

April 17, 2017

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District was held on Monday, April 17, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. at the Water District office, 1016 St. Mary Street, Thibodaux, LA

Present were: Hugh Caffery, Chairman	Chris Domangue
Gene Harrell, Vice-Chairman	Ray Mayet
Greg Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer	Eli Miles, Jr
Donald Schwab	Francis Richard

Absent: Jake Giardina, Lance Authement, Scott LeBlanc

Also present: Dan Grandal, Stantec; Jason Kennedy, Delta Coast; Alma Robichaux, BTNEP
Cyndi Guion, FOBL; John Lafargue, FOBL; Stevie Smith, All South Consulting Engineers
Robert Mire; Josh Bordelon; Nick Porto; Jerry Waguespack; Ben Malbrough, Executive Director
Jana Langley, Administrative Assistant

Moved by Commissioner Eli Miles, Jr., seconded by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell to dispense with the reading of the minutes, and approve the minutes of March 20, 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell, seconded by Commissioner Ray Mayet to approve the accounts payable for March. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Ray Mayet, seconded by Commissioner Francis Richard to approve the finance report for March. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Malbrough advised that he sent the pumping summary to the board. They sent the motor in to Ward Leonard to repair one of the newer motors, and it is up and running. We are considering reconfiguring that pump so we won't run into that issue again. The bayou got to 7 ft. in Donaldsonville. We like to maintain the bayou between 8ft. and 8½ft. We were still able to maintain 350cfs pump capacity.

Mr. Malbrough stated that the bayou crew foreman Robert Mire is planning to retire, and we hired his replacement Josh Bordelon, who is here tonight. Mr. Malbrough advised that so far everything is going really well, and we are going to have a bright future with him. Chairman Hugh Caffery welcomed Josh to the job, and wished him the best. Mr. Bordelon stated that he appreciates the opportunity.

Commissioner Donald Schwab asked what is our danger zone regarding the number of pumps that need to work, and Mr. Malbrough answered right now with the dredging that is completed at full capacity we have between 450cfs and 525cfs, which maintains the bayou between 7½ft. to 7.7ft. to somewhere around 8.4ft.

Mr. Malbrough advised that we really need a new structure in the northern reach of the bayou to hold the water back. We would be in trouble if two pumps go out simultaneously. Commissioner Donald Schwab asked if we have spares, and Mr. Malbrough answered no. He stated that we

kept some of the components. The price it would take to fix the equipment at the shop to get it in working condition is in the \$100,000 range.

Mr. Malbrough reported that we asked Royal Engineers to do an analysis on a low water condition if the weir was removed to see if the bayou would still have the capacity to suffice from a water supply standpoint. They presented that report last month, and it was determined strictly from a water supply standpoint we would be okay. There were some pretty conservative estimates as far as withdrawal rates, and that was with two pumps down.

Mr. Malbrough advised that the next step in the weir removal project is to identify a location that is suitable to put a water control structure. The first place that would be most suitable would be just below the Assumption Parish water purification facility. It would serve the purpose of creating a reservoir for the water purification facility while also fulfilling the needs of water capacity pushing on the banks on the northern end to prevent sloughing.

Mr. Malbrough reported that he sent a proposal to the board from Royal Engineers for an amount not to exceed \$29,800.00 that would require some hydraulic modeling to see if something were to happen and we would have to shut the pumping off, we could see where we could put the structure.

Commissioner Greg Nolan asked if it would be in our best interest to put the structure south of the Cancienne Canal in case they proceed with that reintroduction of water into the bayou from there. Mr. Malbrough stated that we could possibly look at moving that structure further south but we want to look at it being at the water plant first.

Moved by Commissioner Greg Nolan, seconded by Commissioner Ray Mayet to approve the proposal by Royal Engineers for an amount not to exceed \$29,800.00 to do hydraulic modeling to identify a location that is suitable to put a water control structure within Bayou Lafourche near Napoleonville, LA, aimed at providing emergency water storage and bank stability up to Donaldsonville, in the event that the pumping into Bayou Lafourche is ceased. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Malbrough advised that Dan Grandal with Stantec provided three proposals, which were submitted to the board regarding the pump station design project. He advised that they met with the Corps, and got a lot of good feedback.

Mr. Malbrough stated that the first proposal is the stability analysis. We have to show that there is no impact to the Mississippi River levee just adjacent to the structure. The second proposal is for the hydraulic analysis, and this is all accounting for the buried pipe alternative and the forebay alternative. The hydraulic analysis proposal will also focus on sediment trap optimization. The third proposal is for the permitting of the permanent pipeline from the sediment back to the river. He advised that all of these contracts are not to exceed \$25,000.00 for the permitting of the permanent pipeline back to the river, \$64,000.00 for the hydraulic analysis and sediment trap optimization, and \$58,000.00 for the slope stabilities and seepage study.

Chairman Hugh Caffery asked how likely it would be that we would go with a forebay option, and Mr. Malbrough answered that after meeting with the Corps, and after doing some due diligence he would say that the piped in option is gaining more muster.

Mr. Jason Kennedy stated that they are taking a piece wise approach because a lot of things that are in the proposal will have to be done later on anyway in the design process. Mr. Dan Grandal advised that everything is detailed in each of the proposals that were presented to the board. He advised that a lot depends on that sediment basin, and how they work that into the overall solution.

Mr. Kennedy advised that we would not have to normally run two options if we were going throw one out. Mr. Grandal stated that we are not to the point where we know if one option will be better than the other. We are trying to see with the Corps if one of the options fall out based on their criteria.

Mr. Malbrough stated that the cons to the piped in option is you have to manage this increased amount of sediment on the bayou side of the river levee. He advised that the result is going to lay out a matrix of capital costs, and the long-term maintenance cost for the two alternatives.

Moved by Commissioner Chris Domangue, seconded by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell to approve the three proposals presented by Stantec for an amount on each not to exceed \$25,000.00 for the permitting of the permanent pipeline back to the river, \$64,000.00 for the hydraulic analysis and sediment trap optimization, and \$58,000.00 for the slope and stabilities and seepage study. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Donald Schwab, seconded by Commissioner Eli Miles, Jr. to approve the permit application for Daniel Boudreaux to construct a bulkhead behind his house at 4827 Hwy. 308, Napoleonville, LA. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Hugh Caffery advised that we have an area from where the District is located, and there is an old shot gun house and the old Lagarde Typewriter store towards the Tiger Driver Bridge. He stated that we could possibly acquire that property and make that a nice facility for public outreach or public use. We could see what the feasibility is by seeing what these owners near the Tiger Bridge would want to sell their property for. We would hire a real estate agent with the agreement that if we ever buy any property we will pay 3% commission.

Moved by Commissioner Donald Schwab, seconded by Commissioner Ray Mayet and unanimously approved to authorize Ben Malbrough to sign the Buyer Representation Agreement with Donnes Real Estate to locate property owners adjacent to the District's currently owned property in Lafourche Parish who may be interested in selling their property. The commission would be 3% to the real estate agent if we ever buy any property.

Cyndi Guion, Friends of Bayou Lafourche, reported that she has been working on building a contact list for solicitation letter and for summit outreach. She has been working on building the grant application for the Tourist Investment Program. The Friends of Bayou Lafourche board meeting was April 10th. They have been working on the logo development and web cost. They

also looked at insurance cost. They are looking at a dock installation and development near Audubon Bridge. They received the tax determination letter from the IRS.

Chairman Hugh Caffery asked Cyndi what would she say has been the results of the Friends of Bayou Lafourche, and Cyndi answered the best result has been the ability to move forward for funding outreach efforts without any concerns about someone donating any sizable amount. She advised that by submitting the grant application for the Tourist Investment Program, it could be a sizeable project that could potentially bring people to the region for water sports and recreation.

Mr. Malbrough advised that the implications of the Tourist Investment Program are huge with the fact that we are the new kid on the block. It would be nice if we could put something on the ground for everybody to see. Mr. Lafargue stated that he is encouraged to hear about the property next door.

Mr. Lafargue advised that Nicholls is acquiring additional property through Mr. Giardina and Mr. Adams. Mr. Lafargue stated that they talked about creating a land bank to accept other property. He stated that 8,000 people could get into the water today across from Nicholls on the bayou side if they had access.

Chairman Hugh Caffery stated that there was a lot of enthusiasm at the board meeting about Terrebonne Parish suggesting that maybe we can have a donation on the water bill. Mr. Lafargue reported that the possibility that we could put a line item on the water bill would not be great. Mr. Lafargue stated that we are so early in this whole discussion. He advised that a statement stuffer would be a great way to attach to Terrebonne Parish.

Chairman Caffery asked about the date for the summit, and Mr. Lafargue answered that we are probably a little behind on that. He stated that we want to be smart about this and want to get the key stakeholders. Mr. Lafargue stated that Cyndi reached out to the wellness center.

Commissioner Chris Domangue asked what the timeline is for the weir coming out, and the new control structure being built in Napoleonville. Mr. Malbrough answered that from a public perspective standpoint, we probably want to have that structure in Napoleonville built before the weir comes out.

Chairman Hugh Caffery asked for any public comments, and Mr. Waguespack said to take the weir out.

Chairman Caffery stated that there will be no executive session tonight.

Moved by Commissioner Francis Richard, seconded by Commissioner Eli Miles, Jr. and unanimously approved the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Hugh Caffery, Chairman

Greg Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer

