**Committee Meeting**

**June 9, 2021**

**The Board of Commissioners for the Lafourche Basin Levee District met as a Committee of the Whole this day at its official domicile at 21380 Highway 20 in Vacherie, Louisiana. The public was invited to attend via Teleconference and at the LBLD office in accordance with the Louisiana Governor’s Proclamation Number 93-JBE 2021 Renewal of State Emergency for COVID-19, Extension of Emergency Provisions, LBLD office will continue to require all individuals to wear a face covering over the nose and mouth, unless the person has been fully vaccinated with a Covid-19 vaccine. You can refer to gov.louisiana.gov for guideline exceptions. The meeting was called to order by its President, James P. Jasmin, at 6:00 P.M.**

**The following Commissioners were in attendance: Craig Carter, Assumption Parish; Whitney Jasmin, Jr., St. John the Baptist Parish; Eric Matherne, St. Charles Parish; Marlin Rogers, St. Charles Parish; Michael McKinney, Sr., Ascension Parish; Gary Watson, St. John the Baptist Parish; J** **Russell Loupe, St. Charles Parish; James Jasmin, St. James Parish; Jeffery Henry, Ascension Parish and Kevin Hebert, St. Charles Parish. Donald Henry, Executive Director and Ivy Chauvin, Assistant Executive Director were present. Larry Buquoi, Attorney was absent.**

**Commissioner Michael McKinney, Sr. made the motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Jeffery Henry seconded his motion. President Jasmin called for a roll call vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:**

**YEAS:**

* **Michael McKinney, Sr.**
* **Arthur Bosworth IV**
* **Larry Sorapuru**
* **Russell Loupe**
* **Gary Watson**
* **Jeffery Henry**
* **Craig Carter**
* **Eric Matherne**
* **Marlin Rogers**
* **Kevin Hebert**
* **James P. Jasmin**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**ABSTAINED: None**

**By a roll call vote of 11 yeas, 0 nay, 0 absent and 0 abstained. The motion passed by unanimous vote.**

**There were no comments from the audience on the agenda items.**

**Recommendations to add to the June 6, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Agenda:**

**A. Board of Commissioners to approve or to disapprove the millage rates**

**Personnel Committee Report: Michael McKinney, Sr., Chairman**

**Commissioner McKinney reported that there are two subjects to discuss tonight for the personnel portion of the Committee Meeting as a Whole. These items will be voted on to be forwarded to the July 7, 2021 Regular Board meeting.**

1. **Discuss and take action on the cost-of-living raise and/or merit raise for the Executive Director, Donald Henry**

**Commissioner Gary Watson made the motion to** **forward to the June 6, 2021 Regular meeting agenda. Commissioner Arthur J. Bosworth, IV seconded his motion. President Jasmin called for a roll call vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:**

**YEAS:**

* **Michael McKinney, Sr.**
* **Arthur Bosworth IV**
* **Larry Sorapuru**
* **Gary Watson**
* **Jeffery Henry**
* **Craig Carter**
* **Eric Matherne**
* **Marlin Rogers**
* **Kevin Hebert**
* **James P. Jasmin**

**NAYS:**

* **Russell Loupe**

**ABSENT: None**

**ABSTAINED: None**

**By a roll call vote of 10 yeas, 1 nay, 0 absent and 0 abstained. The motion passed.**

1. **Discuss and take action on the cost-of-living raise and/or merit raise for the Assistant Executive Director, Ivy Chauvin**

**Commissioner Arthur J. Bosworth, IV made the motion to forward to the June 6, 2021 Regular meeting agenda. Commissioner Jeffery Henry seconded his motion. President Jasmin called for a roll call vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:**

**YEAS:**

* **Michael McKinney, Sr.**
* **Arthur Bosworth IV**
* **Larry Sorapuru**
* **Russell Loupe**
* **Gary Watson**
* **Jeffery Henry**
* **Craig Carter**
* **Eric Matherne**
* **Marlin Rogers**
* **Kevin Hebert**
* **James P. Jasmin**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**ABSTAINED: None**

**By a roll call vote of 11 yeas, 0 nay, 0 absent and 0 abstained. The motion passed by unanimous vote.**

**3. Election of officers**

1. **Nomination of the office of president**

**Commissioner Marlin Rogers made the motion to nominate Mr. Eric Matherne as President. Commissioner Larry Sorapuru seconded the motion. Commissioner James P. Jasmin nominated himself for President. No second motion.**

1. **Nomination of the office of vice-president**

**Commissioner Gary Watson made the motion to nominate Mr. Jeffery Henry as Vice-President. Commissioner Larry Sorapuru seconded the motion. No other motions for Vice-President.**

**Building Committee Report: Larry Sorapuru, Chairman**

**Commissioner Sorapuru reported that the plans for the new office building being proposed at the existing District Site in Vacherie are now complete and submitted to the State Fire Marshal's Office in Baton Rouge and returned. Some modifications were requested furthering code enforcement, and these were addressed and the plans were resent to the State Office again. Presently we are awaiting the final acceptance. We expect said acceptance within the next week or before. The next step in this project is to prepare the advertisement and submit it for publication to receive public bids. Mr. Savoie is preparing said advertisement for submission next week to receive bids in July should the Board approves. The Board should be aware of the recent rise in building materials. C.J. Savoie Consulting Engineering will attempt to mitigate this problem within their measures of control. The Public bidding is a 30-day minimal advertisement requirement. Upon receipt of a successful bona fide bid, the Board would be able to move forward with construction. Mr. Joseph Savoie gave an update to the Board.**

**Safety Committee Report: Arthur J. Bosworth, IV, Chairman**

**Commissioner Bosworth reported that there were no lost time accidents. The Safety Meeting for the Maintenance Department was held on June 7, 2021 for each location and started at 6:00 AM. Three films from the National Safety Council were discussed at the Vacherie and Sunset location. They were as follows:**

**To the point about: defensive driving**

**Heat Stress: Working Safely in the Heat**

**First Aid in Construction Environments**

**Slips and Falls**

**Lawn Care Hazards**

**It Won’t Happen to Me: Accidents in the Workplace**

**Several maintenance workers have requested for consideration that the board allows them to become CPR certified. The next safety meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 12, 2021 at 6:00 A.M.**

**Equipment Committee Report: Jeffery Henry, Chairman**

**Commissioner Henry reported that all of the district’s light and heavy-duty equipment is presently operational. All equipment is located on their respective job sites or here at the maintenance shop.**

**Upper Barataria Project Committee Report: Eric Matherne, Chairman**

 **Vice-President Matherne reported that that on Thursday, there was a meeting with Chevron. They are very helpful and wanting to assist us getting access to the levee.**

**Bayou Napoleon/Bayou Verret Committee Report: Gary Watson, Chairman**

 **Commissioner Watson reported that due to the high amounts of rainfall, the canal level is very elevated. We are presently unable to dredge until the high water recedes. We have completed dredging up to the culverts on lapice road and have moved the equipment down the road where they will get back into the canal to start digging again. We are currently waiting for t. Baker smith’s survey crew to come out and mark the areas of work and spoil placements. Once the survey stakes are in place, we will start shredding the spoil banks to have them ready for when the water recedes enough to continue dredging. Also, enclosed in your folders is a copy of a new secured emergency agreement to legally continue dredging.**

**There were no additional committee matters to discuss, Commissioner Jeffery Henry moved to adjourn and was seconded by Commissioner Michael McKinney, Sr.**

 **Executive Director**