

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. MARY LEVEE DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING

JANUARY 12, 2017
FRANKLIN, LOUISIANA

The St. Mary Levee District (“SMLD”) met on this date with President William Hidalgo, Sr., presiding and the following board members present: James Vidos, J.P. Hebert, Will Terry, Norris Crappell, Kenny Arceneaux, Luther Smith and Barry Broussard.

Also present: Tim Matte, St. Mary Levee District Executive Director; Michael Brocato, Operations Manager of St. Mary Levee District; William Bourgeois, SMLD Attorney; Jeff Pena & Nicole Cutforth, CB&I; Reid Miller, Miller Engineers; Kevin O’Gorman, T. Baker Smith; and members of the public and media.

Mr. Broussard moved to dispense with the reading and to approve the Dec. 8 regular meeting minutes. After a second by Mr. Hebert, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Broussard presented the payables report, which Mr. Crappell moved to approve. Following Mr. Vidos’ second, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Matte reported he is still working on a land acquisition with the Mayor of Baldwin for the remaining landowners along the Bayou Choupique project.

Reid Miller with Miller Engineers reported his office did submit the permit for the Yokely Levee Project and USACOE informed that the 408 process would be needed for the project.

Mr. Miller reported that the work on the South Willow Street Pump Project is moving slow due to weather. Mr. Miller stated that the contractors have installed the sheetpile and is the process of excavating the sump. Mr. Miller also reported the installation of pumps for the Franklin Canal Pump Station is now scheduled for the first week of February.

Kevin O’Gorman with T. Baker Smith reported that the construction for the Siracusaville section of the Morgan City Levee Construction and Improvements Project is still ongoing. Mr. O’Gorman reported the bid for the Lake End Park to Justa Street has been awarded and preconstruction meeting will be held sometime in March. Mr. O’Gorman also reported his office received the permit from the USACOE for the LA 70 portion.

Jeff Pena with CB&I reported his office has recently submitted a plan and is currently working on the 60% design, life safety analysis, Environmental Assessment, and Cultural Resources analysis that USACOE is requiring for the Bayou Chene Project 408 permit process. Mr. Pena stated his office recently submitted the life safety information and it’s currently being reviewed by the USACOE hydraulics team.

Mr. Pena reported his office has received all the permits for the Bayou Teche project. Mr. Pena stated the acquisition process for the project is ongoing by Miller Engineers.

Mr. Matte reported a meeting on the Increase Atchafalaya Flow to Eastern Terrebonne Project was held by the Port of Morgan City on Dec 12. Mr. Matte stated this project plans to utilize the GIWW as a conveyance channel to deliver additional flow during lower river flows. Mr. Matte stated SMLD will pursue the potential for inclusion of the Bayou Chene project as a component of the diversion project.

Mr. Matte reported a meeting was held Jan 3 to release the State Master Plan; the Master Plan did not include the Bayou Chene project. Mr. Matte reported that on Jan 4 he met with area Parish Presidents, State Representatives and State Senators as well as Sec. Bradberry and staff of CPRA for a review of the State’s Master Plan. Mr. Matte stated the SMLD has begun the process of lobbying CPRA to put the project back into the Master Plan.

Mr. Hebert motioned to authorize a resolution expressing our support for the Bayou Chene Project as a comment for CPRA and request to include the project in the 2017 Coastal Master Plan. After a second by Mr. Smith, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bourgeois reported gave an update on the ongoing Avoca litigation.

Mr. Crappell motioned to adopt the 2017 meeting schedule, which was followed by Mr. Terry's second, it carried unanimously.

Mr. Matte announced that SMLD will hold a public meeting regarding leasing SMLD property for cattle grazing. Mr. Brocato discussed the areas to be leased.

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

Attest:

Barry A. Broussard, Secretary
St. Mary Levee District