

December 12, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District was held on Monday, December 12, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. at the Water District office, 1016 St. Mary Street, Thibodaux, LA

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

Absent: Ron Animashaun, Judge Jimmy Gaidry, Jake Giardina

Also present: Dustin Rabalais, T. Baker Smith; Barry Marionneaux, Attorney; Jason Kennedy, Delta Coast
Leo Sternfels; John Lafargue, FOBL; Cyndi Guion, FOBL; Mike Sobert; Leeann Marionneaux
Nick Porto; Jerry Waguespack; Henry Templet; Hattie Templet; Robert Mire; Doodie Mire
Janice Miles; Nancy Schwab; Ben Malbrough, Executive Director; Jana Langley, Administrative Assistant

Moved by Commissioner Ray Mayet, seconded by Commissioner Eli Miles, Jr. to dispense with the reading of the minutes, and approve the minutes of November 16, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Francis Richard, seconded by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell to approve the accounts payable for November. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Eli Miles, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Lance Authement to approve the finance report for November. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ben Malbrough reported that everything is back up and running at the pump station, and everything is going well along the bayou. Chairman Hugh Caffery asked how the excavation of the railroad is going, and Mr. Malbrough answered that it is going really well.

Mr. Dustin Rabalais, T. Baker Smith, advised that the pedestrian bridge spans will be delivered Wednesday, and is on time. He reported that there is a change order for approval for a deduction in the dredge project cost. They are balancing out the quantities.

Moved by Commissioner Chris Domangue, seconded by Commissioner Ray Mayet to approve Change Order No. 2 for the dredge project for a deduction in the amount of \$609,877.53. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Malbrough advised that the saltwater control structure project is substantially complete, and there was a ribbon cutting ceremony. He needs to check with the parish about fencing around the site.

Mr. Malbrough showed pictures of before and after construction of the Union Pacific Railroad project. He showed a picture of the first train to pass on the completed railroad bridge.

Mr. Jason Kennedy, Delta Coast, reported that their team has been working on the Mississippi River pumping capacity improvements project. They did three dimensional multi-beam surveys in the river, turbidity meters deployed in the river, current profiles of the river, and topographic and boundary surveys. Mr. Kennedy stated that a

lot of the data they are collecting will be used by Baird, who is the river modeling folks. Mr. Kennedy showed a three dimensional underwater section of a one mile segment of the Mississippi River. He explained that the warmer colors are shallow, and cooler colors are deep. He advised that there is a tremendous amount of rocks. He showed pictures of where the pump station would be built. He reported that they are developing at least three more alternatives. Mr. Kennedy stated that they should have a preliminary report in the next two weeks.

Mr. Malbrough advised that the January meeting date falls on a holiday. The Board agreed to change the meeting date to Monday, January 23rd.

Mr. Malbrough reported that Dan Grandel has set up a site visit to the pump stations in New Orleans this Friday. They will look at some of the pump station sites that they are designing now. Chairman Hugh Caffery asked that they take pictures for the Board to see.

Mr. Malbrough reported that Alma Robichaux will be unable to make the meeting because she is out of town.

Mr. Malbrough advised that Leo Sternfels is here with Arthur Gallagher Insurance for the insurance renewal. He advised that we are maintaining the same exact coverage, and the premiums are going down by \$1,200.00. Mr. Malbrough advised that Leo is here to answer any questions, and there were no questions. Mr. Malbrough recommended renewing all the existing lines of coverage on the summary page.

Moved by Commissioner Eli Miles, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Donald Schwab to renew the existing lines of insurance coverage with Arthur Gallagher Insurance for an annual premium of \$161,002.18 effective January 1, 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Donald Schwab, seconded by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell and unanimously approved to open the public hearing on the 2017 Operational Budget.

Chairman Hugh Caffery advised that everyone got a copy of the 2017 Operational Budget, 2016 Amended Operational Budget, and 2016 Amended CIAP Funds budget for review. The three budgets were reviewed. Chairman Hugh Caffery asked for any public comments on any of the budgets, and there were none.

Moved by Commissioner Donald Schwab, seconded by Commissioner Ray Mayet and unanimously approved to close the public hearing on the 2017 Operational Budget.

Moved by Commissioner Francis Richard, seconded by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell and unanimously approved to adopt the 2017 Operational Budget.

Moved by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell, seconded by Commissioner Chris Domangue and unanimously approved to adopt the 2016 Amended Operational Budget, and 2016 Amended CIAP Budget.

Mr. Malbrough advised that the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Friends of Bayou Lafourche needs to be amended to clarify the payment terms of the agreement. The amendment changes the payment terms to include \$6,000 per month maximum that will be paid to the Friends of Bayou Lafourche for the duration of twelve months. They will give us a breakdown of what the \$6,000 will be utilized for.

Mr. Barry Marionneaux stated that this will not change the termination for cause, or termination for convenience for any reason if the Board so desires to do.

Moved by Commissioner Chris Domangue, seconded by Commissioner Ray Mayet and unanimously approved to remove Article IV of the Friends of Bayou Lafourche CEA in its entirety, and replace it with Amendment No. 1 to the Friends of Bayou Lafourche Cooperative Endeavor Agreement, Article IV Payment Terms Sections 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5 and 4.6. All other sections of the CEA remain the same.

Mr. Malbrough advised that our current CPA, Tia Barbera with Waguespack, Gallagher & Barbera, informed him that they would no longer be doing our audit. He got proposals from Postlethwaiter & Netterville in Baton Rouge, St. Martin and Pellegrin in Houma, and Stagni & Company in Thibodaux. The prices range from \$12,700 to \$18,000. Chairman Hugh Caffery stated that he would like to give Ben the authority to do research on the three CPA firms that submitted proposals, and to choose someone by December 31st.

Moved by Commissioner Donald Schwab, seconded by Commissioner Lance Authement and unanimously approved to authorize Ben Malbrough to do further research on the three CPA's that submitted proposals, and then select one to engage to do our audit.

Mr. John Lafargue, President of the Friends of Bayou Lafourche, reported that two of their board members, Henry Templet and Mike Sobert, are here today. He stated that they had a meeting here earlier today to discuss different issues. Most of their time has been spent on setting up the office. He advised that they met with Lee Melancon in Donaldsonville. He thanked the Board for all their support.

Chairman Hugh Caffery advised that there will be no executive session today.

Mr. Malbrough advised that there is a Christmas gathering after the meeting to show appreciation to the employees for what they do all year. He invited everyone to stay around if they have time.

Chairman Hugh Caffery advised that it has been a tremendous year, and a good reason to celebrate our accomplishments. He thanked Ben and thanked the commissioners because it was under your watch. Chairman Hugh Caffery thanked Barry Marionneaux for his very diligent and fine work for the district, and Mr. Marionneaux thanked Hugh Caffery for the compliment.

Moved by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell, seconded by Commissioner Donald Schwab and unanimously approved the meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Hugh Caffery, Chairman

Greg Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer

