

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
ST. MARY LEVEE DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING

DECEMBER 11, 2015  
MORGAN CITY, LOUISIANA

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

Also present: Tim Matte, St. Mary Levee District Executive Director; Michael Brocato, Operations Manager of St. Mary Levee District; William Bourgeois, SMLD Attorney; Jeff Pena and Nicole Cutforth, CB&I Co.; Patrick Landry, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority; Reid Miller, Miller Engineers; Kevin O’Gorman, T. Baker Smith; and, members of the public and media.

Mr. Terry moved to dispense with the reading and to approve the November 12 regular meeting minutes. After a second by Mr. Crappell, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Broussard presented the payables report, which Mr. Vidos moved to approve. Following Mr. Smith’s second, the motion carried unanimously.

Reid Miller of Miller Engineers reported his office was still working on the right-of-ways on the properties along the Bayou Choupique levees.

CB&I’s Jeff Pena reported punch list item for the Franklin Canal Pump Station are being completed.

Mr. Miller reported Hanson Canal Yellow Bayou projects are both close to being completed. Mr. Miller reported the contractors started the pumps earlier today.

Kevin O’Gorman with T. Baker Smith reported his office has started advertisement on December 4 for Siracusaville section of the Morgan City Levee Improvements Project and will start taking bids on January 12. Mr. O’Gorman reported his office is continuing to move forward with Final Design for the Lake End Park to Justa Street portion. Mr. O’Gorman stated a meeting with CPRA was held to discuss engineering comments on the geotech report. Most of the comments were minor and require little analysis. Mr. O’Gorman reported that his office is currently waiting for the mitigation letter from the USACOE. Mr. O’Gorman stated the LA 70 portion went on DNR public notice on October 27. Mr. O’Gorman reported his office has received the DNR permit today.

Mr. Pena reported the DNR permit for the Bayou Chene project has been received. Mr. Pena stated the USACOE is waiting on engineering division to finalize their part of the process and once that is complete they will be submitting it up to division for approval.

Mr. Pena reported his office received additional comments from DNR on the Bayou Teche project, which required additional modeling. Mr. Pena stated an additional response has been submitted.

Mr. Matte reported SMLD has submitted all survey work on the southern reach of the Wax Lake East Levees to USACOE to complete the process of certifying Wax Lake East Levee for flood protection which would help avoid home owners’ insurance premiums to increase.

Mr. Matte reported on Tuesday November 17 the floodgate at Franklin Canal had to be operated again due to weather. Also reported by Mr. Matte was the quarterly inspections have been completed with both Morgan City and Berwick Federal levees and floodwalls included in those inspections. Mr. Matte stated efforts on updating the Master Plan are still ongoing.

Mr. Broussard moved to enter into Executive Session to discuss the pending litigation filed by Avoca Inc. Following a second by Mr. Hebert, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Terry moved to enter back into regular session, which was second by Mr. Broussard.

Mr. Matte discussed the amended budget for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2015 and the proposed budget for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2016. Mr. Hidalgo invited public comment.

Mr. Terry motioned to adopt the district's amended budget for FY 2015 and to adopt the FY 2016 budget, which was followed by Mr. Hebert's second, it carried unanimously.

Mr. Bourgeois reported Avoca Inc. has filed a petition for review against Louisiana Department of Natural Resources for granting the permit to St. Mary Levee District for the Bayou Chene project. Mr. Hebert motioned to authorize Mr. Hidalgo to file an Intervention in the matter of Avoca, Inc. vs. State Louisiana, Department of Natural Resources on behalf of the St. Mary Levee District. After a second by Mr. Crappell, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Matte stated the district received a letter from City of Morgan City requesting funding for a tractor for maintenance. Mr. Arceneaux motioned to allow Mr. Matte to negotiate a rate to be paid for operations and maintenance of the levee system versus providing the funding as requested by the City.

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:

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Barry A. Broussard, Secretary  
St. Mary Levee District