

REGULAR MEETING
August 2, 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; Larry Sorapuru, St. John the Baptist Parish; Arthur Bosworth IV, St. James Parish; Gary Watson, St. John the Baptist Parish; James P. Jasmin, St. James Parish; Russell Loupe, St. Charles Parish; Jeffery Henry, Ascension Parish were present. Marlin Rogers, St. Charles Parish and Kevin Hebert, St. Charles Parish were absent.

A quorum was present to conduct business.

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

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

There were no public comments on the agenda items.

On motion of Commissioner Gary Watson, seconded by Vice-President Jeffery Henry, the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 5, 2023 be accepted and filed in the minutes of the Board. President Matherne called for a vote. The motion passed.

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

FIRST AMERICAN BANK:

Checking account balance June 2023	\$ 82,738.31
Deposits/Transfer In – July	
Revenues/Refund	36,529.14
Interest on Checking	13.14
Funds transferred in	1,049,576.85
Operating Expenses/Other	832,980.49
Funds transferred out	0.00
TOTAL ACCOUNT BALANCE JULY 31, 2023	\$ 335,876.95

LAMP

Account balance – June	4,298,680.53
Funds transferred in	0.00
Funds transferred out	1,049,576.85
Interest Income Earned	16,273.91
TOTAL ENDING BALANCE JULY 31, 2023	\$ 3,265,377.59

INVESTMENTS: BNY

Discount Notes/T-Bills/Bonds	5,023,220.09
-------------------------------------	---------------------

TOTAL CASH & INVESTMENTS AS OF JULY 31, 2023 **\$ 8,624,474.63**

No public comments were made. President Matherne called for a vote. The motion passed.

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners approve the Board and/or Staff to attend the ALBL Annual Meeting being held December 5-7, 2023 at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside in New Orleans.

President Matherne called for a vote. The motion passed.

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners approve the Board and/or Staff to attend MVFCA 88th Annual Meeting, December 7-9, 2023.

President Matherne called for a vote. The motion passed.

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners authorize Executive Director, Donald Henry, to enter into a contract with Attorney, Larry Bankston, to represent the Board and Executive Director in the lawsuit entitled “Ivy Chauvin v. Board of Commissioners of the Lafourche Basin Levee District, Donald Henry, Executive Director; 40th Judicial District, St. John the Baptist Parish.” The estimated cost will be between \$5,000 to \$10,000 at the state rate of \$225 per hour.

President Matherne called for a vote. The motion passed.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners nominated and approved Mr. James P. Jasmin to become Board President on August 2, 2023.

The first Nominee for President is Mr. Marlin Rogers. President Matherne called for a roll call vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:

YEAS:

- Russell Loupe
- Eric Matherne

NAYS:

- Arthur Bosworth IV
- Larry Sorapuru
- Gary Watson
- Jeffery Henry
- Craig Carter
- James P. Jasmin

ABSENT:

- Marlin Rogers
- Kevin Hebert

ABSTAINED: None

By a roll call vote of 2 yeas, 6 nays, 2 absent and 0 abstained. The motion failed.

The second Nominee for President is Mr. James P. Jasmin. President Matherne called for a roll call vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:

YEAS:

- Arthur Bosworth IV
- Larry Sorapuru
- Gary Watson
- Jeffery Henry
- Craig Carter

- James P. Jasmin

NAYS:

- Russell Loupe
- Eric Matherne

ABSENT:

- Marlin Rogers
- Kevin Hebert

ABSTAINED: None

By a roll call vote of 6 yeas, 2 nays, 2 absent and 0 abstained. The motion passed.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners nominated and approved, by default, for Mr. Arthur J. Bosworth, IV to become Board Vice-President on August 2, 2023.

President Matherne called for a roll call vote. Roll call vote thereon as follows:

YEAS:

- Arthur Bosworth IV
- Larry Sorapuru
- Gary Watson
- Jeffery Henry
- Craig Carter
- James P. Jasmin
- Eric Matherne

NAYS:

- Russell Loupe

ABSENT:

- Marlin Rogers
- Kevin Hebert

ABSTAINED: None

By a roll call vote of 7 yeas, 1 nay, 2 absent and 0 abstained. The motion passed.

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

Segment 2 Sunset Levee Rebid

Summary

- **Levee Lift and Des Allemands boat Launch bid together to lower unit price of fill and reduce access road costs**
- **Draft-Final CEA with LBLD and St. Charles Parish**
- **Civix continued Chevron Wagner Rd access agreement coordination**
- **CPRA Reviewed draft Plan, Frontend Documents and Specification**

Next Steps

- **GIS bid documents revisions per CPRA comment**
- **Civix finalize extension of Wagner Rd access agreement**
- **CSRS finalize Bid Package consolidation**
- **Execution of CEA with LBLD and St. Charles Parish**
- **Final Bid Package review and approval by CPRA by 8/11/2023**
- **Advertise Bid**

Schedule

- **1 month to bid**

Segment 3 – Floodgate

Progress Update

- **Comment resolution responses draft for CPRA review**
- **BKI working on MEP 65% Design**
- **FTN working on H&H modeling**

Next Steps

- **Complete H&H modeling**
- **Review 35% progress submittal and GIS responses**
- **BKI complete MEP 65% Design**
- **CPRA to review status of the 65% design deliverable recommendations**

Segment 4 – Floodgate to Hwy 90

Progress Update

- **Preliminary model review update meeting with BKI**

Next Steps

- **Complete Alternatives Analysis**

Pertaining to Segment 2, Commissioner Larry Sorapuru asked Mr. Christopher if there was a reason that we aren't approving the whole package for rebid. Mr. Christopher replied that for the Bid Law the Board approves the advertisement for bid. Mr. Donald Henry stated that we have an agreement between the District and CPRA, which is why they are approving the plans so that the District can get reimbursed. Mr. Kyle Galloway, GIS, informed the Board that everything was at a standstill until the H & H Modeling is completed.

Ms. Sarah Olivier, CSRS, Inc., gave the highlights on the Strategic Planning Process on the Master Plan.

Through the Strategic Master Plan, LBLD will position itself as a regional leader, allowing LBLD to meet and take advantage of new opportunities and anticipate and plan for emerging challenges.

Task 1: Stakeholder Workshops to define vision and context of LBLD

- A. Internal Stakeholder Workshop to identify and prioritize key objectives and mission of the LBLD. Completed 2021.
- B. External Stakeholder Workshops to understand Local and Regional context

Task 2: Strategic Planning and Comprehensive Visioning

- A. Strategic Planning: Reviewing relevant plans, data, historical documents, and other files to frame Plan content.
- B. Comprehensive Visioning: Based on stakeholder input and the strategic planning detailed above, a gap analysis will be created to prioritize future initiatives.
- C. Comparison Exercise: CSRS will evaluate revenue best practices from similar entities and provide a matrix comparison report and recommendations.

External Stakeholder Workshops

- ❑ Engage the community and understand Local and Regional context of the goals and outcomes identified by the Internal stakeholders and listen to concerns to address in Strategic Master Plan.

- ❑ Decision made to schedule one on one meetings with Parish officials for better feedback

Status update:

- ❑ Met with St. Charles Parish July 26th
- ❑ Need to meet with Assumption, St. James, Ascension, St John the Baptist
- ❑ Q for Board: Willing to broker meeting?

Feedback so far

- ❑ Structure Strategic Master Plan around the primary duty of protection.
- ❑ Work in partnership to identify funding opportunities for any co-benefits allowed by future flood reduction projects

Comments re-enforce need for Strategic Master Plan, specifically the need to:

- ❑ Identify projects underway and planned in each Parish, determine project anticipated operating costs, timing, and additional operational concerns as it affects the LBLD budget.
- ❑ Create a framework to prioritize flood reduction projects, with on-going input from stakeholders
- ❑ Examination of underway and planned flood reduction projects to identify co-beneficial uses that can connect communities to each other and the natural world.

Next Steps

- ☐ Complete one on one stakeholder meetings
- ☐ Gather all relevant plans, data, and historical documents
- ☐ Continue to build out prototype for public facing website
- ☐ Create framework for project prioritization

President Matherne asked Ms. Olivier who's the next Parish President that they will meet with. Mr. Donald Henry informed him that they will be meeting with St. James soon. They are in the process of setting up a meeting with Ascension Parish after that.

Mr. Christopher informed the Board that he received a text from Mr. Stokka Brown pertaining to the H & H Modeling. The modeling should be completed in 3-4 weeks.

Mr. Donald Henry informed the Board that the communication amongst the engineering team has been stellar. On Monday, at the Finance Meeting, Mr. Joseph Savoie, C.J. Engineering, will make a final presentation to the Board for the final billing for the building. He also informed the Board that GIS will make a presentation at the finance meeting as well on the levee lift. He stated that a Special Meeting may need to be called pertaining to what is reported.

Ms. Marilynn Bellock, St. Parish Councilman, was introduced to the Board.

Vice-President Jeffery Henry made a motion to adjourn and Commissioner Craig Carter seconded his motion.

PRESIDENT

08/07/2023