Change approved at the 05/06/2026 Task Force meeting to move the project location. E&D activities have officially started; and West Shore-Lake Pontchartrain (Saint Charles, Saint James, Saint John the Baptist) - Section 103a (floodgate) awarded for \$11.8M. Mr. Hare also provided bid updates: **Sabine Refuge Marsh Creation Cycle II** (bid opened June 15, 2026—Awarded to Dean Equipment, Inc); **NW Little Lake Marsh Creation, Increment 2** (bid opened July 7, 2026 – Awarded to Apollo Environmental Strategies, LLC); **West Belle Headland Repair** (bids opened July 8, 2026—Awarded to Weeks Marine); and **Terrebonne Houma Nav Canal Vegetative Plantings Project** (bids opened July 8, 2026—bids are currently under review). Mr. Hare also updated on West Belle Headland Repair—This will nourish approximately 457 acres of barrier island habitat and 3.3mi of shoreline using sand after severe damage from Hurricane Zeta (2020). He noted that they were able to file a successful FEMA claim, thanks to the Governor and others for pushing on FEMA. Mr. Hare also highlighted the **Fourchon Beach Restoration and Protection Project** -- Restoring approximately 6,000ft of eroded shoreline with \$2 million in CPRA funding. **The Grand Isle Shoreline Project**- Up to 35 segmented stone breakwaters across a 16, 000-foot gap between existing breakwater fields along the Gulf side of Grand Isle. This project will address issues with shoreline erosion and storm vulnerability by extending offshore protection features and improving resilience of Grand Isle's beach and dune system. In closing, Mr. Hare spotlighted the **Summit at Sea Level**, which was a unique opportunity where leadership (CPRA, USACE, Governor, and industry representatives) worked hard to make sure that industry representatives and voices not only for LA but from around the nation came to sit for a working session round table with an involvement from the Governor's Office. As a result of the summit, all-new professional services contracts have been executed and are now available for engineering, surveying, and geotechnical work. This will help to improve delivery efficiency and reduce administrative effort; these contracts include a new lump-sum payment option. This will streamline contract administration, simplify invoicing, and help accelerate project delivery. Two closing updates were, LA TIG asking for Restoration Ideas: The Louisiana TIG is seeking public ideas for Deepwater Horizon restoration projects with a focus on restoring wetlands, coastal and nearshore habitats. Congratulations to CPRA Engineer Taylor Chassaignac on her promotion to 1st Vice President of the Louisiana Post of the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME), and organization that brings together professionals from the military, government, and private industry to strengthen collaboration and advance engineering and infrastructure initiatives.

VII. Keep Louisiana Beautiful: Presentation and Approval of Proposed CPRA Board Resolution Supporting Love Our Waterways – Billy Nungesser, Lieutenant Governor of Louisiana & Susan Russell (video: 0:37:07)

1. Board Discussion

2. Public Comment (*none*)

3. Board Action to Approve Supporting Love Our Waterways Resolution

Motion to adopt: Mr. Alford, 2nd: Mr. Bourgeois

(board unanimously approved the resolution with no opposition)

VIII. Bayou Lafourche Freshwater Delivery Project Update – *Dustin Rabalais, Executive Director of the Bayou Lafourche Freshwater District (video:0:55:15)* Mr. Rabalais presented the board with an update on the BLFD Project. He provided a little background of the project stating, it's only one component of the MS River Reintroduction to Bayou Lafourche. The goal of the project is to provide reliable, long-term water supply needs by increasing the freshwater from the MS River into Bayou Lafourche. He highlighted that the current effort is construction of the new pump station and outfall area (the old pump is just a little over 70yo and maxes out at 400cfs). Differences in operational flow: 400cfs to 1000cfs. Mr. Rabalais stated that getting the roof installed is going to be a challenge but once it's installed, they will be able to move forward with the electrical components and work through the finish. He indicated that the pumps were shipped in from Georgia, they're approximately 100ft long. The project is 77% complete, with a \$100.282,013.15M value.



