

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. MARY LEVEE DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING

JANUARY 19, 2023
FRANKLIN, LA

The St. Mary Levee District (“SMLD”) met on this date with President William Hidalgo, Sr., presiding and the following board members present: Kenny Arceneaux, Will Terry, Andrew Mancuso, Daniel Lipari, J.P. Hebert, and with Luther Smith, Norris Crappell, and Mike Ortiz absent.

Also present: Michael Brocato, Operations Manager; Nicole Cutforth, APTIM; Reid Miller, Miller Engineers; Robert Karam, T. Baker Smith; Jerry Carroll, CPRA; Gerard Bourgeois, William Bourgeois; and members of the public.

Mr. Mancuso moved to dispense with the reading and to approve the Dec 15 regular monthly minutes. After a second by Mr. Arceneaux, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Arceneaux presented the payables report, which Mr. Mancuso moved to approve. Following Mr. Hebert’s second, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Robert Karam with T. Baker Smith reported a meeting was held this afternoon to discuss the existing conditions model and data collection as well as the proposed alternative model runs for the levees west of Charenton Canal. Mr. Karam stated his office plans to schedule a meeting with stakeholders to review existing conditions findings and the proposed alternatives.

Mr. Karam reported his office is continuing to finalize alternative construction pricing for the Lakeside project based on the last meeting with SMPG. Mr. Karam stated that his office also has sent a proposed geotechnical plan to SMPG for review. Mr. Karam reported his office plans to set up another meeting to discuss alternatives in the coming weeks.

Mr. Karam reported that the contractor has completed pouring the concrete deck slab, fuel tank slab, and has installed the precast concrete bridge for the Morgan City Pump Station Project. Mr. Karam stated that the contractors plan to begin with the metal building installation next week.

Ms. Nicole Cutforth with APTIM reported CLECO has completed construction of the connection from the existing powerline to the new Phase 5 powerline at Avoca Island Road and Tank Battery Road for the Bayou Chene Project. Ms. Cutforth stated after the connection to the existing powerline is established, a full closure of the floodgate under shore power will be conducted.

Mr. Brocato reported that SMLD is undertaking a review of the need to insure our recently constructed flood gates and under construction flood gate to protect our investments. Mr. Brocato stated that in addition to relying on commercial insurance SMLD is reviewing the eligibility of our system for the USACE Rehab Program. Mr. Brocato also reported the likelihood of FEMA reimbursements for losses from natural disasters and an evaluation of potential risks that require protection or mitigation.

Mr. Hebert motioned to authorize Mr. Hidalgo to sign the engagement letter for the audit and single audit with Darnall, Sikes, & Frederick. After a second by Mr. Arceneaux’s second, it carried unanimously.

Mr. Arceneaux moved to authorize Task Order #1 with APTIM for budget adjustments. After a second by Mr. Terry, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Terry moved to authorize the purchase of gauges for the Wax Lake Outlet. After a second by Mr. Mancuso, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Hidalgo asked for further comments and did not receive any. Mr. Terry moved for adjournment, which was seconded by Mr. Hebert carried unanimously.

Attest:

Kenneth Arceneaux Jr., Secretary/Treasurer
St. Mary Levee District