

IBERIA PARISH LEVEE, HURRICANE, AND CONSERVATION
DISTRICT MINUTES

DATE: Thursday, March 6, 2014

TIME: Six (6:00) O'Clock P.M.

ATTENDANCE: James Landry, James Stein, Ronald Gonsoulin,
Alfred "Todd" Landry, Frank Minvielle, Scott
Saunier and Ronald Hebert, Jr.

ABSENT: Benson Langlinois and Patrick Broussard.

OTHERS: Glen Ledet - Shaw, Randy Moertle, Jacques Cousin -
Legal Counsel, Mitch Andrus - Royal Engineers &
Consultants, LLC, and Representative Simone
Champagne.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- January 9, 2014
- February 6, 2014

A motion was made by Mr. James Stein, seconded by Mr. James Landry that the minutes of the January 9 and February 6, 2014 Iberia Parish Levee, Hurricane, and Conservation District meetings be approved.

And the motion was therefore passed on this 6th day of March, 2014.

IV. PERSONS TO ADDRESS

None.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED

A motion was made by Mr. James Stein, seconded by Mr. Frank Minvielle, that the Iberia Parish Levee, Hurricane, and Conservation District does hereby recess its Regular Session and convene into Public Hearing to receive public comments on business to be discussed.

And the motion was therefore passed on this 6th day of March, 2014.

Chairman Gonsoulin made comments in regards to the Daily Iberian article about the Levee District.

Upon discussing said article, it was requested that a letter be drafted to send to the Iberia Parish Council thanking them for their support to the District, as they have provided several avenues of support by donating funds and providing clerical services, to be reviewed on the next agenda.

Upon hearing no further comments, a motion was made by Mr. James Stein, seconded by Mr. Alfred "Todd" Landry, that the Iberia Parish Levee, Hurricane, and Conservation District does hereby recess its Public Hearing and reconvene into Regular Session.

And the motion was therefore passed on this 6th day of March, 2014.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Updates:

- Weeks Bay Project; and

Chairman Gonsoulin requested Mr. Mitch Andrus, Royal Engineers & Consultants, LLC make any necessary comments about Weeks Bay.

Mr. Mitch Andrus stated that the Weeks Bay Demonstration Project is scheduled to be complete tomorrow and further provided pictorial documentation for viewing of the project at Weeks Bay. He noted that each demonstration structure will be monitored for three years.

- Delcambre-Avery Canal Project, TV-57 and Capital Outlay Requests; and

Chairman Gonsoulin confirmed that a meeting has been set with Mr. James Lee on March 12th at 10:30 a.m. at Facility Planning and Control in Baton Rouge for the signing of the Capital Outlay agreement for funds to be used towards the Delcambre-Avery Canal Project, TV-57.

- The Conservation Task Force; and

No new information to report.

- The Task Force to meet with the Atchafalaya Levee District; and

Chairman Gonsoulin stated that he has made contact with Mr. Glenn Angelle and that members of the Iberia Levee District will have to meet with the Atchafalaya Levee District to form a working relationship.

- The creation of a bank account; and

Chairman Gonsoulin stated he met with Ms. Christie Dunn, CPA for Iberia Parish Government who provided a memo outlining rules and regulations which the District will need to abide by, should a checking account be established. He then stated that he requested her to handle the financial duties for the District, as he was informed that Mr. Singleton currently confides in Ms. Dunn's firm for advice with governmental accounts.

Upon discussing the setup of said bank account, Mr. James Stein stated they are working on obtaining operational funding from CPRA and from the Iberia Parish Council so that a director can be hired and an office can be established. He explained that if they are able to hire a director they would be able to proceed with all the rules and regulations so that the Board members would not be involved with the day to day operations of running a checking account, etc. He further explained that discussions will be held on Wednesday with CPRA in regards to possible funding donations of approximately \$50,000 - \$100,000.

Chairman Gonsoulin confirmed that a letter has been drafted to send to CPRA with a request of \$150,000 of operational funds.

Mr. Scott Saunier suggested that all said business be researched and organized prior to the setup of a banking account.

Mr. Stein also expressed his concerns for the possibility of losing Capital Outlay funds, being that the first allocation of funding has yet to be used.

- The execution of Royal Engineers & Consultants, LLC Contract.

Chairman Gonsoulin stated that Mr. Cousin has received a response from State officials on questions he had in regards to said contract. Mr. Cousin and Royal Engineers & Consultants, LLC officials met to further discuss details of the contract and will execute said contract as soon as possible.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Prior to approving said invoice, Mr. James Stein stated that the Districts funds are running low and the remaining available funds are dedicated to certain expenses.

