

**St. Tammany Levee,
Drainage and Conservation District (STLDCD)
Board Meeting Minutes**

Date: November 20, 2019

Time: 6:00 P.M.

Location: Koop Drive Parish Council Chambers, 21490 Koop Drive, Mandeville, LA 70471

Welcome, Silent Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance

Call to Order – *Chairman DiFranco welcomed members and requested that the secretary call the roll*

Roll Call –

Present: Chairman DiFranco, Vice-Chair Faust, Commissioner Krieger, Commissioner McGovern, Commissioner McHugh, Commissioner Price, Commissioner Philippi

Absent: Commissioner LaSalle, Commissioner Ingram-Hunter

Quorum was met with 7 members present - 2 members absent.

Approval of Minutes –

It was moved by Commissioner McGovern and seconded by Commissioner Faust to adopt the minutes from the October 16, 2019 STLDCD Board meeting. Without objection the minutes were approved unanimously.

New Business –

A. Update on St. Tammany Parish Coastal Master Plan – NSI

Mr. Don Lancaster and Mr. Glenn Ledet distributed to the members a handout which updated the members as to the scope of project that Neel-Schaffer was tasked. Task 1 – Collection and Organization of Flood Control Data; Task 2 – Data Gap Analysis; Task 3 – Project Feasibility Analysis and Engineering Design. The report that was delivered to the Parish today, November 20, 2019 is the data gap analysis which includes all of the recommended levee segments, pump stations, and flood gates that we are recommending to be looked at and have a feasibility analysis done on in this task free study. On the restoration side NSI looked at the land loss projections through the USGS or the CPRA masterplan. Analyzing the areas that are projected to lose the most land or be at the most risk then overlaying projects in the St. Tammany Parish Government Coastal Masterplan and the CPRA masterplan and seeing what areas need protections through restoration or shoreline protection. All adds to the resiliency of the parish and protects any of the flood control protections that are being put forth. A list of projects have been recommended by NSI to be moved forward. The modeling gap analysis has been delivered to the parish and is all included in the report on November 20, 2019. Task 1 and Task 2 report will be provided to the Levee Board by Neel-Schaffer.

B. Update on storm surge modeling for East St. Tammany Parish –

Commissioner Faust asked if the modeling included the impact on existing conditions versus non-existing conditions in the NSI study. Mr. Ledet responded that this study was not in Task 2, but would be included in the Task 3 report.

C. Update on STLDCD Website Issue –

Chairman DiFranco reported that currently the website issues have not been rectified, however after speaking with Treasurer Krieger, a budget item has been added to the 2020 annual budget for a website technical support entity that will create and manage the website for the Board.

D. Update on USACE \$3.0M Feasibility Study for Flood Control projects –

Chairman DiFranco reported that the USACE set up a meeting with the Parish and stakeholders on November 12, 2020 regarding the federal appropriations for the feasibility study for flood control projects in St. Tammany parish. Chairman DiFranco recognized Ms. Erin Stair with St. Tammany Parish Government who attended the meeting to give a brief update on information discussed at the USACE meeting. The USACE explained to the attendees that they are currently in the process of entering into an agreement where the Corps is going to provide the award of \$3 million dollars listed in the WRDA bill with CPRA being the non-federal sponsor. \$1.5 million will be allocated from the USACE and \$1.5 million will be allocated from CPRA. This program last for 3 years. It is a multi-step program, the first step is for public meetings which should take approximately 90 days. The first meeting will be in January or February of 2020. There will be a total of 3 public meetings which will give the public and interested entities an opportunity to hear what is being suggested. The second step would have a tentatively plan selected in one year. The USACE also mentioned that the project does not have to be in the CPRA masterplan, so the data currently available can be used to base the project which could hopefully go to construction. The next step would be to have the plan after 3 years to start moving into engineering. It was a very introductory meeting, so there was not an in depth discussion on details. Ms. Stair did mention that it was expressed to the USACE that the Levee Board was very interested in how this was going to overlap with the study currently being conducted by Neel-Schaffer Inc. right now and that they should expect some questions from the Board. Chairman DiFranco confirmed that CPRA will be the non-federal sponsor of this funding so it is a partnership program between the two agencies. An attendee list will be provided to the Board along with the assigned contact person.

Treasurer's Report –

Commissioner Krieger reported that the ending balance of October 31, 2019 reflected \$34,354.14. Chairman DiFranco asked for a motion to approve the Treasurer's report to which Commissioner McGovern moved, seconded by Commissioner Faust. There being no objections the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the Fiscal Year 2020 annual budget – A motion was made by Commissioner McGovern and seconded by Commissioner Faust to approve the 2020 annual budget, without objection the motion carried.

December Meeting Date Announcement –

If a quorum can be met, the next meeting of the Levee Board will be on Wednesday, December 18, 2019 in the Parish Council Chambers located at The Parish Towers Building, 520 Old Spanish Trail, Slidell, LA at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comment:

Members of the public spoke and questioned members of the board, representatives of the Parish, CPRA and Neel-Schaffer.

Adjournment –

Chairman DiFranco asked for a motion to adjourn, Commissioner McGovern moved that the Board meeting stand adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Faust. Without objection the meeting was adjourned.