ATCHAFALAYA BASIN PROGRAM

TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP

Department of Natural Resources

LaSalle Building, Griffon Room, 1st Floor

BATON ROUGE, LA

May 15, 2012

MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS:

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Bobby Reed

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Glenn Constant

LSU Renewable Natural Resources Bill Kelso

Department of Natural Resources Keith Lovell

Department of Environmental Quality Chris Piehler

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Mike Walker

ALTERNATES:

LSU Renewable Natural Resources Richard Keim (Absent)

USGS Dan Kroes

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service David Walther (Absent)

Others Present:

Department of Natural Resources Staff Stephen Chustz

Department of Natural Resources Staff Don Haydel

Department of Natural Resources Staff David Fruge

Department of Natural Resources Staff Charles Reulet

Department of Natural Resources Staff Thomas Van Biersel

Department of Natural Resources Staff Dana Naquin

NAS Karen Westphal

NAS Paul Kemp

Friends of the Atchafalaya Charles Caillouet

GCBS Paul Chadwick

USACE Marti Lucore

USACE Melanie Labiche

Moffatt & Nicol Jonathan Hird

Moffatt & Nicol Maarten Kluijver

USGS Richard Day

USGS Thomas Doyle

Representative Fenstermaker

1. **Call to Order, Introductions, Roll Call**

. **Agenda approval**

Motion by Keith Lovell

Second by Mike Walker

Agenda approved

2. **Approval of minutes from 10/04/11 meeting**

Motion by Glenn Constant

Seconded by Bill Kelso

Minutes Approved

3. **Presentation of Hydrodynamic Model** – Moffatt & Nicol, Maarten Kluijver

Calibration Dates: March 3, 2011-July 3, 2011

Information reviewed: Model Development, Roughness Alterations, Calibration Water Level, Calibration Discharge, Flood Peak Timing, Calibration Tides, Validation Water Level, Validation Discharge & Velocity, Synopsis Water Level Calibration & Validation, Synopsis discharge Calibration, Validation Remarks, Scenario Runs and Refined Case Studies

4. **Update by the Corps on repairs to Buffalo Cove Features –** Melanie Labiche

Currently working on P&S development, site investigations, etc on existing constructed elements within Buffalo Cove. The following existing elements will be constructed back to original design criteria 6, 7, 9-1, 9-2 and elements within Bayou Eugene (E1, E2, E3). Our plan is to award these elements in late September to commence construction in the fall. In addition, the Corps is in the process of acquiring the remaining real estate to move forward on construction the remaining elements within Buffalo Cove. A separate project (not ABFS) is working on developing the P&S for 2 channel training projects (canal closures) near Buffalo Cove.

5. **Legislative Update –** presented by Stephen Chustz

HCR 31 Atchafalaya Basin Annual Plan has been approved, no funds for Atchafalaya Basin Program in Capital Outlay at this time but program will continue to research other areas for funding; Don Haydel will continue to look for those dollars.

HB 571 Police Jury Association appoints 4 members, 1 voting member. Second part of the Technical Advisory Group allows the Secretary of DNR to provide letter of appointment to legislature and if no action appointment is approved.

HB656 Coastal Zone Boundary Revisions - Approved on House side, on Senate floor now

HCR 117 Asks Corp to deviate flow at Old River Control Structure

6. **Update on Funded Water Projects of The Atchafalaya Basin Program**

A. Dog Leg Canal Maintenance Dredging – Bids to be open 05/22/12

B. Henderson Channels Dredging – Plans & Specs approved, bid opening 05/31/12, estimated construction start July/August 2012.

C. Bayou Fourche – in East Grand Lake project area, engineer working on costs, then will task out

D. Cocodrie Swamp – Meetings held in July & August 2011, stakeholder concerns, engineer evaluated alternatives, report findings: over $131 million, proceed with TAG alignment, contacting affected land owners

E. Beau Bayou – Parish contracted with Sellers & Associates, site visits, elevation surveys, preliminary cost estimates report expected late May 2012.

F. East Grand Lake – 2 parts, study on lower and Western region, field data being collected now. Upper region – engineer tasked to present option to get most for dollars

G. Upper Grand river Flats – In contact with property owners to address concerns

H. Brown Bayou – Contacted land owner and told culverts will be replaced, waiting for more information and when this will happen. State Lands declaimed water bottom and reclaimed land elsewhere.

I. Open Location Canal north of Bayou Sorrel (and proposed alternative) – Landowner support, engineers report determined recommended project not viable due to pipeline issues, proposed alternative, engineer proposed to install culverts, slide gate and operate. New item proposed to close off pipeline. Representatives from Fenstermaker gave presentation on project: No objections from Technical Advisory Group or public, Fenstermaker will move forward with permit applications.

7. **Bayou Boutte Dredging Project by Energy XXI –** Don Haydel

Not a Basin project –presented to Corps for permit by applicant. Dredge natural bayou for 1 mile, at Corps invitation to work together at no cost to state. Suggest location for spoil to be placed, Paul Chadwick presented slides on dredge plan. The Atchafalaya Basin Program will keep everyone updated on discussions with Corps. Applicant and consultant presented information related to project also and requested input from TAG on dredge disposal options.

8. Old Business

No old business

9. New Business

Steve Chustz reminded members the deadline for filing water project nominations is June 1, 2012. Once nominations have been received meeting will be scheduled to review nomination forms and discuss projects

10. Public Comment

No public comment

11. Adjourn

Motion by Mike Walker

Second by Keith Lovell

Motion approved