

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
ST. MARY LEVEE DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING

March 21, 2024  
Franklin, 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; Reid Miller, Miller Engineers; Sam Jones, St. Mary Parish President; Gwen Hidalgo, St. Mary Parish Council; and members of the public.

Mr. Hebert moved to dispense with the reading and to approve the Feb 15 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. Ortiz’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 presented a map with drainage areas designated that his office is proposing to start the next phase of modeling for the West of Charenton Drainage Canal Drainage Study. Mr. Karam stated that his office has begun with the surveying of the areas.

Mr. Karam reported the pumps for the Morgan City Pump Station have been installed and are fully functioning. Mr. Karam reported his office continues meeting with Lakeside Stakeholders on the Lakeside Project to discuss alignment options.

Mr. Brocato reported he has scheduled oil changes for all of the pumps at Bayou Chene, Bayou Teche, and Franklin Canal. Mr. Brocato stated a closure was done at the Bayou Teche structure which went well. Mr. Brocato also reported that periodic inspections of the Wax Lake East levee segments are scheduled for the first week of April.

Mr. Matte reported there is some indication that the Increase Atchafalaya Flow to Eastern Terrebonne Project (TE-110) project may not be an ongoing priority. Mr. Matte stated that a public meeting was held in Morgan City at the Municipal Auditorium to make available some of the team members to receive public input on the Lower Mississippi Comprehensive Management Study. Mr. Matte also stated that he has made comments made at the public hearing on scoping and would encourage any board members or other entities to submit comments by early April. Mr. Matte also reported the Governor has issued directives on a proposal to consolidate certain functions of CPRA with the structure of Louisiana Department of Energy and Natural Resources, which will require Legislative action.

Mr. Crappell motioned to authorize to hire a diver to survey the Franklin Canal barge gate and structure. With a second by Mr. Arceneaux, the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Mancuso motioned to authorize the approval of Task Order 10 with APTIM for the SMLD Master Plan update, which was seconded by Mr. Terry, the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Mancuso motioned to authorize the approval of amendment #3 for the update to the APTIM contract, which was seconded by Mr. Arceneaux, the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Mancuso motioned to authorize the application for section 408 permit from the USACE for tie-in for Bayou Chene’s Avoca Levee to the Bayou Beouf Locks. A second was made by Mr. Crappell and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Mancuso motioned to authorize of the purchase of mitigation for Bayou Chene project, which was seconded by Mr. Hebert, the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Arceneaux motioned to authorize the participation in the Federal Rehab Program for non-federal levees, which was seconded by Mr. Mancuso and was carried unanimously.

Mr. Terry motioned to authorize the approval of the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire for our annual audit.

Mr. Mancuso motioned to authorize completing design and bidding of the project to close the outfall canal along Hwy LA 70. Mr. Arceneaux seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Mr. Mancuso motioned to amend the IGA with Drainage District No. 2A relative to the project to close the outfall canal. Mr. Arceneaux seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

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

Attest:

---

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