

October 16, 2023

A regular public meeting of the Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District was held on Monday, October 16, 2023 at 5:00p.m. at the Water District office, 1016 St. Mary Street, Thibodaux, LA

Present were: Hugh Caffery, Chairman Gene Harrell, Vice-Chairman
Greg Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer Francis Richard
Ray Mayet Barry Soudelier
Joe Boudreaux Ernie Blanchard

Absent were: Lance Authement; Jake Giardina; Dale Dennis; Chris Domangue

Also present were: Henry & Hattie Templet; Kevin Beyer, Intracoastal; Beau Barbera, High Tide
Kevin Rizzo, Delta Coast; Jake Stahl; Josh Bordelon; Heather Armstrong
Barry Marionneaux, Attorney; Dustin Rabalais, Executive Director

Chairman Hugh Caffery began the meeting at 5:10 p.m.

Mr. Caffery stated that public comments can be made at any time in the meeting prior to action on any agenda item upon which a vote is to be taken.

Moved by Commissioner Ray Mayet, seconded by Commissioner Francis Richard to approve the minutes of September 18, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Ray Mayet, seconded by Commissioner Barry Soudelier to approve the accounts payable report. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Francis Richard, seconded by Commissioner Ernie Blanchard to approve the finance report. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rabalais reported that all 4 pumps are up and running.

Mr. Rabalais reported that the Bayou operations are normal.

Mr. Beau Barbera, High Tide Consultants, gave a presentation on the updates to the Melodia Boat Launch.

Mr. Kevin Rizzo, Delta Coast Consultants, gave a presentation on the updates to the Pump Capacity Improvements Project (PCIP).

Mr. Rabalais gave an update on the Phase 3 Permitting.

Mr. Rabalais announced and read aloud the Notice of Public Hearing to be held November 20, 2023 to adopt the proposed 2024 general fund budget, and proposed 2024 Pump Capacity Improvements Project budget.

Chairman Caffery asked for a Budget Committee to convene to review the budget to present to the full-board in November.

Mr. Rabalais reviewed the 2024 proposed budget summaries.

Mr. Rabalais discussed the group health premium increases for 2024.

Mr. Rabalais gave an update on Friends of Bayou Lafourche and the search for a new Director.

Mr. Rabalais discussed and asked for a motion to authorize himself to sign, execute, and deliver all legal counsel reviewed documents relevant to a contract for professional services with Intracoastal Consultants for the procurement of project story boards and government solicitations, not to exceed \$15,000.00.

Moved by Commissioner Francis Richard, seconded by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell to authorize Mr. Rabalais to sign, execute, and deliver all legal counsel reviewed documents relevant to a contract for professional services with Intracoastal Consultants for the procurement of project story boards and government solicitations, not to exceed \$15,000.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rabalais discussed and asked for a motion to authorize himself to sign, execute, and deliver all legal counsel reviewed documents relevant to a contract for professional services with High Tide Consultants for the Melodia Boat Launch Project, not to exceed \$25,000.00.

Moved by Commissioner Barry Soudelier, seconded by Commissioner Joe Boudreaux to authorize Mr. Rabalais to sign, execute, and deliver all legal counsel reviewed documents relevant to a contract for professional services with High Tide Consultants for the Melodia Boat Launch Project, not to exceed \$25,000.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rabalais discussed and asked for a motion to authorize himself to sign, execute, and deliver all legal counsel reviewed documents relevant to a contract for grant writing services with CSRS for NOAA grant to improve water quality.

Chairman Caffery discussed current contract with CSRS and instructed Executive Director to issue new task order under existing contract.

Amend agenda to change item i. to utilize the current contract with CSRS for grant writing services. No further action taken.

Moved by Commissioner Ernie, seconded by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell to amend the agenda to change item i. to utilize the current contract with CSRS for grant writing services. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rabalais discussed and asked for a motion to authorize himself to sign, execute, and deliver all legal counsel reviewed documents relevant to a contract for employee recruiting services with RPI Talent & Recruiting for a new FOBL Director.

Motion made by Commissioner Joe Boudreaux, seconded by Commissioner Barry Soudelier to open it up for discussion and to authorize Dustin Rabalais to sign, execute, and deliver all legal counsel reviewed documents relevant to a contract for employee recruiting services with RPI Talent & Recruiting for a new FOBL Director. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Joe Boudreaux proposed candidate recommendations from the Board before proceeding with recruiting services.

Mr. Rabalais discussed and asked for a motion to authorize himself to sign, execute, and deliver all pending legal counsel reviewed documents relevant to a Master Service Agreement for professional services with FTN Associates, not to exceed \$15,000.00.

Moved by Commissioner Francis Richard, seconded by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell to authorize Dustin Rabalais to sign, execute, and deliver all pending legal counsel reviewed documents relevant to a Master Service Agreement for professional services with FTN Associates, not to exceed \$15,000.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rabalais discussed and asked for a motion to authorize himself to advertise for Architecture and/or Engineering Services pool for man-made or natural disasters and federally funded projects as required.

Moved by Commissioner Joe Boudreaux, seconded by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell to authorize Dustin Rabalais to advertise for Architecture and/or Engineering Services pool for man-made or natural disasters and federally funded projects as required. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rabalais discussed and asked for a motion to authorize himself to sign, execute, and deliver all pending legal counsel reviewed documents for the purchase of the property located at 1006 St. Mary Street, Thibodaux LA.

Moved by Commissioner Ernie Blanchard, seconded by Commissioner Francis Richard to authorize Mr. Rabalais to sign, execute, and deliver all pending legal counsel reviewed documents for the purchase of the property located at 1006 St. Mary Street, Thibodaux LA. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rabalais discussed and asked for a motion to authorize himself to negotiate, sign, execute, award, and deliver all pending legal counsel reviewed documents relevant for Disaster Recovery CDBG Administrative Consulting Services to La Terre Engineering, LLC for Disaster Recovery (Donaldsonville Drainage Improvements Project), not to exceed \$50,000.00.

Moved by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell, seconded by Commissioner Barry Soudelier to authorize Dustin Rabalais to negotiate, sign, execute, award, and deliver all pending legal counsel reviewed documents relevant for Disaster Recovery CDBG Administrative Consulting Services to La Terre Engineering, LLC for Disaster Recovery (Donaldsonville Drainage Improvements Project), not to exceed \$50,000.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rabalais gave his Executive Director's Report.

Chairman Hugh Caffery asked for any public comments. There were none.

Moved by Commissioner Ray Mayet, seconded by Commissioner Ernie Blanchard to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Hugh Caffery, Chairman

Greg Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer