The Board of Commissioners of the Bossier Levee District met in regular session on Wednesday,

August 10, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at the Levee Board Office, 3404 Industrial Drive, Bossier City, Louisiana.

The President, Tim Larkin, called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL PRESENT: Commissioners – ALLEY, BANTLE, LARKIN, MONTGOMERY, MOORE, and STELLY.

Staff: Mark Long, Devan Jordan, Deanna Rabb, Robert Tomasek & German Velazquez from the Department of Transportation and Development, and Tom Arceneaux, District Counsel.

ABSENT: NONE

The first order of business was the opening prayer by Commissioner Alley and the Pledge of

Allegiance by Commissioner Larkin.

On motion by Alley, seconded by Montgomery, and unanimously passed, the Board dispensed with the reading of the minutes and approved the minutes of the regular Board Meeting previously held on July 20, 2022.

**REQUESTS BY VISITORS:**

Christopher E. Myers, P.E. with Coyle Engineering Co, Inc. on behalf of their client, Willow Chute Ranch

Subdivision, LLC appeared requesting a permit to grant approvals for an encroachment for a 26’ wide roadway

crossing Willow Chute Bayou, installation of a 24” diameter outfall pipe from the storm water detention pond,

three roadside ditches to discharge into the bayou, and the clearing of some trees and underbrush all within the

Levee District’s 100’ Control Area of Willow Chute Bayou.

On motion by Bantle, seconded by Alley, and on recommendation from the Applications Committee

the Board approved issuing an Encroachment Permit to Willow Ranch Subdivision subject to the verification of

additional protection against erosion, the existing bottom channel elevation on both sides of the channel crossing,

culvert crossings in Area 1 drainage outfall (to be relabeled from Area 2 on submitted drawings) and Area 3

drainage outfall and contingent upon the approval of revised plans obtained by DOTD and the BLD Operations

Coordinator, Mr. Mark Long. No comments from the public. (PERMIT #2022 – 58)

Ben Rauschenbach, P.E., Bossier City Engineer with Manchac Consulting Group was present to discuss

the request received for a proposed 20’ access servitude to improve the Carriage Oaks No. 2 Lift Station by

constructing a 10’ concrete access apron from Hickory Ridge Drive to the existing lift station located at Lot 27 of

Carriage Oaks East.

On motion by Bantle, seconded by Stelly, and on recommendation from the Applications Committee

the Board authorized Manchac / COB the access servitude to improve the Carriage Oaks No. 2 Lift Station

as requested. No comments from the public. (PERMIT #2022 – 61)

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Mr. Mark Long continued a discussion regarding the Red Chute Bayou Levee Surfacing Project including

some additional options for 38 passing lanes of 200 feet length in each curve; 2,784 tons of stone estimated for

lanes (8”) with an approximate cost of $203,232, putting stone on the entire length instead would be greater than

$600,000.00, or soil cement with stone at an estimated cost of 1.8 million.

On motion by Stelly, seconded by Bantle, and on recommendation from the Applications Committee

the Board authorized moving forward with the passing lane option for the Red Chute Bayou Levee Surfacing

Project and to seek bids for the work to be done by an outside contractor not exceeding $250,000.00. No

comments from the public.

Mr. Mark Long continued a discussion for potential work to be done for a Red River Scour Repair Project.

The Board discussed that prior action was done at the expense of an entity other than the district and that the

Red River Waterway Commission believed it was the USACOEW responsibility.

On motion by Alley, seconded by Montgomery, and on recommendation from the Applications Committee

the Board agreed not to create the Red River Scour Repair Project at the present time, however, work to

continue determining what entity might fund and or perform the work and authorization was also granted for

Mr. Tim Larkin to discuss or attend a RRWC meeting to hopefully obtain more information. No comments from

the public.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

The Board reviewed Lot No. 1 and Lot No. 2 amended Plat of Tract No. 6B of Lucky Partition, Unit No. A,

located near Bull Fight Bayou submitted by the MPC and approved the issuance of a letter of no objection.

No comments from the public.

The Board reviewed some changes to the design of the Crowing Lane Concrete Culvert Headwall design

to maintain the ditch. They reviewed an estimate recently received from F.J Burnell, Inc. in the amount of

$39,958.00.

On motion by Alley, seconded by Stelly, and on recommendation from the Applications Committee

the Board authorized a budget of $50,000.00 for work to commence with F.J. Burnell and Kurt Nixon of Nixon

Engineering to consult. No comments from the public.

On motion by Moore, seconded by Bantle, and unanimously passed the Board adopted the current

millage rate @ 4.17 mills for the 2022 year and the passage of the resolution – NO ROLL FORWARD.

No comments from the public.

On motion by Bantle, seconded by Alley, the Board passed a resolution for the Engagement Letter,

Investment Confirmation Letter, Legal Letter, Bank Confirmation, and the Louisiana Compliance Questionaire

be signed by Tim Larkin and subsequent letters be mailed to Huddleston Smith (Attn: Brad Smith), Blanchard,

Walker, O’Quinn and Roberts (Attn: Mr Tom Arceneaux) and returned to Broussard and Company (Attn: Mr. Mike

DeFalco) and completed to be adopted for the 2021 – 2022 fiscal year audit. No comments from the public.

**LEVEE AND DRAINAGE REPORT**

**Red Chute Bayou Channel Slope Repairs**

- July 24, 2019 – Vicksburg Corps conducted a damage assessment of high-water damages on Red Chute Bayou; no determination as of November 11, 2019.

- December 9, 2019 – Donald Walker, Chief of Vicksburg Corps Emergency Management called and advised that the Vicksburg Corps would be providing funding for approximately 10 bank caving sites along the levee.

- December 10, 2019 – Captain Papia with the Vicksburg District made a site visit to assess the bank repair areas.

- March 30, 2020 – received letter dated March 24, 2020, from the colonel of the Vicksburg District Army Corps denying

our request for PL 84-99 funding for bank caving repairs.

- July 8, 2021 – Lanny Barfield, with the USACE Vicksburg District, advised that the District recently requested approval from the MVD for funding approval to repair of the sites.

- May 10, 2022 – Received an email from Craig Prestwood, Senior Project Manager, with the USACE Vicksburg District

advising that our request for bank stabilization repairs has been approved by the MVD and that they are getting ready to

send in a funding request to MVD for design and data collection.

- July 8, 2022- Received a request from Patrick White with Vicksburg Corps requesting that the BLD provide a right-of-

entry for surveying and site assessment needed for plan design for bank stabilization repairs.

**Red Chute Levee**

- USACE Periodic Levee Inspection – embankment inspection conducted on June 6, 2022; mechanical inspection conducted on June 1, 2022; structures inspection performed on June 22, 2022.

**Red Chute Levee Raise Project**

- Mitigation analysis for levee raise was conducted by Nixon Engineering and Dewberry Consultants.

- October 31, 2019 – Nixon Engineering delivered mitigation report.

- December 8, 2019 – Kurt Nixon and Jacob Lesue presented the board with mitigation study results.

- March 11, 2020 – Kurt Nixon submitted a revised mitigation study report with recommendations for a levee raise and mitigation.

**Levee Inspection Compliance**

- BLD has completed an inspection and report of deficiencies on the Red River Levee including items listed on the USACE 2019 Levee Inspection Report. Our plan of action is to start removing all unwanted vegetation and other encroachments in areas where permission can be obtained from property owners.

- Corps Routine annual inspection conducted on May 3, 2021, on the Red Chute Bayou Levee.

- Corps Periodic Levee Inspection conducted May 4-5, 2021, on the Red River Levee.

- Work underway south of LA 511 Bridge removing encroaching trees and brush.

-November 15, 2021thru November 18, 2021, video inspection made on all levee drainage structures.

**Red River Levee Certification**

- May 8, 2018 – sent letter to Corps requesting their services in providing new levee certification.

- February 7, 2020 – we received word from Craig McRaney with the Vicksburg Corps that the levee can be raised above

elevation of Lock and Dam 5 Road; Mr. McRaney also advised that the levee district should submit a request for a 408

permit to raise the levee in the areas with insufficient freeboard.

- February 10, 2020 – a conference call was held with several members of the Vicksburg Corps; the purpose of the call was to seek guidance on how to expedite the permit for the levee raise and to request that the Corps provide assistance in obtaining the permit. Very little new information was obtained from the call; the Corps did say that they would research

the Congressional Authorization for the levee to determine if any restrictions such as an additionally congressional authorization would be needed to raise the levee.

- September 9, 2020 – hired Kurt Nixon to review options for levee certification.

- January 11, 2021 – held conference call with Vicksburg Corps and discussed 408 permit requirements for raising the areas with deficient free board on the Red River Levee north of Lock and Dam 5.

- March 3, 2021 – Kurt Nixon provided progress letter on status of the 408 permit.

