

June 17, 2013

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District was held on Monday, June 17, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. at the Water District office, 1016 St. Mary Street, Thibodaux, LA

Present were: Hugh Caffery, Chairman
Gene Harrell, Vice-Chairman
Gregory Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer

Ron Animashaun
Windell Curole
Larry Dugas

Absent: Jake Giardina and Francis Richard

Also present were: Jimmy Ledet and Dustin Rabalais, T. Baker Smith; Jerry Waguespack; Nick Porto
Tia Barbera, CPA, Waguespack & Gallagher; Bruno Deleo; Stacy Sagona
Robert Thibodaux; Robert Mire; Brandon Arceneaux, David Waitz Engineering
Ben Malbrough, Executive Director; Jana Langley, Administrative Assistant

Ms. Tia Barbera, CPA, reviewed the 2012 fiscal year-end audit. Ms. Barbera advised that it was a very good audit again with the exception of a finding regarding the dredge project budget amendment, and dredge project budget publication. The dredge project budget was out because of the receivable that was in there the year before.

Commissioner Larry Dugas asked about the 73% decline in revenues. Ms. Barbera answered that the dredge project was in full force so the total cost of all expenses decreased approximately six million dollars or 73% due to expenditures made for the dredge project in the prior year.

Mr. Jimmy Ledet, T. Baker Smith, gave an update on the Study and Report Phase of the Bayou Lafourche, Phase 2 Dredge Project as follows:

- ◆ They are studying the HEC-RAS modeling using calibrated pump test HEC-RAS as a basis for new modeling, and should have some results real soon. Two different locations to be dredged will be either north near Belle Rose or south near the Thibodaux weir.
- ◆ They are looking at 1000cfs and 350cfs, weir in or out, railroad culverts opened, and varying tail water conditions.
- ◆ They are also factoring in the amount of bulkhead work needed, and utilities. There are more utilities in the 4 mile section as compared to the 9 mile section.
- ◆ Dustin has been working with GSE on the “beneficial use of dredged material” to see if that process is applicable to this project.
- ◆ The 4 mile reach on the Belle Rose side will include taking out the plug.

Commissioner Larry Dugas asked if the dirt that is on the side of the levee in Donaldsonville by the railroad track came out of the sand pit. Mr. Malbrough answered that is the material that was removed from the culvert, and immediately adjacent on the south side of the railroad track.

Commissioner Dugas asked Ben if he could see a difference with the flow now that the culverts are cleaned out, and he answered that we can see a small difference now. We are pumping steady around 300cfs and keeping the water in Donaldsonville around 8½ ft.

Mr. Robert Thibodaux asked why it is 4 to 5 miles in Belle Rose as compared to 9 miles in Thibodaux for the two alternatives for the dredge project. Chairman Caffery answered that we adhere to the design made by CH2MHill in 2006, and Phase 2 was designed back then. Chairman Caffery stated that it

is just preliminary based on the design that was in place. T. Baker Smith will present their recommendation after their study is complete.

Moved by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell, seconded by Commissioner Ron Animashaun to dispense with the reading of minutes, and approve the minutes of May20, 2013. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Larry Dugas, seconded by Commissioner Ron Animashaun to approve the accounts payable for May. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Malbrough advised that the harvesters are back in the bayou cutting grass. The pump station is rolling as normal. There will be an update meeting Thursday morning on the pump rehab project.

Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell asked if we starting receiving any reimbursements for any legal fees from the State. Mr. Malbrough answered no but just this afternoon Barry sent an e-mail to the attorneys at CPRA once again requesting reimbursement.

Moved by Commissioner Ron Animashaun, seconded by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell to approve the finance report. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Malbrough reported on the following:

- ◆ He showed before and after pictures of the cleanout of the culverts at the railroad track in Donaldsonville. He is meeting tomorrow with George Rodeillat with Ascension Parish to see if we can come to an agreement as to what to do with the material.
- ◆ The sediment trap survey results have been received from Acadia Land Surveying, and advised that it is time to dredge it. There is at least a foot and in some areas two to three feet of sediment deposits. The O & M manual recommends dredging after one foot of deposits. There is a total of approximately 15,000 cubic yards to be dredge.
- ◆ He made a recommendation to move forward to bringing on a consultant to put together the plans and specifications in order to bid this job out to dredge the sediment trap.

Moved by Commissioner Windell Curole, seconded by Ron Animashaun and unanimously approved to authorize Hugh Caffery and Ben Malbrough to negotiate a contract with an engineering firm to prepare the plans and specifications to publicly bid the dredging of the sediment trap in Donaldsonville.

Chairman Caffery asked what engineer we would use, and Mr. Malbrough stated that we could talk to a few to see who could give us the best product for the best price. Mr. Malbrough stated that it is not extremely complicated because the surveying work is done. It is just a matter of putting together the contract documents, and some dredging specifications.

Brandon Arceneaux, David Waitz Engineers, advised that they have a project with Lafourche Parish to address the Dugas Canal drainage structure. They would like to either renovate or abandon the structure and remove all liability associated with it, and put an earthen plug. He distributed a map to the Board showing the area of the Dugas Canal structure, and asked for the District's views on the structure. A discussion was held regarding the Dugs Canal structure, and locations of the two proposed pump stations shown on the map.

Moved by Commissioner Windell Curole, seconded by Commissioner Ron Animashaun and unanimously approved to give up ownership of the Dugas Canal structure to Lafourche Parish, and remove the

District from all future liability related to the structure. The District will prepare an Act of Donation to Lafourche Parish for the Dugas Canal structure.

Mr. Malbrough advised now that we have donated the Company Canal saltwater control structure to Lafourche Parish to put into Bayou Lafourche we are thinking whether or not we could use not only that structure as saltwater intrusion structure but maybe to act as some sort of weir structure. We are thinking ahead of time now that the designers and engineers are working on designing the receiving structure for the barge. We want them to take into consideration the possibility, in the future, of having to close the structure, sink it, and not allow any flow through.

Mr. Malbrough stated that as of right now the only change that they see is increasing the size of the pin on the barge that hooks into the receiving structure. The only other change is to make sure the sluice gates can handle flow in both directions. There may be some incremental cost to us but it is very beneficial for us to look at doing that.

Commissioner Greg Nolan stated that he got a call from someone concerned about the District website. Mr. Malbrough advised that tomorrow he is meeting with a web designer to look at updating our website and making it more users friendly. We need to include a wealth of information on permitting.

Chairman Caffery advised that he talked to Al Badeaux, Consolidated Waterworks District Chairman, and Mr. Badeaux stated that Terrebonne Parish hasn't submitted their recommendations yet for the four members. Mr. Malbrough advised that he got word today that they will have the list submitted to the governor by the end of the month.

Mr. Malbrough advised that the District has to discuss the Terrebonne Parish millage rate for the tax year 2013. Ms. Langley explained that the District needs to adopt the Resolution in order for us to receive Terrebonne Parish's ad valorem taxes next year.

Chairman Hugh Caffery read the Resolution for the Terrebonne Parish millage rate of 2.11 mills for tax year 2013. Chairman Caffery asked for any public comments on the millage rate, and there were no comments.

Moved by Commissioner Ron Animashaun, seconded by Commissioner Windell Curole and unanimously approved to adopt the Resolution for the Terrebonne Parish millage rate of 2.11 mills for the tax year 2013.

Mr. Bruno Deleo stated that someone called him and said they went to launch their boat at the landing in Donaldsonville yesterday, and some people were having a party out there. Mr. Malbrough stated that he will talk to our attorney tomorrow about it and find out what our liability is at the boat launch.

The Executive Session to discuss litigations was tabled because of no further updates at this time.

Moved by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell, seconded by Commissioner Larry Dugas and unanimously approved the meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Hugh Caffery, Chairman

Gregory Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer

