DRAFT

**REGULAR MEETING**

**September 15, 2021**

 The Board of Commissioners for the Lafourche Basin Levee District met this day in regular session 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 167- JBE 2021 Renewal of State Emergency for COVID-19, Extension of Emergency Provisions, LBLD office will require all individuals to wear a face covering over the nose and mouth. You can refer to gov.louisiana.gov for guideline exceptions. The meeting was called to order by its Vice-President, Jeffery Henry, at 6:00 P.M.

 The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Jeffery Henry.

 The meeting opened with a prayer and the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Present: Commissioners… Craig Carter, Assumption Parish; Larry Sorapuru, St. John the Baptist Parish; Eric Matherne, St. Charles Parish; Russell Loupe, St. Charles Parish; Michael McKinney, Sr., Ascension Parish; Arthur Bosworth IV, St. James Parish; Gary Watson, St. John the Baptist Parish; President James P. Jasmin, St. James Parish; Jeffery Henry, Ascension Parish; Marlin Rogers, St. Charles Parish and Kevin Hebert, St. Charles Parish were present.

 A quorum was present to conduct business.

Messrs. Larry Buquoi, Attorney; Donald Ray Henry, Executive Director; Ivy Chauvin, Sr. and Ms. Melanie Broden, Accounting Specialist, were present.

 Commissioner Craig Carter made the motion to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Michael McKinney, Sr. Vice-President Henry 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: None

ABSENT:

* Russell Loupe

ABSTAINED: None

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

 There were no public comments on the agenda items.

 On motion of Commissioner Gary Watson, seconded by Commissioner Jeffery Henry, the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 4, 2021 be accepted and filed in the minutes of the Board.

Vice-President Henry 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: None

ABSENT:

* Russell Loupe

ABSTAINED: None

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

On motion of Commissioner Marlin Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Eric Matherne, the following cash available for distribution of the month of July 31, 2021 be accepted and filed in the minutes of the Board.

**FIRST AMERICAN BANK:**

 **Checking account balance July 2021 $ 107,830.05**

 **Deposits/Transfer In – Aug**

**Revenues/Refund 8,812.19**

 **Interest on Checking 9.28**

 **Funds transferred in 368,050.81 Operating Expenses/Other 369,512.41**

 **Funds transferred out 0.00**

 **TOTAL ACCOUNT BALANCE AUG. 31, 2021 $ 115,189.92**

**LAMP**

 **Account balance – July 4,120,785.73**

 **Funds transferred in 0.00**

 **Funds transferred out 368,050.81**

 **Interest Income Earned 0.00**

 **TOTAL ENDING BALANCE AUG. 31, 2021 $ 3,752,734.92**

**INVESTMENTS: BNY**

 **Discount Notes/T-Bills/Bonds 5,353,877.24**

**TOTAL CASH & INVESTMENTS AS OF AUG. 31, 2021 $ 9,221,802.08**

 No public comments were made. Vice-President Henry 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: None

ABSENT:

* Russell Loupe

ABSTAINED: None

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

 On motion of Commissioner Arthur J. Bosworth, IV, seconded by Commissioner Michael McKinney, Sr., the following resolution was proposed.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners approve to pay the Board’s attorney, Larry Buquoi, $175 per hour for any work performed beyond his regular scheduled 14 hours per month.

 Commissioner Marlin Rogers asked if the contract for Mr. Larry Buquoi, attorney, through the D.A. office. Mr. Buquoi confirmed that it is. He spoke with Mr. Ricky Babin and it will continue to be paid towards him. He also stated that he doesn’t think that it will be often unless something big comes up. Vice-President Henry 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: None

ABSENT:

* Russell Loupe

ABSTAINED: None

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

 On motion of Commissioner Gary Watson, seconded by Commissioner James P. Jasmin, the following resolution was proposed.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners approve the Task Order 7-B for the Final Design of barge gate, flood walls, and levee tie-ins that constitute Segment 3 of the Upper Barataria Risk Reduction (UBRR) Project, located in Bayou Des Allemands south of Highway 90.

Vice-President Henry 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: None

ABSENT:

* Russell Loupe

ABSTAINED: None

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

 On motion of Commissioner Marlin Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Hebert, the following resolution was proposed.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners approve to table the 2022 Annual Budget to the Finance Meeting and hold a Special Call Meeting after the Finance Meeting, with Mr. Wayne Theall present, in person.

 September 30th is the deadline for the approved budget. Mr. Wayne Theall was present on the teleconference line. With the ongoing telephone interruptions, it was difficult for Mr. Theall to present the information. Vice-President Henry 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.

On motion of Commissioner Larry Sorapuru, seconded by Commissioner Arthur J. Bosworth, IV, the following resolution was proposed and unanimously approved.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners approve to allow the Executive Director to purchase an 80 kw generator with transfer switches, with the Board’s approval, and for it not to exceed $60,000.

 It was discussed that the new generator would cover both old and new buildings. It will be ran by diesel. Vice-President Henry 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.

 Mr. Elliot Boudreaux with CSRS, Inc. gave the highlights on the Upper Barataria Project. CSRS held first internal stakeholder meeting on August 25th. CSRS met with CPRA on August 9th to discuss comments on Segment 2. Civix has developed draft access agreements and has engaged all utility and pipeline operators through Phase 2 land rights. BKI is making updates on the H&H model for upcoming review. Facility & Planning Commission has provided data form to secure Capital Outlay Funds and project manager has been assigned. Delegation trip to Washington, D.C. for the MVFCA Fall Meeting on September 26th.

 Mr. Donald Henry encouraged the Commissioners to utilize their computers. He and the President, Eric Matherne, collaborated in getting hot spots for the Commissioners since quite a few are still out of internet service. Mr. Henry stated that the Levee District was behind in technology and recommends that the Board rectify that. Mr. Henry also gave an update on the workers and their home conditions. He thanked the workers for showing up and thanked those who helped by donating food to them. He explained that the Commissioners deal with the Budget on a daily basis. Mr. Henry requested a moment of silence for those that are going through something due to the storm.

Commissioner Arthur J. Bosworth, IV made a motion to adjourn and Commissioner Michael McKinney, Sr. seconded his motion.

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 PRESIDENT

AJ

09/20/2021