

June 20, 2011

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District was held on Monday, June 20, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. at the Water District office, 1016 St. Mary Street, Thibodaux, LA

Present were:	Hugh Caffery, Chairman	Donald Arceneaux
	Gene Harrell, Vice-Chairman	Dr. Darby Chiasson
	Robert Thibodaux, Secretary/Treasurer	Jake Giardina
	Ron Animashaun	Larry Dugas

Absent: None

Also present were: Lee Showalter, CH2MHill; Shannon Haynes, Robert Routon, Earl Paddock, OCPR
Tim Harper, OCPR; Matt Ledet, T. Baker Smith; Alma Robichaux, BTNEP
Tia Barbera, CPA, Waguespack & Gallagher; Dan Mahnke, Robert Lee, FMC
Bruno Deleo; Nick Porto; Jerry Waguespack; Stacy Sagona; Robert Mire
Archie Chaisson, Jr., Director; Jana Langley, Administrative Coordinator

Tia Barbera, CPA, Waguespack & Gallagher, reviewed the 2010 fiscal year-end audit report. Ms. Barbera advised that the audit did not have any type of serious problems that would need to be reported to the legislative auditor. There was a finding regarding the dredge project budget amendment due to the fact that it was next to impossible to anticipate the timing of the revenues received from the State.

On motion by Commissioner Jake Giardina, seconded by Commissioner Larry Dugas and unanimously approved to accept the 2010 fiscal year-end audit report. Ms. Barbera stated that she will be more descriptive in the wording of the finding in the audit report regarding the dredge project budget amendment, and will deliver the revised copy to the office.

Tim Harper, OCPR Project Manager, advised that the Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration has been allocated monies for the Gustav/Ike Coastal Community Development Block Grant . He stated that funding in the amount of \$2.9 million is available for the Bayou Lafourche Lemann Pump Station renovations. The application was approved for two pumps, two motors, and install a backup generator. He stated that no construction money can be spent on that until they have an environmental clearance from OCB. They are now verifying contractor eligibility to use to develop the engineering and design plans. They are looking at using CH2MHill because they already have done previous work with the pump station.

Chairman Hugh Caffery asked Mr. Harper what kind of latitude we have with these funds to spend monies that are not only to replace pumps and motors and put a generator. Mr. Harper answered that since the application was approved just for the pumps, motors, and generator, we don't have much latitude for movement. He stated that we could go back and resubmit another application, and go through the whole process but that will draw it out a lot longer. Chairman Caffery asked if it could be an improvement to the pump

station, such as the pumping capacity during emergency conditions. Mr. Harper answered that it could fit into it but we would still have to amend the application. He stated that it would be dealing with the same issues.

Commissioner Jake Giardina stressed that he feels we need maximum flexibility if possible. The problem in the bayou after the hurricane which generated all of this interest to get things done was because the pump station couldn't pump up to capacity not because of the physical impairment of the pump station but because of the down bayou affect in the town of Donaldsonville. If we would have let all four pumps go we would have had problems because we couldn't get the flow down the bayou. The four pumps during this crucial period was not the deciding factor. The limiting factor was the flow of water down the bayou. We have to look at where the money would be spent to get the best return out of it should we get another occurrence.

Lee Showalter, CH2MHill, gave a progress report on the dredge project:

- Reaches 1 & 2 – 100%; Reach 3 – 98.9%; Reach 4 – 93.9%; Reach 5 – 99%
- Reach 6-Total # of dredged yardage removed 8,025
- Total approximate # of dredged yardage removed -402,163
- Stump Removal – Reaches 1-6 Complete
- Relo/Demo – 30 of 40 planned structures - 95%. Remaining DP-1 and DP-36 (50% complete)
- Contractor has been given “issues log” of items to complete in Reaches 1,2,3,4,5.
- Substantial dredging in Reach 4 and Reach 5 has been completed.
- Hydroseeding continues throughout project limits.
- Dredging operations continue in Reach 5 and Reach 6
- Sanitary sewer line relocation proposal being reviewed by OCPR.

Mr. Showalter show several photos of where rip rap was placed due to property sloughing. Chairman Caffery asked if they are taking measurements of that sloughing, and Mr. Showalter answered yes. Mr. Showalter stated that they are checking it once a week.Mr. Showalter advised that there are 287 work days remaining. The project is 75% complete with 25% remaining.