Upon discussing the lack of funds, Mr. Scott Saunier commented with no money available the District should refrain from hiring anyone. Mr. Stein then explained that if the District were able to obtain said operating funds, the District would then be able to hire a leader to take on day to day operations eliminating most issues.

Mr. Frank Minvielle exited the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. James Stein then questioned what the wishes of the District are after this payment to Berard, Habetz, and Associates, being that there is a lack of funding.

Chairman Gonsoulin then stated that the previous motion to initiate a checking account and direction to contact Mr. Singelton might need to be amended to elect Ms. Dunn to handle such financial endeavors of the District.

It was then suggested that a motion be made to discuss amending Resolution No. 2014-03.

A motion was made by Mr. Alfred "Todd" Landry, seconded by Mr. James Stein, in order that there be a discussion on the possibility of amending Resolution No. 2014-03 which authorizes the Chairman to select a bank, open a checking account, and further authorizes the Chairman and Vice Chairman to sign said checks, with a third person authorized to sign said checks in the event of the absence of one authorized signature.

And the motion was therefore passed on this 6th day of March, 2014.

Chairman Gonsoulin commented that they will have to engage someone just to open an account, as a governmental account is different from the private industry.

Mr. Saunier suggested that all remain as is, until the District receives confirmation that funding will be donated for operations.

It was then stressed that the initial allocation of Capital Outlay funding has yet to be expended, and should be of high priority so that the funds are not rerouted to another project or entity. It was stated that a checking account should be established so that all proper avenues be set in place for said expenditures. Representative Champagne advised that she will keep a close watch on the Capital Outlay funds as the normal expiration of expending

said funds is two years. She further advised that State officials are aware of the Districts circumstances and will most likely not reroute the funding. Mr. James Stein stated that the real issue is that the initial allocation of \$250,000 has yet to be spent, reducing the likelihood of receiving the second and third round of requested Capital Outlay funding.

Upon questioning, it was explained that the \$250,000 of Capital Outlay funds is planned to be expended towards the Delcambre-Avery Canal Project to be engineered by Royal Engineers & Consultants, LLC. Chairman Gonsoulin then explained that the funds have yet to be spent because they have just begun the process of engaging Royal Engineers & Consultants, LLC as a contracted engineering firm for the District and further that the contract is still in the process of being reviewed.

Mr. Stein added that they would like to keep the \$25,000 from the Port of Iberia to pay Royal Engineers & Consultants, LLC and seek reimbursement from Capital Outlay.

Upon discussing who would assist the District with its financial matters, it was clarified that Mr. Singleton had offered a public service to the District at no charge by assisting with said financial matters. It was agreed that no action should be taken regarding Mr. Singleton's offered assistance and that he could possibly assist the District in the near future.

With further discussions, Mr. Stein stated, after Wednesday's meeting it is hoped to be that the District will have an answer if they will be receiving operating funds from CPRA, which will then allow the District to move in whatever direction desired.

No action taken upon said discussion.

- A. Approval of Invoice #214056 to Berard, Habetz, and Associates in the total amount of \$1,287.50.

A motion was made by Mr. Scott Saunier, seconded by Mr. Ronald Hebert, Jr. approving Invoice #214056 to Berard, Habetz, and Associates in the total amount of \$1,287.50. (Resolution No. 2014-06)

And the motion was therefore passed on this 6th day of March, 2014.

A motion was made by Mr. Scott Saunier, that the District discuss further doings of this type with anyone until the District knows what can be spent.

Chairman Gonsoulin stated that he will contact Mr. Marc Berard and ask him to hold any further invoices until they can figure out the next steps.

Mr. James Stein stated that there is a solution to this issue, by having Berard, Habetz, and Associates contracted through Royal Engineers and Consultants, being paid through the grant.

Mr. Ronald Hebert, Jr. exited the meeting at 6:54 p.m.

It was stated that an Executive Task Force will meet after Wednesday's meeting in order that a plan be presented at the next meeting in regards to said financial matters.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS

Representative Simone Champagne stated that she will try to join the meeting to be held at Facility Planning and Control on Wednesday.

IX. PLANS FOR NEXT MEETING

- April 3, 2014

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Scott Saunier, seconded by Mr. James Stein, that the District does hereby adjourn.

All members present voted affirmatively and the motion carried unanimously.

I hereby certify the fore going to be exact and true:

Ronald Gonsoulin, Chairman

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