- IX. Morganza to the Gulf Updates** – *Angela Hidalgo, TLCD Executive Director & Trey Middleton, TLCD-Project Manager (video: 1:03:23)*
- Ms. Hidalgo updated the board on TLCD's hard work and what their board has been implementing. She stated the biggest project they have right now is the HNC Lock, at \$326 million. They are also actively lifting their levee reaches (H-L Reaches) between 11& 15ft (flood wall L is completed). Ms. Hidalgo also noted that TLCD is working on reach A north on the western side, which is a \$10M project that will be going to bid. She also highlighted that the CORPS has approved their application for 1043D funding, which takes federal funding and shifts it to the CPRA level. With that, they will have funding from the federal government to implement projects locally at a more efficient rate and get protection delivered faster. All the projects discussed represent over \$400M that are under construction. Ms. Hidalgo also provided a brief update on current construction, HNC Lock Complex (Phase 2); she emphasized that it's truly a site to see, and once they finish, they are going to flood it, so it won't be able to be seen in its current condition any longer. She mentioned that H2/H3 will be lifted +15ft, Upper Reach I Levee +15ft (lower); Upper Reach 9 Levee (middle) +15ft and this project will cost approximately \$12.5M and completed by the fall of this year. In closing, Ms. Hidalgo referenced a few projects that will be moving towards construction: Reach A North Project; Reach J-1 Levee Improvement +15ft; and Reach L Apache Farm Levee Improvements +12ft.

IN CONSTRUCTION / MOVING TO CONSTRUCTION		
PROJECT	COST	COMPLETION
USACE A (BORROW FUNDED BY CPRA)	\$12M	EARLY 2027
HNC LOCK PHASE 2	\$326M	LATE 2026
H2/H3 +15	\$12.5M	FALL 2026
UPPER I (LOWER) +15	\$5M	FALL 2026
UPPER I (MIDDLE) +15	\$5M	LATE 2026
3-2 WEST +15 (TLCD)	\$1.4M	LATE 2026
K UPPER +11 (SLLD)	\$600k	LATE 2026
L FLOODWALL	\$7.5M	SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETE
A NORTH PROJECT	\$10M	BIDDING JULY 2026
3-1 +15	\$5.7M	BIDDING JULY 2026
L EAST APACHE FARM +12	\$1.5M	BIDDING JULY 2026
UPPER F +15	TBD	1043D OR USACE FALL 2026
BOUDREAUX & DULARGE MAINT.	\$2.5M	OFFSEASON WORK
DULARGE EAST +15	\$12M	MOVING FORWARD
3-2 EAST IMPROVEMENT	TBD	MOVING FORWARD
LOWER F +15	TBD	MOVING FORWARD
IN THE HOPPER		
PROJECT	CURRENT STATUS	
ISLAND ROAD RAMP	\$2M CONSTRUCTION EST. / DESIGN NEARLY COMPLETE / PENDING FUNDING	
REACH K WCS	\$18M CONSTRUCTION EST. / DESIGN IN PROGRESS / PENDING FUNDING	
WINE ISLAND RESTORATION	DESIGN IN PROGRESS / LOOKING AT OPTIONS	
EASTERN TERREBONNE RESTORATION	DESIGN IN PROGRESS / ALTERNATIVES FOR EARLY IMPLEMENTATION PROJECT	





PROJECT COST: \$326 Million
 COMPLETION: Fall 2026

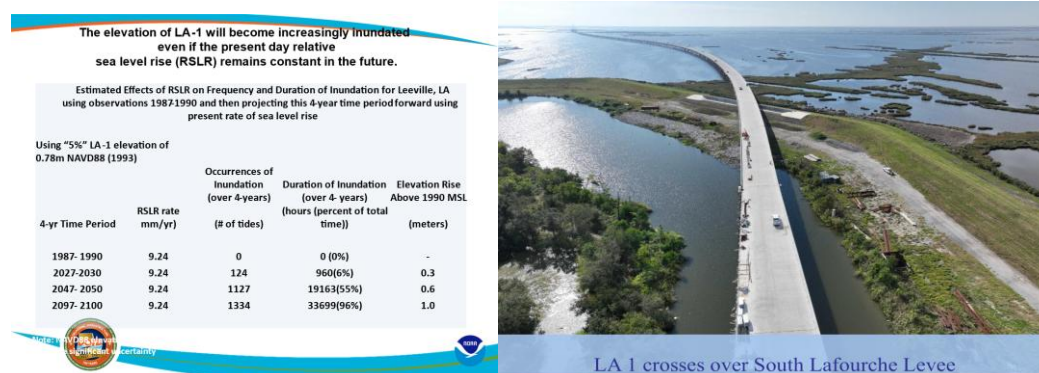
340 Acres of marsh created with beneficial use dredge material