Commissioner Jake Giardina asked if in any of these slippage points we have gone and physically looked at that soil to see if that wasn't something that was dumped in there that is causing that. Mr. Showalter stated that in several of the locations the soil is not good obviously. Commissioner Giardina asked if it was caused by somebody dumping something in there and Mr. Showalter answered yes. Commissioner Giardina asked how many they have checked, and Mr. Showalter answered that they check all of them.

Commissioner Robert Thibodaux asked about the progress on the sewer line, and Mr. Showalter answered that they are hopefully getting ready to get that in F. Miller's hands.

Commissioner Giardina stated that he thinks that samples could be collected from some of these areas to show that some of this could be due to foreign material where people have dumped stuff In the bayou. If we ever have a lawsuit that would be good evidence to have in our possession.

Mr. Bruno Deleo stated that he would like Mr. Giardina to know that when they bought the property they owned to the water's edge so if we hauled dirt on our property that was our property. Mr. Deleo told Mr. Giardina he could laugh all he wants.

Commissioner Larry Dugas wanted some clarification on the photo of the area that was sloughing, and asked if that property will be filled in. Mr. Showalter stated that they will wait until everything settles in that area and will evaluate it.

Ms. Stacy Sagona asked Mr. Giardina if he was asking if samples were taken to see what was dumped. Commissioner Giardina answered this is exactly what he was asking. Ms. Sagona stated that she wanted to know if he meant the dumping occurred after the project started or prior to being started. Commissioner Giardina stated at any time in its existence. Ms. Sagona advised if she is not mistaken they took core samples up and down the bayou. Mr. Showalter advised that they were taken at certain points but not on each lot.

Mr. Deleo stated that that the Fresh Water District dug the bayou twice. They came along and cut trees and laid them down and back filled. They dug from the Palo Alto Bridge to Donaldsonville twice. They created the boundaries of the bayou.

Moved by Commissioner Robert Thibodaux, seconded by Commissioner Dr. Darby Chiasson to dispense with the reading of the minutes, and approve the minutes May 16, 2011 and June 1, 2011. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Ron Animashaun, seconded by Commissioner Jake Giardina to approve the accounts payable for May. Commissioner Donald Arceneaux asked about the invoice for On Grade Construction. Mr. Chaisson answered that it was for the sealing of the Aucoin property. Chairman Caffery stated that we paid for it, and we will get repaid by the dredge project funds. Chairman Caffery stated that the back of the house was open and there was a discrepancy between the contractor and the subcontractor. On Grade Construction had stopped working and F. Miller was not paying them. It was work that was already approved and in the project. The Chairman asked for a vote on the accounts payable and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Caffery advised that there is a committee meeting scheduled Friday, May 24th at 9:00 a.m. at Ron Animashaun's office in Napoleonville to discuss the Director's contract. The committee members are Jake Giardina, Gene Harrell, Ron Animashaun and Hugh Caffery.

Chairman Caffery stated that the committee met at the pump station in Donaldsonville to discuss the new proposed pump station office building, and the committee deferred the decision for a new office building. The committee recommended putting a new roof on the building, fix the plumbing, and fix the wiring.

Mr. Chaisson advised that he received an estimate from Poirrier Construction Co. for \$13,589.00 to install a new pitch roof over the old roof at the pump station. Commissioner Jake Giardina advised to check to make sure the ventilation is properly screened to keep birds from nesting. Commissioner Giardina stated that we want to make sure we have galvanized purlins that are hot dipped and not just coated with paint.

Moved by Commissioner Robert Thibodaux, seconded by Commissioner Jake Giardina to authorize Piorrier Construction Company to install a new pitch roof at the pump station for an amount up to \$15,000. Commissioner Giardina asked what our limitations are for expenditures before we have to go out on bid. Mr.

Chaisson answered that we don't have to go out for bid on repair work. The Chairman asked for a vote on the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Chaisson advised that the hydrilla is extremely heavy between Thibodaux and Labadieville, and it is growing south down to Raceland. Commissioner Jake Giardina asked if we ever had anybody from the LSU aquatic department look at the hydrilla to see if there is any other solution. Mr. Chaisson stated that Dr. Lasseigne looked at it back in 2004. There is a chemical to use but because of the water plants we cannot use it. Mr. Chaisson advised that he will check with someone at LSU and BTNEP.

