

June 19, 2017

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District was held on Monday, June 19, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. at the Water District office, 1016 St. Mary Street, Thibodaux, LA

Present were: Greg Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer
Donald Schwab
Francis Richard
Ray Mayet
Lance Authement
Scott LeBlanc
Eli Miles, Jr.
Chris Domangue

Absent: Hugh Caffery, Chairman, Gene Harrell, Vice-Chairman, Jake Giardina

Also present: Pernell Pellegrin, Martin and Pellegrin, CPAs; Dan Grandal; Michael Newchurch
Barry Marionneaux, Attorney; Cyndi Guion, FOBL; John Lafargue, FOBL; Clark Capone
Josh Bordelon; Robert Mire; Henry Templet; Hattie Templet; David Boudreaux
Ben Malbrough, Executive Director; Jana Langley, Administrative Assistant

Greg Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer announced that Chairman Hugh Caffery, and Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell will not be attending the meeting, and asked for a motion for him to preside over the meeting.

Moved by Commissioner Francis Richard, seconded by Commissioner Donald Schwab and unanimously approved to allow Greg Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer to preside over the meeting.

Moved by Commissioner Ray Mayet, seconded by Commissioner Francis Richard to dispense with the reading of the minutes, and approve the minutes of May 15, 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Scott LeBlanc, seconded by Commissioner Eli Miles, Jr. to approve the accounts payable for May. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ben Malbrough advised that he sent the pumping summary to the board, and everything is back up and operational. We are siphoning, and are able to save a lot of money.

Mr. Pernell Pellegrin with Martin and Pellegrin, CPAs introduced himself to the board, and advised that they got to look at our books and records for the annual audit, and issued four opinions.

Mr. Pellegrin advised that the first opinion is whether the financial statements prepared by our staff are accurate, and they gave an unmodified opinion meaning that the financial statements presented by our staff were correct.

Mr. Pellegrin stated that the second opinion is whether they came across any instances where we did not comply with any laws and regulations, and issued an opinion that they found no instances where we did not comply with any laws and regulations.

Mr. Pellegrin advised that the third opinion is whether the accounting processes are sufficient to produce annual figures in the course of the employees doing their duties. He stated that because of the size of the entity and having only one person doing the accounting process we found no errors because of the size of

the accounting staff. He recommended that the executive director have oversight over the accounting, and the commissioners have oversight over the executive director, and everything should be good.

Mr. Pellegrin advised that the fourth opinion is whether the accounting over the federal awards is adequate, and we issued an opinion that it was adequate.

Mr. Pellegrin stated that they also have to issue a response to last year's findings, and advised that last year our auditor had a finding that we did not amend our federal awards budget. Mr. Pellegrin advised that we are actually exempt from amending the federal awards budget so we should not have had that finding, and it has been resolved.

Mr. Pellegrin reviewed some of the financial highlights in the audit report regarding revenues and expenditures. He asked for any questions regarding the audit report, and there were none.

Moved by Commissioner Scott LeBlanc, seconded by Commissioner Lance Authement and unanimously approved to accept the 2016 fiscal audit report presented by Mr. Pernell Pellegrin.

Moved by Commissioner Francis Richard, seconded by Commissioner Donald Schwab to approve the finance report for May. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Malbrough stated that we will hopefully next month have a recommendation from Stantec and their team as far as an alternative to move forward with the pump station alignment. They are still running stability analysis.

M. Malbrough advised that Royal did some model analysis to look at whether or not we could get away with one water control structure in Napoleonville that will serve the purpose of a reservoir for the water treatment plants as well as alleviate some of the bank stability issues in the event of a pump station shutdown or failure. He stated that we got those results back Friday afternoon, and has not had a chance to sit down and ask the engineers questions regarding the report. We hope to make a recommendation next month on a path forward.

Mr. Malbrough stated that the wetland delineation report was submitted to the Corps on the permitting of Phase 3 dredging from Napoleonville to the weir in Thibodaux.

Mr. Malbrough reported that we have talked at length regarding the repair of the boat launch in Donaldsonville. He advised that we got prices to do a floating dock so that in the event of maintenance dredging in the area we can just pick up the floating dock, move it, and reinstall it afterwards. He advised that Coastal Bridge had the lowest proposal of \$52,000.00 to repair the launch, fix the drainage issues that caused the disrepair to the launch, and to install a floating dock adjacent to the launch.

Commissioner Francis Richard asked about fixing the launch and what we intend to do with it. Mr. Malbrough answered that the curb adjacent to the launch is really the culprit because the curb is busted. He showed pictures of the boat launch. He stated we will put a floating dock on the south side.

Commissioner Francis Richard asked Mr. Eli if this will work, and Commissioner Eli Miles, Jr. answered that this will work because right now it is in real bad shape.

Commissioner Greg Nolan asked if we would want to get the parish's okay to take over the liability before we spend the money, and Mr. Malbrough answered that he could certainly do that. He advised that we are

fixing it with the intent that the parish take over the liability but it is not guaranteed. Mr. Malbrough advised that he would like to get the approval contingent upon negotiating an agreement with the parish to take over the liability.

Moved by Commissioner Francis Richard, seconded by Commissioner Donald Schwab to approve the construction contract with Coastal Bridge not to exceed \$52,000.00 contingent upon the parish or the City of Donaldsonville taking over the liability of the launch and property. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Malbrough advised that he and Barry are working with Lafourche Parish Government attorneys on the paperwork to take over the saltwater control structure. The parish purchased the property on the LA 1 side of the structure, but on the LA308 side they only got a construction right-of-way for the structure. The landowner on the LA308 side wants to donate a portion of his property to us so we are working on subdividing that property that Mr. Jerome Cantrelle wants to donate to the district.

Mr. Malbrough reported that Lafourche Parish's plan now for the Dugas Canal project is to cap the culverts that run under LA1 into Dugas Canal so that there is no influx of water from the bayou into Dugas Canal. The structure will remain as is. They are potentially thinking about filling in that whole area between the edge of the road and the Dugas Canal structure which is adjacent to Ronald Adams's house. They will have to get a permit from us. We will also enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the parish that will lay out the terms of what they will be responsible for.

Mr. John Lafargue, Friends of Bayou Lafourche, advised that Dr. Chadwick with Nicholls has agreed to serve on their Board. He reported that they have developed the Tier 1 solicitation membership cards that Cindy is handing out right now. Mr. Lafargue stated that they are working on upgrading their website.

Mr. Lafargue advised that he mentioned in the past that they received a \$25,000.00 planning grant from the Tourist Investment Program. They also submitted an application for a Louisiana Endowment for Humanities grant for the Museum on Main Street program, which will have a traveling exhibit next year called "Water/Ways." He thanked everyone for their support.

Mr. Malbrough advised that during the special session our capital outlay funding for the Donaldsonville Drainage Improvements Project was included in priority one for \$765,000.00 in state dollars.

Commissioner Greg Nolan asked for any public comments, and there were none.

Commissioner Greg Nolan advised that there will be no executive session tonight.

Moved by Commissioner Francis Richard, seconded by Commissioner Donald Schwab and unanimously approved the meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Greg Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer