



# Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority



**Coastal Protection & Restoration Authority Board Meeting**  
**Wednesday, January 18, 2023**  
**21490 Koop Drive**  
**State Capitol Building HCR 1**  
**Baton Rouge, LA 70471**  
**9:30AM**

*The following constitute minutes of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board Meeting and are not a verbatim transcript of the proceedings. Audio and video recordings of the meetings are available for viewing and kept at the Office of the Governor-Coastal Activities Office in Baton Rouge, LA.*

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Roll Call**

Chairman Kline, Executive Assistant, Coastal Activities	Present
Keith Lovell, DNR	Present
Ed Knight, DOTD	Present
Patrick Banks, LDWF	Present
Sec. Brown, DEQ	Present
Pat Witty, LED	Present
Joey Breaux, LDAF	Present
Barbara Goodson, DOA	Present
Billy Broussard, LDI	Absent
Sean Wyatt for Casey Tingle, GOHSEP	Present
Karen Gautreaux, Gov’s Advisory Comm-Chair	Present
Scott Burke, Barataria Basin	Present
Monica Gorman, Pontchartrain Basin	Present
John Elmers for Bill Bubrig, Plaq Parish Coastal Zone/ Mississippi Delta Basin	Present
Dwayne Bourgeois, Terrebonne Basin	Present
Bill Hidalgo, Atchafalaya Basin	Present
Laurie Cormier, Calcasieu/Sabine Basin	Present
Stephen Sagrera, Teche/Vermillion Parish	Absent
Rep. Zeringue, Ex-officio, Designee of the Speaker of the House	Present
Sen. Hensgens, Ex-officio, Designee of the President of the Senate	Absent
Michael Ince, Designee for the Lieutenant Governor	Present
President Guy McInnis, Breton Sound Basin	Present

**III. Approval of Agenda**

Motion by Mr. Hidalgo  
 Second by Ms. Gautreaux  
 Unanimously Approved

**IV. Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Ms. Gorman  
 Second by Mr. Hidalgo  
 Unanimously Approved

**V. Old Business/Announcements**



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- VI. **CPRA Implementation Update— Bren Haase, CPRA (video: 0:05:27)** Mr. Haase presented to the board that there are 95 active projects. 35 of them are in construction, 57 are in E&D, with 3 more in the planning stage. Of the projects now being constructed, 20 are hurricane protection projects and 43 are creating marsh. Mr. Haase updated the board on the following projects: LA Coastal Area Bartaria Basin Barrier Shoreline Feasibility Study Projects; Spanish Pass Ridge & Marsh Creation Project (Nearing Completion); Terrebonne Basin Barrier Islands Project (Complete); Passage of WRDA; Bayou Chene Floodgate (Completed); Final EIS Issued for River RE-Introduction into Maurepas Swamp. Mr. Haase also announced that the Draft 2023 Coastal Master Plan is available and public comments are being accepted until March 25, 2023.
- VII. **Conservation and Restoration Partnership Award Announcements – Kent Bolfrass, CPRA (video: 0:19:39)** Mr. Bolfrass announced to the board the FY23 Partnership Fund Selected Projects which are: Apache Minerals, LLC awarded \$150,000; CRCL-Central Wetlands Reforestation Collective awarded \$404,643; the Vermillion Parish-South Pecan Island Hydrologic Enhancement awarded \$45,000, the St. John the Baptist-Sunset Park Restoration and Recreation awarded \$56, 250; Ducks Unlimited-Carencro Bayou Bankline Restoration and Restoration \$150,000; and the Sankofa Community Development Corporation-Sankofa Wetland Park awarded \$194,107. The outcome for these projects will lead to restoration in six parishes, two parish, one private and three NGO partners; two projects directly supporting recreational opportunities; and three projects with hydrologic modifications benefiting expansive wetlands areas.
- VIII. **Draft 2023 Coastal Master Plan— Stuart Brown, CPRA (video: 00:37:01)** Mr. Brown briefed the members on the 2023 Draft Coastal Master Plan highlighting the key factors of the plan: The Master Plan Process (Projects, Modeling and Prioritization (Planning Tool)). The draft plan includes 61 Restoration Projects, 12 Structural Risk Reduction Projects, and \$11B for Nonstructural Risk Reduction. The Restoration projects will include \$2.7B new\* diversions, landbridge projects, over \$19B in dredging projects and \$2.5B in Programmatic (Barrier Islands, small-scale hydrologic restoration, oyster reefs, shoreline protection). Mr. Brown also stated that under the Risk Reduction Projects in the plan, the Structural Risk Reduction includes, 12 projects and \$14B. The nonstructural Risk Reduction has \$11.2B of the master plan budget is allocated toward nonstructural risk reduction measures, such as elevations, floodproofing, and voluntary acquisition. In closing, Mr. Brown shared with the board members as well as the public the upcoming dates for the Draft Master Plan public hearings across the state. The final plan will be submitted to the board on April 19<sup>th</sup>.
- IX. **Draft Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Plan— Bren Haase, CPRA (video:01:34:24)** Mr. Haase presented the FY 2024 Annual Plan. There will be 4 CPRA Annual Plan Public Hearings with the the final plan being presented to the board on April 19<sup>th</sup> and to the Legislature in April. The total projected expenditures FY2024 is \$1.74 Billion with 85% being construction, 4% operation, maintenance & monitoring; 4% ongoing programs & initiatives; 2% operating costs; 1% planning, and 4% engineering and design. Mr. Haase stated that in the Southwest Region, there are 15 active projects: 9 in construction, 6 in engineering and design. In the South Central Region, there are 41 active projects; 26 in construction, 14 in



E&D and 1 in planning. In the Southeast Region, there are 62 active projects, 45 in construction, 16 in E&D, and 1 in planning.

A motion was put on the floor to

X. **Atchafalaya Basin Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Plan - Bren Haase, CPRA (video:01:48:38)** In Mr. Leziina’s absence, Mr. Haase briefly updated the board on the FY 24 AP. The plan includes the following projects:

- Water Quality/Water Management
- Dredging in Big Bayou Pigeon
- Grimmett Canal Improvements
- Pointe Coupee Water Flow Improvements
- Henderson Lake Water Management Project
- Murphy Lake Depth Restoration
- East Grand Lake Upper Region
- Recreation/Access, Other
- BSA Swamp Base Camp
- Sandy Cove Boat Launch
- Cajun Coast Welcome Center Trail
- Bayou Pigeon Board Launch Improvements
- Update to the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System, Louisiana State Master Plan

XI. **Federal and Congressional Update– Neal McMillin, Governor’s Office (video:01:54:07)** Mr. McMillin gave the board a Review of 2022’s Finish (Examining the end of the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress for coastal Louisiana). On December 23, 2022, President Biden signed the Fiscal Year 2023 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). The FY23 NDAA included the Water Resources Development Act of 2022. WRDA has now passed on a biannual cycle for the 5th Congress in a row. A decade of consistency. Mr. McMillin discussed the Notable Louisiana Provisions in WRDA 2022 – Authorizations; Notable Louisiana Provisions in WRDA 2022 – Cost Share; Notable Louisiana Provisions in WRDA 2022 – HSDRRS; and Notable Louisiana Provisions in WRDA 2022 – Policies & Other Matters. Mr. McMillin also updated the board on the Reauthorization of the EPA’s Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program, which has received a huge boost of funding, under the IIJA funding, Congress provided \$53 million to this program from the infrastructure law. Before that, the program received approximately \$1 million a year. He also updated on the FY 2023 Omnibus Appropriations Bill in which Congress passed (Dec 23, 2022) with \$1.7 trillion dollars. Mr. McMillin’s full presentation can be reviewed at the following link: [https://coastal.la.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/NEAL-23.01.18\\_Review-of-2022s-finish.pdf](https://coastal.la.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/NEAL-23.01.18_Review-of-2022s-finish.pdf).

XII. **Public Comment**

XIII. **Adjourn**



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Motion by Mr. Burke  
Second by Ms. Gorman  
Unanimously Approved

DRAFT