Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority – West (SLFPA-W)

Technical, Operations, and Maintenance Committee Meeting

Monday, March 26, 2012

The Technical, Operations, and Maintenance Committee of the SLFPA-W met on March 26, 2012 with the following members present: Mr. Viera, chairman, and Mr. Wilkinson. Absent was Mr. Merritt (participated by phone). Also in attendance were: Mr. Miserendino, Mr. Roark, Mr. Caluda, and Mr. Ehrhardt, public information services. John Monzon from OCPR participated by phone.

Mr. Viera called the meeting to order in the Commissioners’ meeting room at the SLFPA-W Office, 7001 River Road, Marrero, Louisiana, at approximately 3:05 pm.

The Committee unanimously approved the agenda as amended.

There were no public comments.

The Committee reviewed and unanimously approved the minutes from the previous meeting dated January 31, 2012.

The Committee reviewed and unanimously approved the minutes from the previous meeting dated February 22, 2012.

The Committee reviewed and unanimously approved the minutes from the previous meeting dated February 27, 2012.

Mr. Miserendino briefly described the proposed donation of surplus movable material to the North Lafourche Conservation, Levee, and Drainage District and the Terrebonne Levee and Conservation District. The Committee unanimously agreed to recommend approval by the Board.

Mr. Roark presented a review of the equipment winterizing process that had just been completed on all vehicles, with the exception of truck #365. Mr. Miserendino added that the winterization process and overall maintenance of the vehicles had allowed them to sell five year old equipment at auction for over half of its original selling price. Mr. Wilkinson extended the congratulations of the Technical Committee to the maintenance staff.

Mr. Caluda gave an update on the schedule to complete the Keel Cooler Test, which he stated has not been completed. He went on to say that no firm date has yet been established, but the Corps assured him it would be completed before June. There was some discussion on the merits of testing the pumps individually vs. testing the whole system. The Committee requested that staff invite Mr. Wagner and Mr. Stack from the Corps and Mr. Monzon from OCPR to the next meeting of the Technical Committee to discuss the matter.

Mr. Miserendino then presented an update on the list of WBV projects awaiting NFS acceptance. Mr. Viera stated that he had been looking for a more concentrated list of only the most pressing projects and Mr. Miserendino responded that, due to a variety of factors such as time constraints and unexpected repairs, all of the projects were equally pressing for different reasons. The Committee decided to table this issue temporarily and readdress it in two weeks.

Mr. Roark then discussed the issues he had encountered with WBV 1, including the ongoing problems with the paint coating. He stated that that during his last visit, the surface paint contained bug holes and pin holes. Several pinholes were scoped and rust was noted. Mr. Viera stated that, since it has required repainting so many times, there must be a flaw in the painting procedure or materials. Mr. Wilkinson stated that he would not vote for WBV 1’s acceptance until the issues with the paint were resolved. The Committee decided to discuss this item the next Committee meeting.

Mr. Merritt reported to the Committee, via telephone, on recent Tiger Team activities. He stated the Tiger Team’s work had been slowed, but not halted, by the illness of the project leader. He stated the Tiger Team would probably be able to report results before the TOM Committee in 2-3 weeks.

Mr. Miserendino gave a review on armoring and stated that, due to the number of technical issues they have yet to overcome, the IEPR of the armoring manual would not be granted right of entry. The Committee agreed to deny the right of entry until all technical issues have been resolved.

In Other Matters, Mr. Wilkinson raised the question of whether the sewage treatment plant should be raised. Mr. Miserendino stated that the treatment plant had just been inspected and had he had been told that everything with the way it was set up was fine, so raising it would be unnecessary at this time.

Mr. Viera announced that the next regularly scheduled Committee meeting will be held on Monday, April 23, 2012 at 3:00 pm in the Commissioners’ meeting room at the SLFPA-W Office, 7001 River Road, Marrero, Louisiana.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 5:36 pm.