BAYOU OPERATIONS

Harvesters are cutting heavy hydrilla in the vicinity of Greenwood plantation and St. John Bridge. Second crew is working with the tree removal on the Hwy 308 in the area between Greenwood Plantation Road and the St. John Bridge.

TREE COUNT:No. Days worked: 14 MAY

Small (12" & under)	35	APRIL & MAY
Medium (13-20")	23	APRIL & MAY
Large (21" above)	4	APRIL & MAY

TOTALS

Small (12" & under)	203
Medium (13-20")	177
Large (21" above)	72

Area Completed Tiger St. Bridge to LA 3185 Bridge - both banks - 0.91 miles
LA 3185 to Greenwood Road - Hwy 308 bank- 1.45 miles

PUMP STATION:

Beginning month: 23.20; Ending Month: 31.37; Current Stage: 27.88

Pump Station:No. Days Siphon: 31; No. Days Pumping: 0

Station Maintenance: Ordered and Installed new Battery Back-Up for Office Computers. General maintenance, yard work, and painting.

Personnel Strength:Annual: One man36hrs, One nab12hrs, One man2hrs Comp.

Chairman Caffery advised that we need to have a special meeting to discuss Ordinance No. 5 sometime in July or early August.

Ms. Jana Langley advised that two CD's matured June 14th and she called banks for rates. The rates are still low at this time. She redeemed the CD's and deposited the money in the savings account. Moved by Commissioner Larry Dugas, seconded by Commissioner Jake Giardina to approve the finance report. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Chaisson advised that we advertised for a new employee for the pump station. We sent Jason Moreau for the employment physical, and he will start June 27th under probational appointment.

Mr. Chaisson stated that SOP for water level management for hurricanes is that we bring it down to the somewhere around 7 ft. to prepare for the rainfall. If it starts exceeding 8 ft. we start shutting down pumps. We do not come back on line until that water level in Donaldsonville is somewhere around 7 ½ ft.

Mr. Chaisson reported that the Tiger Street Bridge will be closed Wednesday through Friday. The City of Thibodaux is replacing the pile supports under their water line. Mr. Chaisson informed the Board that he will schedule three days annual leave from July 5-7.

Mr. Matt Ledet, T. Baker Smith, gave a power point presentation of the GPS equipment available that the District may be interested in purchasing to use to stake property lines using the water lines furnished by CH2MHill. Mr. Ledet reviewed the cost of the equipment which is \$28,000, and the yearly subscription is \$3500 or \$5000. Mr. Ledet advised that you cannot get a GPS reading underneath the trees.

Mr. Chaisson advised that the equipment is covered by state contract for \$26,016. If we purchase it through state contract, we would not have to go out for bids. The other part will be to subscribe to LSU's Gulf Net system for \$3,500 /year. We can secure the equipment to startup for \$29,000. The Board discussed the cost of purchasing the GPS equipment versus having a professional land surveyor to stake the property, and recommended that Matt Ledet provide us with a price range

Mr. Earl Paddock, OCPR, advised as the dredge project is winding down to a close and they are reevaluating the project budget. They are trying to maintain that budget and will keep the Board informed.

Mr. Chaisson asked about the \$33 million grant money. Mr. Robert Routon advised that the state is four years into the grant process along with many of the parishes. The state is evaluating some of the projects that were previously budgeted. Bayou Lafourche is one of several projects that could be a viable candidate.

Mr. Bruno Deleo stated that the flow of the bayou has slowed down. Commissioner Jake Giardina stated that we are siphoning a wee bit less than two pumps. Before the bayou was dredged, your cross section area is only a small amount. Now it is dredged but the problem is that we are still putting out the same amount of water. The cross sectional area is bigger and the velocity has to be less. The more we increase the velocity the further we are getting the sediment down.

Mr. Deleo asked if he could get a copy of the Fresh Water District permit with the Corps of Engineers to dredge the bayou. Mr. Chaisson advised that he would get a copy for him.

On motion by Commissioner Jake Giardina, seconded by Commissioner Robert Thibodaux and unanimously approved the meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Hugh Caffery, Chairman

Robert Thibodaux, Secretary/Treasurer

