

December 14, 2017

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District was held on Thursday, December 14, 2017 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
Chris Domangue
Ray Mayet
Donald Schwab
Scott LeBlanc
Eli Miles, Jr.
Lance Authement

Absent: Francis Richard, Jake Giardina

Also present: Jay Brien, Gallagher Insurance Company; Jason Kennedy; David Boudreaux; Doug Cheramie; Ryan Perque, FOBL; John Lafargue, FOBL; Henry Templet; Janice Miles
Josh Bordelon, Robert Mire; Doodie Mire; Nick Porto; Jerry Waguespack
Barry Marionneaux, Attorney; Ben Malbrough, Executive Director; Jana Langley, Admin. Assistant

Moved by Commissioner Ray Mayet, seconded by Commissioner Donald Schwab to dispense with the reading of the minutes, and approve the minutes of November 27, 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Moved by Commissioner Eli Miles, Jr., seconded Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell to approve the finance report for November. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Malbrough advised that he sent out a very reflective pumping summary to the Board which shows clearly how our pumping rate are directly affected with the rise and fall of the river. He reported that everything is working as normal with both the pump station and the bayou.

Mr. Malbrough reported that we are still planning on getting a report back on the 30% design from Stantec and their team for the Pump Capacity Project sometime in late January or early February timeframe. Mr. David Boudreaux advised that they are working on the permit for the sediment return pipeline.

Mr. Malbrough advised that on the Weir Removal Project we are still planning on getting the proposal back from the geotechnical engineer, and that price will go down to \$55K to \$60K ballpark.

Mr. Malbrough reported that Mr. Jay Brien with Arthur Gallagher Insurance Company is here tonight. Mr. Malbrough advised that he previously sent to the Board the 2018 insurance renewal proposal to review. He reviewed the summary of coverages with the two options and premiums, and Mr. Malbrough recommended binding coverage for Option #1 in amount of \$158,873.65.

Moved by Commissioner Greg Nolan, seconded by Commissioner Eli Miles, Jr. and unanimously approved to bind the 2018 insurance renewal coverage with Gallagher Insurance Company for Option #1 of the proposal in the amount of \$158,873.65.

Mr. Malbrough advised that we amended our 2017 operational budget at the November meeting. We posted adjusting entries from the CPA, and after posting the entries our CPA recommended that we amend the 2017 operational budget again for the ad valorem taxes line item from \$4.2 million to \$4.1 million. Mr. Malbrough advised that he previously sent the amended budget recommendation to them to review.

Moved by Commissioner Chris Domangue, seconded by Commissioner Eli Miles, Jr. and unanimously approved to amend the 2017 Operational Budget for the ad valorem taxes line item from \$4.2 million to \$4.1 million.

Mr. Malbrough advised that the Legislative Auditor's office issued a new audit requirement for all Louisiana governments who receive public funds greater than \$500,000 to adopt written policies.

Moved by Commissioner Donald Schwab, seconded by Commissioner Ray Mayet and unanimously approved to adopt written policies as per the Legislative Auditor's office new audit requirement. The policies are budget procedures, financial reporting, contracting for services, purchasing, disbursements, and receipts policy, travel and expense reimbursement, payroll and personnel policy, credit card and fuel purchases policy, and ethics policy.

Mr. Malbrough advised that the State has asked us to show our support of putting our own bonding capacity up, if needed, for the funding of the remaining of the Mississippi River Reintroduction into Bayou Lafourche Project.

Moved by Commissioner Chris Domangue, seconded by Commissioner Eli Miles, Jr. and unanimously approved to adopt a Resolution committing the Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District to utilize a portion of the \$20 million approved bonding capacity to assist in the funding of the remaining Mississippi River Reintroduction into Bayou Lafourche Project.

Chairman Hugh Caffery advised that he evaluated Ben Malbrough, and Ben has evaluated our bayou crew foreman Josh Bordelon. He stated that he would like to have all the evaluations done each year with an effective date of January 1st. He recommended that we grant Ben Malbrough a 4% increase. Chairman Caffery is also asking for Ben's recommendation of granting Josh Bordelon a 6% increase.

Moved by Commissioner Greg Nolan, seconded by Commissioner Scott LeBlanc and unanimously approved to grant Ben Malbrough a 4% pay increase per Chairman Hugh Caffery's recommendation, and grant Josh Bordelon a 6% pay increase per Ben Malbrough's recommendation. The two pay increases are effective January 1, 2018.

Mr. Malbrough stated that we need to schedule another day for the January meeting due to a holiday. Chairman Hugh Caffery advised that the January meeting will be held Monday, January 22nd at 5:00 p.m.

Mr. John Lafargue, Friends of Bayou Lafourche, thanked our Board for the support given to them during this year, and the support extended to them for next year. He advised that they received a grant for \$25,000 from the Lafourche Tourist Commission, they have a \$10,000 CEA with the City of Thibodaux, and a \$3,500 grant from Entergy. Ryan was able to get \$20,000 for improvements to the Leighton Landing. They will sign the CEA with Nicholls tomorrow. They are planning hand full of things in the spring.

Chairman Caffery thanks Friends of Bayou Lafourche all they have done, and what they envision to happen in the future. He advised that Nicholls will see a total transformation because of the work they have done. Mr. Ryan Perque advised that they are excited about the CEA signing tomorrow, and they will have a press release about it.

Chairman Hugh Caffery asked for any public comments, and there were none. He advised that there is no executive session tonight.

Moved by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell, seconded by Commissioner Eli Miles, Jr. and unanimously approved the meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Hugh Caffery, Chairman

Greg Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer

