

December 16, 2013

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District was held on Monday, December 16, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. at the Water District office, 1016 St. Mary Street, Thibodaux, LA

Present were: Gene Harrell, Vice-Chairman
Greg Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer
Lance Authement
Windell Curole
Juan Pickett
Ron Animashaun
Donald Schwab
Judge Jimmy Gaidry
Eli Miles, Jr.
Francis Richard

Absent: Hugh Caffery, Chairman and Jake Giardina

Also present were: Jason Kennedy and Dustin Rabalais, T. Baker Smith
Barry Marionneaux, Attorney; Gasper Chifici, CPRA Project Manager
Leo Sternfels, Arthur J. Gallagher Insurance; Henry Templet
Alma Robichaux, BTNEP; Robert Payne; Leah Payne
Nick Porto; Bruno Deleo; Jerry Waguespack; Robert Mire
Ben Malbrough, Executive Director; Jana Langley, Administrative Assistant

Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell chaired the meeting due to the absence of Chairman Hugh Caffery.

Moved by Commissioner Francis Richard, seconded by Commissioner Donald Schwab to dispense with the reading of the minutes, and approve the minutes of November 18, 2013. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Judge Jimmy Gaidry, seconded by Commissioner Francis Richard to approve the accounts payable for November. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Judge Gaidry, seconded by Commissioner Donald Schwab to approve the finance report. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ben Malbrough advised that we are currently operating as normal as possible, both at the pump station and in the bayou. The hydrilla has slowed down some due to the cool weather. He has had conversations with Mr. St. Pierre with the machine in St. Charles, and Mr. Landry with the aquatic navigator. We may be able to work an agreement with Mr. St. Pierre to use his machine in the bayou to see how effective it is. Mr. Malbrough stated that Mr. Landry's equipment would attach to our existing barge, and there may be an opportunity to see his machine work after the holidays.

Mr. Jason Kennedy, T. Baker Smith Project Manager, gave an update on the Mississippi River Reintroduction into Bayou Lafourche-Phase 2 Project as follows:

- 100% complete on all of the design and field survey. They are in the office processing that data, and will use that to move forward with their geotechnical analysis.
- They met with Lynn Roussel of Terracon and had a geotechnical kickoff meeting. They looked at all the proposed boring locations. The outcome of the meeting was she thinks their field guys will mobilize the second week of January to start their soil borings work
- Dustin has been working the past two to three weeks getting landowner access for them to begin that work with the thirty-four individual sites.
- They are moving forward with the permitting work.

Mr. Malbrough advised that the Board made the decision in September to go out to market to receive quotes on our annual insurance renewal for all lines of coverage. We received five proposals from different agents and they were extremely competitive, and extremely complex.

Mr. Malbrough advised that when Barry and he received all the proposals they realized it was out of their comfort zone so we brought in a third party consultant to evaluate the insurance proposals in order to provide their expertise, and make sure that we were doing what was in our best interest.

Mr. Malbrough distributed a summary of the insurance proposals received, and reviewed all of them with the Board. Arthur Gallagher presented two options and one of the options locks in the Great American Insurance premium for two years. He advised that one of them just quoted for auto, some quoted for only General Liability, and some only quoted the marine coverage. Mr. Malbrough stated that the overwhelming majority of Barry, the third party consultant, and himself felt it was not in our best interest to go with different agents for different coverage. We would much rather go with one agent all of our insurance.

Mr. Malbrough stated that Arthur Gallagher's proposal was the lowest of all the proposals received. The total premium for next year will be \$130,000.00 less than we paid this year. Mr. Barry Marianneaux advised that the companies that are furnishing this coverage for the quote we are recommending are strong, highly rated companies.

Mr. Malbrough made the recommendation to renew the insurance with Arthur Gallagher Insurance Option 1 in the amount of \$165,302.57 for years 2014 and 2015. Mr. Marianneaux stated that we have a question on the coverage on underground piping at the pump station. We have the three dolphins sitting in the river where the intake is located, and we have a lawsuit on one of them. We think it would be good to increase that coverage to at least \$250,000 per dolphin.

Moved by Commissioner Windell Curole, seconded by Commissioner Donald Schwab and unanimously approved to sign the documents necessary to renew the insurance coverage for 2014 with Arthur Gallagher Insurance Option 1 in amount of \$165,302.57. The Board also approved going with Arthur Gallagher for the 2015 renewal on the marine coverage because we are locked in for the premium for the Hull/P&I, Vessel Pollution Liability, and Marine Excess Liability coverage for 2014 and 2015. The motion also includes getting additional coverage on the underground piping at the pump station, and additional coverage on the dolphins alarm system in the river at the intakes.

Mr. Marianneaux advised that our present By-Laws requires the Board to have the proposed amendments thirty days in advance before voting on any changes. A discussion was held regarding the January meeting date, and the Board approved changing the meeting date for January to Tuesday, January 21st due to the third Monday being a holiday. The changes will be made to the By-Laws and will be e-mailed to the Board tomorrow for their review. The proposed amendments to the By-Laws will be presented at the January 21st meeting for adoption.

Moved by Commissioner Ron Animashaun, seconded by Commissioner Francis Richard and unanimously approved to adopt the Equal Employment Opportunity Policy (EEO) per Civil Service requirements.

Ms. Alma Robichaux advised that every year the District donates \$5,000.00 to help with the Bayou Lafourche Cleanup. Most of the money is spent for T-shirts and odds and ends. She advised that

dumpsters are a huge cost. She advised that there is a planning meeting scheduled for Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. She stated that their biggest problem in the past has been access to the bayou.

Mr. Malbrough advised that the BTNEP \$5,000 donation is already included in next year's budget. He stated that Hugh has stressed to him about public involvement, public outreach, and public awareness. Hugh wants the District to take a much more active role in the Bayou Lafourche Cleanup. We should be extremely involved and we could even discuss putting up a little more than the \$5,000 that we normally give. We will take a much more involved approach next year.

Moved by Francis Richard, seconded by Commissioner Ron Animashaun and unanimously approved to adopt the Resolution thanking William "Bill" Campbell and David Lasseigne for their many years of service to the District, and appreciation for being hard-working, dedicated employees.

Mr. Malbrough reported that he took Savoie Engineers to look at the St. John walk across bridge to see if there could be some modifications to the bridge so our equipment could pass under it. They took some measurements and are in the process of doing some analysis.

Mr. Malbrough advised that he met with an adjacent landowner regarding the sediment trap. They are still working with the State on that issue. The most feasible thing to do right now is dump it on the adjacent land across the bayou from our property.

Mr. Malbrough advised that he hung a draft of an aerial map of Bayou Lafourche that South Central Planning developed. His plan is to have the map enlarged to cover almost one entire wall in the Board room.

Mr. Malbrough reminded the Board of the employees and commissioners holiday reception at the office this Thursday night at 6:30 p.m.

Moved by Commissioner Francis Richard, seconded by Commissioner Eli Miles, Jr. and unanimously approved to go into Executive Session at 5:50 p.m.

Moved by Commissioner Francis Richard, seconded by Donald Schwab and unanimously approved to return to regular session.

A discussion was held regarding providing dumpsters for the Bayou Lafourche Cleanup, and getting more involved in the cleanup next year. Mr. Malbrough stated that he feels we should be the biggest proponent behind this cleanup effort. A discussion was held regarding getting businesses and Terrebonne Parish involved.

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

Gene Harrell, Vice-Chairman

Greg Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer

