

March 21, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District was held on Monday, March 21, 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
Judge Jimmy Gaidry
Jake Giardina

Eli Miles, Jr.
Francis Richard
Lance Authement
Chris Domangue

Absent: Ron Animashaun, Ray Mayet, Donald Schwab

Also present: Dustin Rabalais, T. Baker Smith; Jason Kennedy; Mitch Marmande; Clay Breaud
Ayad Taofik; Joe Cancienne; Dan Grandal; Mark Gransky; Garland Pennison
Jerry Waguespack; Nick Porto; Hattie Templet; Henry Templet; Robert Mire
Barry Marionneaux, Attorney; Ben Malbrough, Executive Director

Moved by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell, seconded by Commissioner Eli Miles, Jr. to dispense with the reading of the minutes, and approve the minutes of February 15, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Moved by Commissioner Francis Richard, seconded by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell to approve the finance report for February. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Hugh Caffery advised that the committee met to discuss the RSIQ's. He stated that we will defer the discussion on the RSIQ's later in the meeting.

Mr. Ben Malbrough reported that the pumping summary for February was sent to the board members, and advised that the water surface elevation in Donaldsonville has gone down as the pumping has increased. Chairman Hugh Caffery stated that this tells us that the dredging has had an effect.

Mr. Malbrough advised that the bayou crew is still working diligently in Paincourtville assisting in the cleanup of the post tornado that happened at the beginning of March. They have not filed a FEMA declaration for that event.

Mr. Dustin Rabalais, T. Baker Smith, reported that the Phase 2 dredging project is at day 280, and have 170 days remaining. He reviewed the percentages complete on each of the disposal sites.

Mr. Rabalais reported that Phase 2A design has been completed. They are doing geotech surveys as Teracon requests them. He received the abstracting report for the pipeline and utilities, and they are being reviewed. The two leases with the landowners will be signed this week or next. The DNR permit was received since the last meeting. He is working with the Corps on their permit.

Mr. Malbrough advised that the saltwater control structure was dry docked at Allied Shipyard three or four weeks ago. They plan to blast and recoat the inside and outside, and change the valves on the gate. The project is moving forward, and we don't see any major issues.

Mr. Malbrough reported that we are in negotiations with Union Pacific Railroad, and are trying to get them to expeditiously send us a construction agreement. We may call a special meeting next week or the following week to authorize that construction agreement which will ultimately lay out the terms and conditions of how the bridge will be built, how they will be paid, and to authorize them to move forward on purchasing materials.

Mr. Garland Pennison with HDR Engineers advised that they had a conference call a week and a half ago with the UP guys, and the plans for bridge were approved. The decision was made to go with the longer steel span which is 74 ft. They are getting quotes from their vendors.

Moved by Commissioner Judge Jimmy Gaidry, seconded by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell and unanimously approved to adopt the resolution for the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire, and a copy of the adoption and questionnaire will be given to the CPA for the 2015 audit.

Mr. Malbrough advised that Lafourche Parish won't process any more invoices for the saltwater control structure project until we amend the intergovernmental agreement for the total funding from \$3 million dollars to up to \$4.25 million dollars.

Moved by Commissioner Francis Richard, seconded by Commissioner Chris Domangue and unanimously approved to amend the Lafourche Parish saltwater control structure intergovernmental agreement for the total funding from \$3 million dollars to up to \$4.25 million dollars, and authorize Ben Malbrough to sign the amendment to the intergovernmental agreement.

Moved by Commissioner Jake Giardina, seconded by Commissioner Judge Jimmy Gaidry to approve the permit for Faye Richard, 406 Hwy. 308, Thibodaux, LA to build a bulkhead behind her house just south of Canal Blvd. on Hwy 308. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Jake Giardina, seconded by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell to approve a permit for Arestile Gros, 1940 Bayou Road, Thibodaux, LA to build a gazebo on his batture. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Caffery stated that we had a committee meeting to review the many RSIQ proposals that were submitted for the Pumping Capacity Improvements Project, and he wanted to thank everyone. There was an incredible outpouring of qualified companies. He advised that we as a committee discussed all the nuances, and Ben gave us his insight.

Chairman Caffery announced that the recommendation of the committee was to award the Pumping Capacity Improvements project to a company called Stantec, one of nine total proposal submissions.

Moved by Commissioner Francis Richard, seconded by Commissioner Greg Nolan to award the consulting engineering contract for the Pumping Capacity Improvements Project to Stantec. Chairman Caffery asked for any discussion on the motion on the table.

Commissioner Jake Giardina asked if they discussed everything in detail, and asked if they will be responsible for the design. Mr. Malbrough answered that we are selecting the team with Stantec as the prime. We will negotiate a contract with Stantec to begin the data analysis, and ultimately make a recommendation of how we want to proceed into the actual design of the pump station.

Mr. Malbrough stated that, from a pure qualifications standpoint, there were six or seven of the nine that were most definitely qualified to do this project. Ultimately, the deciding factor in this instance was the institutional knowledge on this team that is already there as it relates strictly to the Reintroduction into Bayou Lafourche Project. Commissioner Jake Giardina asked if they have experience pumping out of the river, and Mr. Malbrough answered yes.

Chairman Caffery asked for any other discussion to the motion regarding the recommendation to award the Pumping Capacity Improvements project to Stantec, and there were none. Chairman Caffery asked for a vote on the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Caffery advised that the committee discussed the proposals for the RSIQ regarding the Thibodaux Weir Removal Project, and is making the recommendation of selecting Royal Engineering. They had already done some modeling, so they are very familiar with the hydraulic model of Bayou Lafourche.

Mr. Malbrough advised that all the firms that submitted proposals were qualified to prepare the plans and specifications to take the weir out. Royal is already updating the model that is going to bring forward the original benefits analysis that was done on this project, and that is what set this team apart.

Mr. Malbrough advised that we are looking at doing a demonstration of a temporary emergency weir, called an Aquadam, just below the Lafourche and Terrebonne intake structure.

Moved by Commissioner Jake Giardina, seconded by Commissioner Francis Richard and unanimously approved to award the consulting engineering contract for the Thibodaux Weir Removal Project to Royal Engineering.

Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell asked about the boat launch in Donaldsonville, and Mr. Malbrough answered that we had some issues with our contractor who did the sediment trap, which have been resolved. They have to remobilize to the site to complete the dredging. He will mess up the boat launch area because he will have to utilize it. We are going to solicit quotes to repair the boat launch once he leaves the site.

Chairman Caffery advised that we made a lot of progress with the Friends of Bayou Lafourche. We are putting together names for the Board of Directors to be submitted to our commission for approval. We also have to hire an executive director for the foundation.

Chairman Hugh Caffery asked for any public comments. Mr. Joe Cancienne stated that he is part of the Stantec team, and advised that they will hit the ground running. He introduced the team members who were present at the meeting. He stated that they look forward to working with us.

Moved by Commissioner Jake Giardina, seconded by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell and unanimously approved to go into executive session.

Moved by Commissioner Francis Richard, seconded by Commissioner Eli Miles, Jr. and unanimously approved to return to regular session.

Moved by Commissioner Jake Giardina, seconded by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell and unanimously approved the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Hugh Caffery, Chairman

Greg Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer