

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. MARY LEVEE DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING

August 15, 2024
Franklin, LA

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

Also present: Tim Matte, Executive Director; Michael Brocato, Operations Manager; Bill Bourgeois; Reid Miller, Miller Engineers; Robert Karam, T. Baker Smith; David Naquin, Port of West St. Mary; and members of the public.

Mr. Mancuso moved to dispense with the reading and to approve the July 18 regular monthly minutes. After a second by Mr. Terry, the motion carried unanimously.

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

Mr. Matte also presented the Statement of Revenues by sources and Summary of Expenditures of the St. Mary Levee District.

Mr. Robert Karam with T. Baker Smith reported his office met with board members from the West end of the parish to review the proposal and project scope on Phase 2 for the West of Charenton project in late July.

Mr. Karam also reported the contractors for the Morgan City Earthen Plug project has made significant progress on the project over the last two weeks. Mr. Karam stated weather permitting the contractor is scheduled to finish next week.

Mr. Brocato reported two of the gauges on Bayou Teche that are out are not repairable. Mr. Brocato stated gauges that are near Hwy 319 are damaged but are under warranty. Mr. Brocato also reported that an inspection by the USACE, is scheduled for Sept 9 on the Morgan City area levees.

Mr. Matte reported the USACE are investigating an all-levee version and a combination floodwall and levee version for the W-124 levee section on the South side of Berwick. Funding appears to be a challenge on all of the projects. Mr. Matte stated SMLD will consider a conversation with the affected land owners once the issues of the right-of-way are cleared up. Mr. Matte also reported SMLD held a call with CPRA and the USGS to discuss the re-establishment of the gauge at Bayou Beouf. It is suggested that we and CPRA approach the USACE about this gauge as port of the Lower Mississippi River Comprehensive Study project.

Mr. Matte also stated the Mississippi River Commission’s Low Water Public meeting will be held aboard the MV Mississippi on Aug 23 at 9:00 a.m. located along Front St in Berwick.

Mr. Mancuso motioned to authorize a transfer of \$5,000,000 from the money market account and \$5,000,000 from the capital project account to a CD for one year at Patterson State Bank. With a second by Mr. Crappell, the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Mancuso motioned to authorize Change Order#1 on the TV55 Levee Earthen Plug project. After a second by Mr. Arceneaux, the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Arceneaux motioned to authorize the purchase equipment for the boat. After a second by Mr. Hebert, the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Terry motioned to authorize Phase II of the West of Charenton project development. After a second by Mr. Hebert, the motion was carried unanimously.

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

Attest:

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