

March 17, 2014

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District was held on Monday, March 17, 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
Ron Animashaun
Lance Authement
Jake Giardina
Judge Edward Gaidry
Francis Richard
Windell Curole
Eli Miles, Jr.
Juan Pickett

Absent: Gene Harrell, Vice-Chairman, Donald Schwab

Also present were: Dustin Rabalais and Marc Rodgers, T. Baker Smith
Barry Marionneau, Attorney; Alma Robichaux, BTNEP
Stevie Smith, All South Consulting Engineers
Ben Malbrough, Executive Director; Robert Mire
Jana Langley, Administrative Assistant

Moved by Commissioner Jake Giardina, seconded by Commissioner by Juan Pickett to dispense with reading of the minutes, and approve the minutes of February 24, 2014.

Moved by Commissioner Francis Richard, seconded by Commissioner Windell Curole to approve the accounts payable for February. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Hugh Caffery wanted to express his thanks to Senator Norby Chabert, and Senator Troy Brown who came to a meeting to discuss our proposed legislation. We are asking three things in the proposed legislation, one is that this body can own property, that we need to have the authority to keep people from polluting the bayou, and that we can take property and use it for the purposes that this bayou has responsibility for. This legislation will give us clear authority to take charge of our responsibilities.

Chairman Caffery stated that he and others had a meeting last Friday with Scott Angelle, Public Service Commission, to discuss with him the railroad issue. Mr. Malbrough advised that Mr. Angelle is willing to help. He understands the problem and offered to assist us in trying to come to some mediation with the railroad to hopefully solve this problem.

Moved by Commissioner Windell Curole, seconded by Commissioner Judge Edward Gaidry and unanimously approved to deviate from the agenda and move to Item 10.-New Business next on the agenda.

Chairman Caffery asked we take the lead in the project to prevent the flooding in Donaldsonville because until we can prevent flooding in Donaldsonville, we can't pump all that we can pump. Senator Norby Chabert said at their meeting that he felt we had a pretty good chance of getting a capital outlay bill. Chairman Caffery stated that Ben and he have been in discussions with the engineering company that Ben selected to look at that project initially. Stevie Smith is here tonight with All South Engineers.

Mr. Malbrough advised that in the capital outlay whatever amount you request, the District is required to match 25%. If we pay for the preliminary planning and engineering design, that amount can go towards our 25% match. We have to get this filed within the next month or so before the end of this session. We need to go to them with something that has some substance to it. We can move forward

with the preliminary planning/engineering to get us through the full application phase. The senators were pretty optimistic that we could get some of this funding this year. Mr. Malbrough requested that the Board approve with moving forward with a maximum of \$25,000.00 to get the preliminary phase started. Commissioner Windell Curole agreed that this is very important to get this taken care of.

Moved by Commissioner Windell Curole, seconded by Commissioner Judge Edward Gaidry and unanimously approved to fund \$25,000.00 for the preliminary planning/engineering phase for the capital outlay bill to request funding to use for the drainage issues in Donaldsonville.

Chairman Caffery advised that we approved \$100,000.00 in the budget for this year to update our modeling. We received a quote from Royal Engineers last month, and the Board requested that Ben research additional engineering rates for the modeling.

Chairman Caffery stated that Ben researched additional engineering rates and sent them to the Board for review. Chairman Caffery advised that Ben informed him that Royal Engineers has the experience and skills to give us the best work toward this new modeling, and toward the goal of getting the most attention to our project.

Mr. Malbrough advised that he looked at the first three phases that Royal Engineers presented, which are essentially dissecting what was done back in 2004 and cataloging all the information data that was used. Determining what is outdated what assumptions were made that could be brought up to speed, and what information is available now that can be plugged in. Going forward would be to coordinate with CPRA, who are the ultimate people that we are going to be selling this whole project to. Essentially, when you break down the phases to get to a holding point where we have to stop and determine where we think this is going to go from here. It is about \$65,000.00, and that would give us a complete analysis of all the modeling that has been done in the past, both from CH2MHill and from the final Phase 2 design report, as well as models that have been done in the master plan.

Moved by Windell Curole, seconded by Commissioner Judge Edward Gaidry and unanimously approved to authorize Royal Engineers to do phase one and two modeling analysis of the bayou at a cost of \$64,000.00. A contract will be drafted outlining the services required, and we will issue a notice to proceed on each phase. Mr. Malbrough will present the contract to the Board before work starts.

Chairman Caffery recommended a pay increase of four percent (4%) for Ben Malbrough retroactive to his anniversary date of January 23, 2014.

Move by Commissioner Lance Authement, seconded by Commissioner Eli Miles, Jr. to approve a pay increase of four percent (4%) for Ben Malbrough retroactive to his anniversary date of January 23, 2014. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Caffery advised that we had a great Bayou Lafourche cleanup. He showed pictures in the Lockport area. There were over 100 volunteers in the Lockport area. Ms. Robichaux stated that they picked up all they could with their boats and they were out of time.

Moved by Commissioner Francis Richard, seconded by Commissioner Greg Nolan and unanimously approved to adopt a Resolution authorizing Hugh Caffery to executive an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority and Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District regarding the Walter Lemann Pump Station Rehabilitation Project.

Mr. Dustin Rabalais, T. Baker Smith, gave an update on the Mississippi River Reintroduction into Bayou Lafourche Project, as follows:

- ❖ Topographic survey of access disposal sites begins tomorrow.
- ❖ Geotechnical second round of investigations will begin this Wednesday
- ❖ Draft lease agreements have been delivered to the landowners
- ❖ We received the aerial photography that was done two weeks ago, and started using that data.
- ❖ We received the draft delineation from Providence.
- ❖ Environmentally all the field work for the delineation and permit is 100% complete.
- ❖ Wetland data report will be submitted this month.
- ❖ Agency consultation letters were sent out, and they are just letters that go out to determine if there is any historical sites or things of that nature.

Chairman Caffery advised that we will return to the regular order of the agenda. He excused himself from the meeting, and turned the meeting over to Commissioner Greg Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer.

Jana Langley announced that the 2014 millage rates for the four parishes will be adopted at the next meeting, which is April 21st. The notice of the meeting will be published in the paper tomorrow.

Moved by Commissioner Francis Richard, seconded by Commissioner Windell Curole to approve the finance report for February. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Malbrough advised that the pump station rehab project is going along as scheduled. They set the generator, and are hooking up all the utilities.

Mr. Malbrough stated that last Monday we had another incident with our dolphin alarm piles in the river. A barge hit them again and busted them up pretty good. The company offered to fix everything.

Mr. Malbrough announced that an employee at the pump station passed away this morning. He advised that we need to advertise for the position, and requested Board approval to post the job opening.

Moved by Commissioner Windell Curole, seconded by Francis Richard and unanimously approved to authorize Mr. Malbrough to advertise for the job opening at the pump station.

Commissioner Greg Nolan stated that he saw some new type grass in the bayou that looks like clover. Mr. Malbrough advised that he would find out what it is.

Moved by Commissioner Judge Edward Gaidry, seconded by Commissioner Jake Giardina to approve the permit application for Robert Broggi, 802 St. Mary Street, Thibodaux, LA, to place a protable building for the sale of seafood in Thibodaux, LA. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Greg Nolan informed Ben that he saw some new construction on Hwy. 1. It looks like somebody was doing some dirt work north of the Labadieville Bridge. Ben stated that we will go and take a look at it.

Commissioner Greg Nolan commented on the Bayou Lafourche cleanup, and he said there are some businesses around the Labadieville area that are just perpetual offenders.

Moved by Commissioner Windell Curole, seconded by Commissioner Francis Richard and unanimously approved to authorize Hugh Caffery to sign the extended American Legion appraisal agreement until the end of April.

Mr. Malbrough advised that the Dugas Canal pump station public notice was put out at the end of February. We were waiting for some analysis that we had asked them to do. Mr. Malbrough stated that the analysis is back and Mr. Barrios, Mr. Sobert and he was given that analysis. He hasn't had a chance to go through it yet. Mr. Malbrough stated that he will meet with Mr. Barrios and Mr. Sobert to see what their temperaments are about that.

Commissioner Greg Nolan advised that there would not be an executive session tonight.

Moved by Commissioner Jake Giardina, seconded by Commissioner Francis Richard and unanimously approved the meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Hugh Caffery, Chairman

Greg Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer