

June 18, 2018

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District was held on Monday, June 18, 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
Donald Schwab
Jake Giardina
Francis Richard
Lance Authement
Chris Domangue

Absent: Ray Mayet, Scott LeBlanc, Eli Miles, Jr.

Also present: Stevie Smith, All South Consulting; Ryan Perque, FOBL; John Lafargue; FOBL
Josh Bordelon; Nick Porto; Jerry Waguespack; Robert Mire; Henry Templet; Hattie Templet
Ben Malbrough, Executive Director; Barry Marionneaux, Attorney; Jana Langley, Admin. Assistant

Moved by Commissioner Donald Schwab, seconded by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell to dispense with the reading of the minutes, and approve the minutes of April 23, 2018 and May 29, 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Greg Nolan, seconded by Commissioner Chris Domangue to approve the accounts payable for April and May. Motion carried unanimously

Moved by Commissioner Lance Authement, seconded by Commissioner Francis Richard to approve the finance reports for April and May. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Malbrough advised that he sent the pumping summary to the Board, and the river is falling so we are back to pumping. We got the spare motor back from being reworked. He stated that everything is operating as normal.

Mr. Malbrough reported that we discussed last month about the winch upgrades to the water control structure in Lockport. He received three quotes and the lowest quote is in the \$90,000 range. He stated that he is looking at other options before moving forward.

Chairman Hugh Caffery asked if we could lock in with our tug so that our tug could hold it both ways, and Mr. Malbrough answered that our tug was there as additional support along with the Bollinger tug.

Commissioner Chris Domangue asked if Lafourche Parish will help with the funding of the upgrades, and Mr. Malbrough answered that he reached out to Lafourche Parish Water District, and it is on their agenda next month. Mr. Malbrough advised that the District had an IGA with Lafourche Parish Government and Lafourche Parish Water District for the old structure that anything above \$2,000 would be a three way split.

Mr. Malbrough advised that the self-propelled green machine pontoon with grappler has seen its last days, and is beyond repair. The green machine had the ability to go from the weir all the way to Marchand Bridge in Donaldsonville. The excavator sitting on the pin barges pose logistics problems because it does not have the ability to go under the bridge because of the height and width restrictions of the bridges.

Mr. Malbrough stated that Barry and he are looking at the public bid laws to see what the most effective way would be to go about replacing the green machine. The price range for a new machine is between \$150,000 to \$200,000. We have the option to either hire a naval architect to design a new vessel, or we can look at going out with a request for proposals that includes the specifications.

Chairman Hugh Caffery advised that Ben and he sought a proposal for assistance for a summit. He stated that preparing for a summit is not our core competency, and Ben found a company that helped to put together the master plan for CPRA. The company submitted a proposal to put together the three phases of the summit, which would be preparation, putting on the summit, and getting feedback from the summit.

Mr. Malbrough stated that the proposal has been included in the meeting documents. These guys have handled the outreach component of CPRA's master plans for 2012 and 2017. He advised that he has all the confidence in the world in their abilities to host and facilitate the summit, and help us with the marketing and branding. The proposal is not to exceed \$63,000.

Commissioner Chris Domangue stated that because of the expenditure of this size he feels it would be preferable that a representative of the company who proposed the summit attend a meeting to walk us through the proposal before making the final call on it. He advised that he is not opposed to it, but he feels that he would like to hear from a representative before proceeding. Mr. Malbrough advised that he will contact the company to have someone attend our meeting to review the proposal.

Move by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell, seconded by Commissioner Jake Giardina to approve the permit application for Edward Landry, Sr., 1065 Hwy. 1 South, Donaldsonville, LA to put riprap behind house to stop erosion of property. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Jake Giardina asked if we are going to have somebody watching where they put material in the water because we have been very successful with suction dredging, and the biggest detriment with suction dredging is to start getting into riprap. Mr. Malbrough stated that we are taking a pretty aggressive approach on that. He advised that Josh and he talk daily about issues just like that, and they address those issues.

Moved by Commissioner Jake Giardina, seconded Commissioner Donald Schwab to approve the permit application for Bridget Moncada, 2381 Highway 1, Raceland, LA to install a bulkhead and fill to have more access of bayouside property. She proposes to install it high upon the bank, and a considerable distance outside of our permit limits. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Jake Giardina asked if we will look at it and okay it, and Mr. Malbrough answered that in our permit authorization we have the ability to go and visually inspect the progress. Commissioner Jake Giardina asked if we have it set up where they will call the District before they start the project. Mr. Malbrough stated that we don't have a formal process to do that, but we can certainly do that.

Moved by Chris Domangue, seconded by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell and unanimously approved to amend the agenda by two-thirds vote to add the discussion on a resolution regarding an application for grant funds.

Mr. Malbrough reported that Ryan Perque and he met in Baton Rouge today with some of the folks with the Recreational Trails Program. He advised that they learned today that the Nicholls Bayouside Park project would have a prime opportunity for this funding. The criteria of what the grant offers versus what they are trying to do at the Nicholls Bayouside Park matched very well.

Mr. Malbrough stated that the grant application is due July 1st, and part of the grant application requirement is that the applicant adopt a resolution. The Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District would be the sponsoring agent on the application because in order to be eligible for the grant, it has to be a municipality, parish, or political subdivision. The grant would be somewhere in the \$150,000 range with a 20% local match. We would have the ability to pull out of the program without any penalty.

Moved by Commissioner Jake Giardina, seconded by Commissioner Donald Schwab to adopt a resolution authorizing Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District as sponsoring agent approving the application for grant funds from the FHWA Recreational Trails Program for Louisiana (FRTPL). Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Malbrough advised that Stantec is finalizing the 60% design report on the Pump Capacity Improvements Project, and they will give a full blown presentation at the July 16th meeting.

Mr. Malbrough reported that they are still working on finalizing the land rights negotiations on the water control structure. The landowner's attorney is reviewing the documents, and Mr. Barry is reviewing comments. We will have in the agreement that the landowner will exchange the lot with us upon acquisition as long as we are advertising for construction within thirty-six months.

Mr. Malbrough advised that the Friends of Bayou Lafourche is in a joint effort with Lafourche Parish Government to make modifications to the Leighton Boat Launch.

Moved by Commissioner Lance Authement, seconded by Commissioner Francis Richard to approve the permit application for Friends of Bayou Lafourche, Inc. to grub and pull back of the riprap along the water's edge up to the Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District's permit boundary line, and install a floating dock at Leighton boat launch in Thibodaux. They are proposing not to exceed 25 ft. towards the center of the bayou for the floating dock. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Donald Schwab asked who will supply the insurance for the floating dock, and Mr. Ryan Perque answered that the property is owned by a local family, and it is leased by Lafourche Parish.

Mr. Malbrough advised that when we accepted the donation of the property at the saltwater control structure in Lockport, one of the things that the landowner requested is that we install a fence that would prevent people from being able to access our structure from the bank.

Mr. Malbrough stated that he received three quotes on the fence. He showed the board the plat of property where the fence will be installed. He showed that the fence will go from the water's edge up to the edge of the old Hwy 308 and run along the side of old Hwy 308 and back to the bayou. It will be tied in so that people will not be able to access to the landowner's property.

Commissioner Jake Giardina asked why we are not putting the fence on the property line, and Mr. Malbrough answered that a school bus uses the road to turn around. Commissioner Jake Giardina asked if we can put an indent in the fence to have just enough room for the school bus to turn around, and Mr. Malbrough stated that can certainly work. He will check with the school bus driver. He asked for authority to contract with Leroy's Fence Company to install the fence not to exceed \$15,000.

Moved by Commissioner Jake Giardina, seconded by Commissioner Donald Schwab and unanimously approved to authorize Ben Malbrough to contract with Leroy's Fence Company to install the fence at a saltwater control structure property at a cost not to exceed \$15,000.

Mr. Ryan Perque gave an update on the Friends of Bayou Lafourche as follows:

- Nicholls Bayouside Park plans are in the final phases of completion, and they are dividing the master plan into phases.
- They received some good news last week from the Bayou Community Foundation that they will be

awarded a grant through the Caillouet Family Fund to help Friends of Bayou Lafourche complete a comprehensive Bayou Lafourche campaign. It will be a combination of putting together a canvass print map for public information centers, an interactive map on our website, as well as a smartphone application that basically inventories all access up and down Bayou Lafourche.

- Alumni Grill has the bayou boudin burger for the month of June, and 20% from the proceeds from that burger will go to Friends of Bayou Lafourche to help from a donation standpoint.
- The second monthly newsletter has been sent out.
- We are in the process of planning some small gatherings in different communities along the bayou which will take place in the evenings. We will have some food and invite people to come in and learn about Friends of Bayou Lafourche. It will preferably be in areas that have access to the bayou so people can bring their own kayaks, canoes, and paddleboards.

Chairman Hugh Caffery asked for any public comments, and there were none.

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

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

Hugh Caffery, Chairman

Greg Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer