

January 22, 2018

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District was held on Monday, January 22, 2018 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
Francis Richard
Jake Giardina

Absent: Lance Authement, Eli Miles, Jr.

Also present: Dan Grandal, Stantec; Stevie Smith, All South Consulting; Ryan Perque, FOBL
Alma Jackson, BTNEP; Henry Templet; Hattie Templet; Brian Clausen; Mary Clausen
Josh Bordelon, Robert Mire; Nick Porto; Jerry Waguespack
Barry Marionneaux, Attorney; Ben Malbrough, Executive Director

Chairman Hugh Caffery opened the floor for nominations for the slate of officers for 2018.

Commissioner Ray Mayet nominated the current slate of officers for 2018. Chairman Hugh Caffery asked for any other nominations, and there were none. Moved by Commissioner Ray Mayet, seconded by Commissioner Jake Giardina and unanimously approved to nominate the current slate of officers for 2018. Moved by Commissioner Donald Schwab, seconded by Commissioner Scott LeBlanc and unanimously approved to close the nominations for the slate of officers for 2018.

Moved by Commissioner Greg Nolan, seconded by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell to dispense with the reading of the minutes, and approve the minutes of December 14, 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Ray Mayet, seconded by Commissioner Greg Nolan to approve the accounts payable for December. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Mr. Malbrough reported that he sent the pumping summary to the Board. He stated that we had some minor issues come up during the freeze at the pump station.

Mr. Malbrough stated that he received a call from Mr. Dirk Barrios with Lafourche Parish Waterworks District that the water elevations got drastically low in the bayou. They were having serious issues keeping up with the demand because people were running their faucets and not conserving water.

Mr. Malbrough advised that he met with Mr. Barrios and looked at the elevations. They made the decision that it was probably in the best interest to shut the water control structure in Lockport. This is the first time the structure has been closed. It functioned as planned except we had some learning lessons when we tried to open it back up. The plan is to fully open the gate tomorrow morning.

Moved by Commissioner Ray Mayet, seconded by Commissioner Francis Richard and unanimously approved to amend the agenda by two-thirds vote to discuss the Intergovernmental Agreement regarding the Dugas Canal Pump Station Project.

Mr. Malbrough reported that the new plan for the Dugas Canal Pump Station Project is for the parish to cap the culverts on the Dugas Canal side of Highway 1. This would disconnect the bayou from the canal. This will allow us to open the sluice gates on the actual Dugas Canal structure to allow any water that drains in that little stretch between the end of the culverts and the Dugas Canal structure to flow into the ditch. Mr. Malbrough asked for authorization to sign the Intergovernmental Agreement with Lafourche Parish.

Moved by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell, seconded by Commissioner Scott LeBlanc and unanimously approved to authorize Ben Malbrough to sign the Intergovernmental Agreement between Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District and Lafourche Parish Government regarding the Dugas Canal Pump Station & Drainage Infrastructure Improvements Project.

Mr. Malbrough advised that Lafourche Parish will be responsible for the cap of the culverts, and Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District will still own the structure.

Mr. Malbrough stated that the plan was to have 30% design presented to us next month on the pump station project. Mr. Dan Grandal advised that they are on schedule, and in three weeks they should have the 30% design complete. The design package will basically be the drawings, specifications, and cost estimate. They are working with the pump manufacturers, generators, and gear motor manufacturers to get the cost. We have calculations on pile lengths that will be needed.

Mr. Grandal showed a graph of the pump curves that show high and low river level elevations. They engaged three pump manufacturers. He advised that they should get to the 60% by May 2018. The 60% submittal allows them submit to the Corps. The schedule is 90% by October 2018. Final construction plans is by December 2018. The wild card is the permit from the Corps. Mr. Grandal stated that at 60% the District will have to set up an agreement with the Corps to pay them to review the project because they do not have the funding.

Mr. Grandal advised that he has a 3D model on his computer if anyone wants to see it after the meeting because he is having problems accessing it now on our computer. You can go through the walls to see different sections of the pump station to get a better understanding. It is a 3d model that architects use a lot to design buildings. It helps to visualize the project. He stated that he also has some hydraulic models and pictures.

Mr. Malbrough reported that we have finalized the contract on the weir removal/water control structure. The first thing we will work on in a few weeks is finalizing the location of the structure.

Moved by Commissioner Ray Mayet, seconded by Commissioner Donald Schwab and unanimously approved to adopt the resolution for the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire, and a copy of its adoption will be given to the CPA for the audit.

Moved by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell, seconded by Commissioner Francis Richard to approve the permit application for Brian Clausen, 238 East Bayou Rd., Thibodaux, LA to construct a 10' X 16' wooden deck structure on the existing land. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ryan Perque, Director of Friends of Bayou Lafourche, gave an update as follows:

- They are working hard to build up their advisory committees, which are regional groups up and down the bayou.
- This past year they participated with a Nicholls advertising class, and received some valuable information from that group. This coming semester we got linked up with another marketing class, who is going to look at different aspects of Bayou Lafourche from a recreational standpoint, as well as some organizational efforts that we are trying to take on.
- Signed a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Nicholls State University to redevelop their bayou side park. We are in the process of forming a steering committee, which will help design the master plan for that area. We are in final negotiations with a design firm to take on that project which will be funded through a grant that was received last year.
- We are hosting an event on Saturday, March 17th St. Patrick's Day. It will take place right after BTNEP does their cleanup, which will be an additional help. There will be a series of paddle races in the bayou. The races will start and finish near the downtown area. Afterwards, there will be food and entertainment for the participants.
- We are working to develop a digital map, as well as a hard copy, that will show all access points and landmarks along Bayou Lafourche. We are working with a web designer and graphic designer with a grant we received through Entergy.

Mr. Malbrough advised that we are still waiting for a DOTD permit and a Corps of Engineers permit on the drainage project in Donaldsonville. We are expecting them any day, and as soon as we have those in hand we will have everything we need to move this to go out to bid and start construction.

Chairman Hugh Caffery asked for any public comments. Ms. Alma Jackson stated that the cleanup is coming up March 10th, and she advised that she sent a letter requesting \$3,000 for the cleanup to help cover the cost of the shirts and advertising. Chairman Hugh Caffery asked if we approved that, and Mr. Malbrough answered that it is in the budget.

Chairman Hugh Caffery stated that there is no executive session tonight.

Moved by Commissioner Jake Giardina, seconded by Commissioner Donald Schwab and unanimously approved the meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Hugh Caffery, Chairman

Greg Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer

