

December 16, 2014

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District was held on Tuesday, December 16, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. at the Water District office, 1016 St. Mary Street, Thibodaux, LA

Present were: Hugh Caffery, Chairman
Greg Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer
Judge Jimmy Gaidry
Windell Curole
Francis Richard
Lance Authement
Donald Schwab

Absent: Ron Animashaun, Jake Giardina, Gene Harrell, Eli Miles, Jr., Juan Pickett

Also present: Marc Rogers, T. Baker Smith; Lori LeBlanc; Tiffany Bergeron; Donald Arceneaux
Barry Marionneaux, Attorney; Ayad Taofik, Burk-Kleinpeter, Inc.
Leo Sternfels, Arthur J. Gallagher Insurance Co.; Robert Mire; Doodie Mire
Stevie Smith, All South Consulting Engineers; Ben Malbrough, Executive Director

Moved by Commissioner Windell Curole, seconded by Francis Richard to dispense with the reading of the minutes, and approve the minutes of November 17, 2014. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Moved by Commissioner Judge Jimmy Gaidry, seconded by Commissioner Greg Nolan to approve the finance report for November. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ben Malbrough advised that Entergy had a small outage in Donaldsonville, and the power was back on within ten to fifteen minutes. It gave us an opportunity to run the backup generator to get the pumps up and running.

Mr. Malbrough reported that the bayou is pretty clean from the weir up to St. John. They will pull the harvesters out some time next week and do some work on the harvesters. They will also work on getting some of the water hyacinths pushed out.

Ms. Lori LeBlanc advised that she and her team have been working with Ben to come up with some ideas for the outreach campaign. She reported that Ben gave a presentation at the Houma Chamber Infrastructure Committee, and gave one yesterday to Houmas Kiwanis. He will give a presentation to the Houma-Terrebonne Chamber in January.

Ms. LeBlanc showed the Facebook page that is set up for Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District. She advised that with the new age of marketing and public outreach there is a lot of social media. Facebook is a primary outlet for people to get the news, and to know what is going on. She said to tell your friends to "like" the Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District page. She showed some post of articles and pictures of the bayou that are on our Facebook page.

Mr. Malbrough advised that they have been working with BTNEP on the Bayou Lafourche Cleanup. He is looking at growing the cleanup into a lot bigger event.

Marc Rogers, T. Baker Smith, gave an update on the Mississippi River Reintroduction into Bayou Lafourche project, as follows:

- We made substantial progress since the last meeting on the land rights acquisition. This Thursday he will return a substantial amount of documents associated with the interest in Lula Westfield. There are three other agreements that they have to executed with the land owners.
- The final plans were delivered to Ben last week, and we went over them with him.
- They have to put together a statement of intentions before the plans are sent to CPRA.
- We need to get some direction from the Board about advertising.

Mr. Malbrough advised that we are not anticipating any problems with the land rights agreements. We are hoping that as soon as Dustin gets the two leases signed we will be ready to submit it to CPRA before the end of the year for review. CPRA told us that they will not sit on it for longer than two weeks.

Mr. Malbrough requested that the Board approve to advertise the project to go out for bid for the construction of the project if all of that happens before the January meeting.

Moved by Commissioner Windell Curole, seconded by Commissioner Lance Authement and unanimously approved to authorize Ben Malbrough to advertise the Phase 2 Dredge Project to go out for bid for the construction of the project as soon as all the paperwork is completed and reviewed by CPRA.

Mr. Malbrough advised that the insurance proposal was distributed to the Board for review. Mr. Sternfels and Ben Malbrough reviewed the insurance proposal. Mr. Malbrough recommended moving from Great American Insurance to Travelers Insurance for the Hull/P&I and Marine Excess Liability.

Moved by Commissioner Francis Richard, seconded by Commissioner Donald Schwab to approve the insurance proposal presented by Arthur J. Gallagher Insurance Co. for an annual premium of \$154,415.17. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Malbrough advised that Mr. Gene Harrell and he attended the meeting regarding the Donaldsonville Drainage Project. The West Ascension Drainage Board had a representative at the meeting. The final take away was that they are fully supportive of the project now.

Mr. Malbrough stated that we are very early on in the project. We have some preliminary survey data and some geotechnical data. The Board approved in March for All South Consulting Engineers to begin the preliminary design, which is basically the survey and geotechnical work for \$25,000.00, which they have not expended all of it yet. Mr. Malbrough requested approval from the Board to release the remaining funds in the engineering contract, which is \$62,000.00.

Moved by Commissioner Windell Curole, seconded by Commissioner Francis Richard and unanimously approved to authorize Mr. Malbrough to release the remaining funds of \$62,000.00 in the engineering contract for the Donaldsonville Drainage Project for a total not to exceed \$87,000.00. This will bring the project to final design.

Mr. Malbrough advised that Lafourche Parish is requesting a permit to refurbish the Industrial Park Road bulkhead. He advised that they are way outside of the channel.

Moved by Commissioner Windell Curole, seconded by Commissioner Greg Nolan and unanimously approved to grant a permit application to Lafourche Parish to refurbish the Industrial Park Road bulkhead. The project is to replace the existing bulkhead that is in disrepair, and to maintain the stability of the roadway that is adjacent to the existing bulkhead.

Mr. Malbrough stated that the meeting in January has to be changed due to a holiday falling on the regular meeting date. He proposed moving the meeting to Tuesday, January 20th.

There was no executive session due to there not being any new issues regarding the litigations.

Mr. Malbrough advised that there will be a holiday reception for the Board members and employees after the meeting adjourns. He invited the public to stay for the reception.

Chairman Hugh Caffery asked for any public comments and there were none.

Moved by Commissioner Windell Curole, seconded by Commissioner Greg Nolan and unanimously approved the meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Hugh Caffery, Chairman

Greg Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer