

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. MARY LEVEE DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING

AUGUST 8, 2019
FRANKLIN, LOUISIANA

The St. Mary Levee District (“SMLD”) met on this date with President William Hidalgo, Sr., presiding and the following board members present: J.P. Hebert, Norris Crappell, Kenny Arceneaux, Will Terry, James Vidos, Alton Broussard, Barry Broussard and with Luther Smith absent.

Also present: Tim Matte, St. Mary Levee District Executive Director; Michael Brocato, Operations Manager of St. Mary Levee District; Gerard Bourgeois; Jeff Pena and Nicole Cutforth, APTIM; Reid Miller, Miller Engineers; Kevin O’Gorman and Thomas Naquin, T. Baker Smith; Jerry Carroll, CPRA; Chad Gianfala, St. Mary Parish Drainage District No. 1; and members of the public.

Mr. B. Broussard moved to dispense with the reading and to approve the July 11 regular meeting minutes. After a second by Mr. Crappell, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. B. Broussard presented the payables report, which Mr. Crappell moved to approve. Following Mr. Terry’s second, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Matte presented the Statement of Revenues by sources and Summary of Expenditures of the St. Mary Levee District.

Mr. Chad Gianfala with the Drainage District No. 1 spoke about the issues that arose with Hurricane Barry near the Metal Shark road and Industrial Road. Mr. Gianfala asked SMLD if a meeting with the people of west of Charenton Canal is scheduled.

Mr. Scott Nesbit with Avoca LLC is requested gauge data from the gauges that were in place on Avoca Island and gauges on the barge. Mr. Nesbit also requested to be notified when crews begin the construction to restore Avoca Island.

Reid Miller of Miller Engineers reported the contractor is still 60% complete on the Bayou Choupique project due to the weather. Mr. Miller stated that the contractor is currently working on the internal drainage and is approximately 75% complete with the levee raising it to a +8 elevation.

Mr. Tim Matte reported that a meeting has been scheduled for the public to discuss the Levees West of Charenton, the meeting will be held the 21st of August at the Baldwin Civic Center. Mr. Matte reported that a meeting notice will be published in the Banner and meeting notices have been mailed out to the landowners in the area. Mr. Matte stated the existing plans will be discussed at the meeting including those that are in the CPRA Master Plan. Mr. Matte reported that the USACOE is conducting a feasibility level study. Mr. Matte also reported that post Hurricane Barry SMLD contacted Mr. Miller’s office to gather high water marks in the Charenton area.

Mr. Miller reported that the 10 foot elevation on the Yokely Levee has been completed. Mr. Miller also reported that the contractor will be seeding and fertilizing Wednesday.

Mr. Miller reported the parish will quote out the installation of the limestone on top of the Yokely Levee Extension. Mr. Miller stated that his office sent a packet to the parish to be sent out. Mr. Miller also stated construction should begin in the next 30 days.

Kevin O’Gorman with T. Baker Smith reported that his office has submitted 60% design plans for the new Morgan City pump station for pricing by the contractor. Mr. O’Gorman stated his office will have a conference call to review any comments should they have any. Mr. O’Gorman reported that his office should receive pricing by the end of the month and Drainage District No. 2 will be able to make a decision to accept the price and proceed with construction or put the project out for bid.

Jeff Pena with APTIM reported his office has received all permits from the USACOE for the Bayou Chene Project. Mr. Pena stated that 50% design for Phase 2-4, which is the floodwall, 400' gate, Avoca Road, and Tabor Canal, was submitted in May and the CPRA comments have been incorporated into the final design which is scheduled to be completed and submitted in November and to begin the bidding process December 2019 or January 2020. Mr. Pena also reported Phase 1A, clearing and grubbing, has been put out for bid and is on the agenda to be awarded to the lowest bidder tonight. Mr. Pena also stated that Phase 1B, dredging, will be advertised for bid next Wednesday. Mr. Pena reported that his office continues to work with the attorneys on the ROW acquisitions for all of the affected landowners.