- X. North Lafourche Levee District Updates** – *Dwayne Bourgeois, NLLD Executive Director (video:0:1:18:18)*
- Mr. Bourgeois updated the board on projects that are currently in construction in NLLD. He identified that the NLLD territory in the north district is everything north of the intercoastal in Lafourche Parish. The areas have been divided into a bunch of project areas that are strictly in the hydrologic barriers. Mr. Bourgeois highlighted a few projects, starting with Woodland Heights Levee and drainage improvement, it's a back water flood protection project with interior drainage improvements (completion scheduled for December); Lake Buff Watershed; Zeller/Larousse Forced Drainage Area Systems Improvements (phase 3 of a backwater flood protection project, increasing it to 5ft); Jessie Dufrene (joint project with the Lafourche Parish Gov't where the channel conveyance to the pump station was modified). Mr. Bourgeois also mentioned a couple of projects that they've been working on such as access roads for A Reach (6ft elevation); there's also some work occurring on Morganza to the Gulf Reach 2 (force drainage area channel improvements, the next phase by the Corps will be to 9.5ft-estimated completion November 2025 with funding via surplus via CPRA and NLLD funds). Closing, he provided a quick update on Ludvine Levee Improvements, that pump station was completed a while back but they are elevating the levee to about 6.5ft, and that's about 90% complete.



XI. Update on LA 1 Project: - *Henri Boulet, LA 1 Coalition (video:1:33:00)*

Mr. Boulet presented to the board a brief update on LA 1 Improvement Project-Phase II. The project is a 19 mile structure built in 4 phases totaling \$848M. 8.3 mile current construction spans from Golden Meadow inside the levee tie-in Hwy 3235 southward to Leeville. He stated that the completed elevated structure will provide a safer, inhibited access to Port Fourchon which services 100% of U.S. Oil & Gas deepwater production in the Gulf of America. The final phase is under construction by James Construction Group under a 1740-day contract which commenced in 2022 at a cost of \$463,653,152. The project is 75% complete and LA DOTD expects this final leg of Elevated LA 1 to open in the 3rd or 4th Quarter of 2027. Mr. Boulet highlighted that the LA 1 Coalition has advocated successfully through 5 Gubernatorial Administrations to address improving LA 1. In conclusion, Mr. Boulet informed the board that the project has significant funding partners through an Industry Match Funding approach that helped win a \$135M INFRA grant from USDOT. The industry match includes over \$40M in collective funding commitments from 22 private businesses, the Greater Lafourche Port Commission, Lafourche Parish Government, and the LA 1 Coalition as an NGO. The project also utilized \$150M from the BP Economic Damages Fund. The largest contributor to the \$848+million-dollar project remains the State of Louisiana followed by the U.S. Department of Transportation. He also thanked DOTD, USDOT, state legislative delegation, federal congressional delegation, and the 50+ members of the LA 1 Coalition that funded the projects advocacy efforts over the last 29 years.



XII. Ducks Unlimited Project Updates – *Cassidy Lejeune, Ducks Unlimited (video:1:47:18)*

Mr. Lejeune updated the board on DU's conservation project work in SE Louisiana. The update included a budget summary, noting that they have spent \$232M to date and \$21.6M of that was spent in FY26. He also noted a few projects that were recently completed: NSU Phase II Wetland Unit (nutrient reduction); Lake Hackberry Shoreline Protection (Bankline stabilization); Carenco Bayou Bankline Repairs Phase 1; and Caernarvon/Forty Arpent Canal Freshwater Delivery. Mr. Lejeune highlighted that DU couldn't deliver any of those projects alone and noted many of the partnership's (local, state, federal, corporations, foundations and nonprofits). Next, he updated on some ongoing projects, with six of them being



terracing projects in SE Louisiana, including a water control structure at Marsh Island Refuge. The Hwy 1 Terracing and Living Shoreline project that's located directly south of Golden Meadow (building Marsh Terraces to create habitat and coastal protection). The Raccourci Bay Terraces Phase II, where they are constructing 67,000 linear feet of terraces (spending approximately \$3M), the project kicked off late last year and will be in construction throughout 2026. In conclusion, Mr. Lejeune provided the members with a list of future funded projects ~\$26M (see slide below).

Budget Summary

- Began conservation work in mid-1980s in LA
- ~\$232M to date
- \$21.6M spent in FY26
- Avg. \$21.4 over past three years
- \$10M range as recently as 2010



Future Funded Projects (\$26M)

- Port Fourchon Phase II Terraces
- Bayou Chevreuil Hydrologic Restoration
- Golden Meadow Marsh Creation Phase II
- North Bayou L'Ours Ridge Terraces
- Delta NWR Crevasses
- Big Branch Marsh NWR Terraces
- Northeast Little Lake Terraces
- Carencro Bayou Bankline Repairs Phase II
- Marsh Island Refuge Southeast Unit
- Avoca Island Terraces
- Harry Bourg Corp. Terraces Phase II
- Chandeleur Island (funding from DU/NAWCA for CPRA)



XIII. Public Comment

XIV. Adjourn

Motion by: Mr. Alford

Seconded by: Unanimous 2nd