- April 12, 2021 – conference call held with Katy Breaux and members of the Vicksburg Army Corps of Engineers to

discuss a Risk Assessment to be used for levee certification.

- April 22, 2021 – conference call with Vicksburg Corps to discuss Risk Assessment; Katy Breaux advised that the Corps

has obtained funding for the Hydraulic Analysis portion of a Risk Assessment

- June 8, 2021 – spoke with Katy Breaux, Project Manager with Vicksburg Corps and she advised that work on the

Hydraulic Analysis portion of the Risk Assessment should be completed by the end of July 2021.

- On August 17, 2021, Raley and Associates completed work on cross sectioning and topo survey of a 6.0-mile segment of the levee from lock and Dam 5 road north.

- January 4, 2022 – received a status update on the CORPS H&H Analysis for the Red River Levee; the H&H Analysis is complete however they are waiting on new risk assessment classification guidance before issuing a report.

- March 28, 2022 – a meeting with the Vicksburg Corps and local officials was held; the Corps presented their recommendations for a path forward on levee accreditation and discussed an in-depth levee risk assessment to be cost shared with the Corps and local entities; estimated cost range between $250,000.00 and $750,000.00.

- July 6, 2022 – re-submitted letter of request to the Vicksburg Army Corps of Engineers for a Semi-Quantitative Risk Assessment on the Red River Levee.

**Flat River Outfall Pipes - South of Sligo Road**

- February 2, 2022 – signed Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Bossier Parish Police Jury to cost share on the installation of two outfall pipes south of Sligo Road on Flat River.

**Red Chute Bayou Levee Culvert Rehab**

-November 18, 2021, video inspection of the outfall CMP culvert at station 238+30 revealed a separation in the corrugated metal pipe; repair needed as soon as possible.

- December 15, 2021 – the board approved advertising for bids for HDPE culvert liners to line two CMP culverts on Red Chute Levee located on BAFB.

- January 12, 2022 - HDPE Culvert Liner Bid from Isco Industries, Inc. in the amount of $62,816.20 was approved by board.

- February 2, 2022 – received delivery of HDPE Culvert Liners.

**Tinsley Ditch Culverts**

-December 15, 2022 – the board authorized Kurt Nixon with Nixon Engineer to proceed with survey and design for the replacement of existing culverts under Crowing Lane and installation of a new culvert between Crowing Lane and Lateral

B-4 ditch.

- February 1, 2022 – revised construction plans received from Nixon Engineering.

- March 3, 2022 – Bids were opened for the Crowing Lane Drainage Improvements with a low bid of $232,757.50 from

FJ Burnell.

- March 30. 2022 – work began.

- July 18, 2022 – work is substantially complete except for fence installation.

**Red River Levee Ponding Area**

- January 5, 2022 – requested surveyor to survey area near Red River Levee Station 147+00 to determine how best to drain an area of ponding water adjacent to the levee.

- April 1, 2022 - received survey information from Travis Sturdivant with Raley and Associates of ponding area and proposed drainage ditch.

**Channel Maintenance**

- July 11, 2022 – Superior Forestry Service Inc. began work on backpack herbicide application on various BLD drainage channels; work was completed on July 17, 2022, at a cost of $44,940.00.

**Levee and Drainage Crews**

- Made various repairs in preparation for the USACE Periodic Levee Inspection.

-Removed fallen trees from levees and channels in various locations.

- Inspecting levees, channels, and drainage structures; cleaning outfall pipes and flap gates.

-Trimming trees and brush on levees and drainage channels.

-Mowing levees and drainage channels.

- Servicing and repairing equipment.

**Surplus Equipment**

- The following equipment is to be sold as surplus.

1. 2003 Case MX 110 with 5313 hours; Equipment # 205.
2. 2016 John Deere 6135E with 520 hours; Equipment # 380.
3. 2016 John Deere 6135E with 326 hours; Equipment # 381.
4. 2009 John Deere 7230 with 4975 hours; Equipment # 207.
5. 2009 John Deere 7230 with 4705 hours: Equipment # 208.
6. 2007 Ford F-450 with 103,566 miles; Equipment # 108.
7. 2000 John Deere Track Excavator with 4790 hours; Equipment # 203.

On motion by Moore, seconded by Montgomery, and unanimously approved, the Board authorized the

secretary for the District to make payments for the month of April in the amount of $102,448.76 as set forth in

the materials provided for the Board. The August 10th, 2022 Bossier Levee District Board Meeting was

adjourned at approximately 10:30 a.m.

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Timothy A. Larkin, President Deanna S. Rabb, Secretary