Mr. Pena reported the Bayou Chene Emergency Structure is holding back approximately 8 inches of water at this time; the max water difference was approximately 54 inches. Mr. Pena stated that Wildlife and Fisheries continues their 24 hour security services. Mr. Pena reported the removal of the emergency structure is on the agenda to be awarded tonight. Mr. Pena stated the proposed start date will be August 20 and removal is to be completed by September 19.

Mr. Pena reported all permitting is in place for the Bayou Teche project. Mr. Pena stated that the ROW coordination is still ongoing and the attorneys are proceeding with the ROW acquisitions for all the affected landowners. Mr. Pena also reported that the 100% design has been submitted on July 9th to DOTD; once comments are received and addressed the project will go out for bid. Mr. Pena stated that there would be a possible award in September.

Mr. Matte reported that the North Bend Phase B USACOE project is 62% complete.

Mr. Matte reported that the Atchafalaya River has crested at 8.7 and has dropped below 6' elevation. Mr. Matte stated that the gates have been opened or are being opened in both Berwick and Morgan City. Mr. Matte reported that SMLD has noticed some floodwalls and gate seals that are leaking; USACOE will be inspecting them alongside Mr. Brocato. In regards to Hurricane Barry, Mr. Matte also reported some issues were experienced at sites of two of our future projects, Yokely Levee Extension and Bayou Teche projects. Mr. Matte stated the US Coast Guard was able to check the Bayou Chene emergency structure and noted Tabor Canal was over topped in some areas and some areas on Avoca.

Mr. Hebert moved to award the contract for Bayou Chene Flood Protection project Phase 1A, cleaning and grubbing, to Patriot Construction for \$464,073.00. After a second by Mr. A. Broussard, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Arceneaux moved to authorize the advertisement of Bayou Chene Flood Protection project Phase 1B, dredging, for bid. After a second by Mr. B. Broussard the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Matte reported SMLD is working on the plans for the removal for the Avoca Emergency measures and to restore the road.

Mr. Crappell moved to award the contract for removal of the Bayou Chene Emergency Structure to Sealevel for \$1,214,606.00. After a second by Mr. Terry the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. B. Broussard moved to authorize the purchase of new access controls for SMLD office doors. After a second by Mr. Terry the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Hebert moved to authorize restoration of area around Industrial Road near the Charenton Canal due to recent flood fighting measures. After a second by Mr. Arceneaux the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Terry moved to authorize Mr. Hidalgo to sign the Easement document and related consents between the USACOE and SMLD for land near the Bayou Teche Flood Protection project and to authorize advertisement for the project upon the approval by DOTD. After a second by Mr. Arceneaux the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Arceneaux moved to authorize the selection of the official journal to the Daily Review for SMLD. After a second by Mr. Crappell the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. B. Broussard moved to authorize Mr. Hidalgo to sign Amendment 1 to Task Order 9 by APTIM for the Bayou Chene Flood Control Structure in the amount of \$677,074.03. After a second by Mr. A. Broussard the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Crappell moved not to pay an invoice from Baldone Offshore via Sealevel for the moving and storing of MV Gulf Justice. After a second by Mr. B. Broussard the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Hebert moved to expand the agenda to add two items, ROE in Amelia to clean up old flood fighting measures and to store the sheet pile from the Bayou Chene Emergency structure at an alternative location. After a second by Mr. Crappell the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Arceneaux moved to authorize Mr. Hidalgo to sign ROE agreements and to assign them as necessary to the St. Mary Parish Government and to Gravity DD No. 6 if requested. After a second by Mr. Hebert the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Terry moved to authorize Mr. Hidalgo to execute an amendment to the storage lease with Aucoin Land Company to the alternative leased property as described. After a second by Mr. A. Broussard the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Hidalgo asked for further comments and did not receive any. Mr. Terry moved for adjournment, which was seconded by Mr. Crappell and carried unanimously.

Attest:

Barry A. Broussard, Secretary
St. Mary Levee District