

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**April 12, 2023**

The Board of Commissioners for the Lafourche Basin Levee District met this day in regular session at its official domicile at 21380 Highway 20 in Vacherie, Louisiana. The public was invited to attend via Teleconference and at the LBLD office. The meeting was called to order by its President, Eric Matherne, at 6:00 P.M.

The meeting opened with a prayer and the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Present: Commissioners... Craig Carter, Assumption Parish; President Eric Matherne, St. Charles Parish (phone); Russell Loupe, St. Charles Parish; Larry Sorapuru, St. John the Baptist Parish (phone); Arthur Bosworth IV, St. James Parish; Gary Watson, St. John the Baptist Parish; Commissioner James P. Jasmin, St. James Parish; Kevin Hebert, St. Charles Parish; Jeffery Henry, Ascension Parish; and Marlin Rogers, St. Charles Parish were present. Michael McKinney, Sr., Ascension Parish, was absent.

A quorum was present to conduct business.

Messrs. Spencer Long, Attorney; Donald Ray Henry, Executive Director; Ms. Melanie Broden, Accounting Specialist and Ms. Astrea Jupiter, Administrative Assistant 5 were present.

Vice-President Jeffery Henry made the motion to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Arthur J. Bosworth, IV. President Matherne called for a vote. The motion passed.

There were no public comments on the agenda items.

On motion of Commissioner Arthur J. Bosworth, IV, seconded by Vice-President Jeffery Henry, the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 1, 2023 be accepted and filed in the minutes of the Board. The motion passed.

On motion of Commissioner Gary Watson, seconded by Commissioner Craig Carter, the minutes of the Special Call Meeting of February 13, 2023 be accepted and filed in the minutes of the Board. The motion passed.

On motion of Commissioner Arthur J. Bosworth, IV, seconded by Commissioner Marlin Rogers, the following cash available for distribution of the month of March 31, 2023 be accepted and filed in the minutes of the Board.

**FIRST AMERICAN BANK:**

|  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| <b>Checking account balance Feb. 2023</b>  | <b>\$ 901,573.91</b>   |
| <b>Deposits/Transfer In – Feb.</b>         |                        |
| <b>Revenues/Refund</b>                     | <b>520,946.71</b>      |
| <b>Interest on Checking</b>                | <b>40.50</b>           |
| <b>Funds transferred in</b>                | <b>0.00</b>            |
| <b>Operating Expenses/Other</b>            | <b>349,089.41</b>      |
| <b>Funds transferred out</b>               | <b>0.00</b>            |
| <b>TOTAL ACCOUNT BALANCE FEB. 28, 2023</b> | <b>\$ 1,073,471.71</b> |

**LAMP**

|   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| <b>Account balance – Jan.</b>             | <b>5,093,836.75</b>    |
| <b>Funds transferred in</b>               | <b>0.00</b>            |
| <b>Funds transferred out</b>              | <b>0.00</b>            |
| <b>Interest Income Earned</b>             | <b>20,198.56</b>       |
| <b>TOTAL ENDING BALANCE FEB. 28, 2023</b> | <b>\$ 5,114,035.31</b> |

**INVESTMENTS: BNY**

|   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| <b>Discount Notes/T-Bills/Bonds</b>                     | <b>4,969,264.76</b>     |
| <b>TOTAL CASH &amp; INVESTMENTS AS OF FEB. 28, 2022</b> | <b>\$ 11,156,771.78</b> |

No public comments were made. The motion passed.

On motion of Commissioner James P. Jasmin, seconded by Vice-President Jeffery Henry, the following resolution was proposed and approved.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners accept the proposed retirement resolution for the retired employee, Lazin Grow, Jr.

Mr. Donald Hernaly informed the board that Mr. Grow is a great worker. He is retiring because of medical problems. President Matherne called for a vote. The motion passed.

On motion of Commissioner Arthur J. Bosworth, IV, seconded by Commissioner Russell Loupe, the following resolution was proposed and approved.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners approve the change order to extend the canopy from the new building to the old building for \$2800 as well as to approve the change order for the price difference in changing from a silver canopy to an anodized bronze canopy to match the roof for \$28,000.

Commissioner James Jasmin asked for an update since he was absent from the committee meeting. Executive Director, Donald Henry, said that the supporting documents are in the folders. The \$2800 is to extend the awning from the new building to the kitchen door of the old building. The \$28,000 is for changing the color of the awning. President Matherne called for a vote. Commissioner Kevin Hebert voted nay.

On motion of Commissioner Gary Watson, seconded by Commissioner Larry Sorapuru, the following resolution was proposed and approved.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners approve to join the Attorney General's Office in the suit against FEMA regarding Risk Rating 2.0.

President Matherne said that the AOLBOL and the AG office is requesting levee boards to join the law suit. He thinks it is a worthy cause. It shouldn't be a cost to the Board. It's a fact that we can't afford flood insurance. Mr. Donald Henry informed the Board that he and the President attended the AOLBOL meeting in Baton Rouge. Several

other levee boards have already joined. He thinks the commissioners should support it. Commissioner Larry Sorapuru asked if the lawyer, Spencer Long, is okay with the Board supporting this item. Mr. Long stated that he didn't read the lawsuit but he did read the resolution and supporting documents. He is okay with the board supporting it.

President Matherne called for a vote. The motion passed.

On motion of Commissioner Marlin Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Russell Loupe, the following resolution was proposed and approved.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners approve the letter of no objection request between Phillips 66 and Lafourche Basin Levee District granting access for crossings pertaining to the Sunset Levee to not exceed past March 31, 2024.

President Matherne called for a vote. The motion passed.

On motion of Commissioner James P. Jasmin, seconded by Commissioner Craig Carter, the following resolution was proposed and approved.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners approve the request from GIS to amend Task Order 7-B, final design of Segment 3, with an amended increase of \$442,800.

President Matherne informed the Board that every time USACE or CPRA give a new height, the cost of engineering goes up to figure the new information.

Commissioner Jasmin asked Mr. Kyle Galloway for a brief explanation. Mr. Galloway said he gave Mr. Donald Henry the submittal, which is a big mile stone. Changes occur with the Corps doing their study and reverse head from Hurricane Ida making the levee height insufficient. The cost estimate changed from \$62 million to \$83 million. They back tracked and some of the past information wasn't useful anymore. The increase is this phase and moving forward because of increased scope.

President Matherne called for a vote. The motion passed.

On motion of Commissioner Gary Watson, seconded by Commissioner Arthur J. Bosworth, IV, the following resolution was proposed and approved.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners approve refilling the position of Mr. Lazin Grow, Jr.

President Matherne called for a vote. The motion passed.

On motion of Commissioner Larry Sorapuru, seconded by Commissioner Gary Watson, the following resolution was proposed and approved.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners approve for the Board and/or Staff to attend the LEMC in Lake Charles, LA on May 7-11, 2023.

President Matherne called for a vote. Commissioners Kevin Hebert and Marlin Rogers voted nay. The motion passed.

Mr. Joseph Christopher, CSRS, Inc., gave the highlights on the Upper Barataria Project.

## **Segment 2 Rebid Process**

- **Starting at Tippy Pumpstation and working east until \$3.5M budget is expended approximately north of LA-306**
- **Increasing the Levee Lift to 8.0 EL**
- **Cooperative endeavor with St. Charles Parish to utilize boat ramp access over Canal Fourteen**

## **Rebid Updates**

## **Next Steps**

- **Civix continued LONO coordination for pipeline crossings**

- **Continued investigation of permitting impacts of increasing the levee embankment fill to 8.0 EL**
- **Enter into CEA with St. Charles Parish**
- **Review DDG construction documents for boat ramp access road**
- **Revise plans, specs, and bid documents**
  - **Board Approval to revise construction documents to increasing the levee embankment fill to 8.0 EL**
  - **Revised Geotechnical Data for increasing the levee lift to 8.0 EL**
  - **Develop bid package for both Segment 2 Lift and Boat Ramp Access Road**

## **Schedule**

- **1-2 Months to bid**

## **Segment 3 Floodgate**

### **Progress Update**

- **Met with the USACE H&H division on modeling scope**
- **USACE site visit next week**
- **Review of GIS Civil Engineering and Design Amendment**

### **Next Steps**

- **Revision of H&H modeling scope**
- **CPRA setting meeting with USACE Environmental Division**
- **GIS completion of 65% design on the structural and civil plans and specifications**

Commissioner Arthur J. Bosworth, IV made a motion to adjourn and Vice-President Jeffery Henry seconded his motion.

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PRESIDENT

AJ

04/17/2023