

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. MARY LEVEE DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING

February 15, 2024
Morgan City, LA

The St. Mary Levee District (“SMLD”) met on this date with President William Hidalgo, Sr., presiding and the following board members present: Will Terry, J.P. Hebert, Norris Crappell, Andrew Mancuso, Mike Ortiz, and Kenny Arceneaux.

Also present: Tim Matte, Executive Director; Michael Brocato, Operations Manager; Bill Bourgeois; Robert Karam, T. Baker Smith; Nicole Buranzon, APTIM; and members of the public.

Mr. Terry moved to dispense with the reading and to approve the Jan 18 regular monthly minutes. After a second by Mr. Mancuso, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Arceneaux presented the payables report, which Mr. Crappell moved to approve. Following Mr. Hebert’s second, the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Matte also presented the Statement of Revenues by sources and Summary of Expenditures of the St. Mary Levee District.

Mr. Robert Karam with T. Baker Smith reported his office is waiting for the map from FTN Phase 1 for the West of Charenton Drainage Canal Drainage Study.

Mr. Karam reported the pumps for the Morgan City Pump Station are scheduled to be delivered March 4. Mr. Karam reported there has been a Lakeside Stakeholders meeting on the Lakeside Project to discuss alignment options.

Mr. Brocato reported the gauge at Bayou Chene is up and running and one was repaired to the one that was run over. Mr. Brocato stated that 25 of the 40 lights were changed on Bayou Chene. Mr. Brocato also reported a pump at Bayou Teche went out and is now up and running.

Mr. Matte reported the official report as a result of the inspection of the levee segments has been issued by the USACE with no new issues raised. Mr. Matte stated him, and Michael have attended meetings on the Lower Mississippi River Comprehensive Management Study that will evaluate alternatives for ensuring effective long-term management of the Mississippi River from Cape Girardeau to the Gulf of Mexico that the USACE has instituted. Mr. Matte stated that another public meeting will be held on Mar 7 in Morgan City at the Municipal Auditorium to make available some of the team members to receive public input on this study.

Mr. Matte also reported upriver gauges indicate a brief rise in the water levels in the Mississippi River before heading down to our area. The Mississippi River at New Orleans currently stands below 11’ and is expected to drop in the coming couple of weeks.

Mr. Matte stated CPRA has announced new leadership under Governor Landy’s administration, Gordie Dove of Terrebonne has been named chairman of CPRA. Glenn Ledet has been appointed as Executive Director of CPRA and Tony Alford who has served as President of Terrebonne Parish Levee and Conservation District will serve as Charmain the Governor’s Advisory Commission. Mr. Matte also reported there are discussions of a reorganization of the CPRA which might include combining certain functions of the Department of Energy and Natural Resources with coastal activities.

Mr. Arceneaux motioned to authorize Bourgeois Law to be the designated ethics designee as required by law. With a second by Mr. Ortiz, the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Terry motioned to update the SMLD Master Plan which was seconded by Mr. Mancuso, the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Hidalgo asked for further comments and did not receive any. Mr. Terry moved for adjournment, which was seconded by Mr. Arceneaux carried unanimously.

Attest:

Kenneth Arceneaux Jr., Secretary/Treasurer
St. Mary Levee District