

June 17, 2020

The regular monthly meeting of the Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District was held on Wednesday, June 17, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. via teleconference.

Present were: Hugh Caffery, Chairman  
Barry Soudelier  
Chris Domangue  
Ray Mayet  
Dale Dennis  
Gene Harrell, Vice-Chairman  
Jake Giardina  
Lance Authement  
Donald Schwab

Absent were: Greg Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer; Francis Richard; Scott LeBlanc

Also present were: Ryan Perque, FOBL; Josh Bordelon; Barry Marionneaux, Attorney;  
John Deblieux, Deepwater Riser Services; Alma Robicheaux, BTNEP  
Ben Malbrough, Executive Director; Heather Armstrong, Administrative Assistant

Chairman Hugh Caffery began the meeting at 5:00 pm.

Moved by Commissioner Ray Mayet, seconded by Commissioner Barry Soudelier to dispense with the reading of the minutes, and approve the minutes of May 26, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Barry Soudelier, seconded by Commissioner Donald Schwab to approve the accounts payable for May. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Ray Mayet, seconded by Commissioner Jake Giardina to approve the finance report for May. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ben Malbrough asked to amend the agenda to add a discussion on the purchase of an outboard motor for the shuttle boat.

Moved by Commissioner Gene Harrell, seconded by Commissioner Ray Mayet to amend the agenda to add a discussion on the purchase of an outboard motor for the shuttle boat. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Malbrough discussed the shuttle boat's condition and the quotes for repair.

Mr. Malbrough asked the Board to authorize him to purchase a new outboard motor for the shuttle boat, not to exceed \$20,000.00.

Moved by Commissioner Jake Giardina, seconded by Commissioner Donald Schwab to authorize Mr. Malbrough to purchase a new outboard motor for the shuttle boat, not to exceed \$20,000.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Malbrough reported that we are still fully siphoning at the Pump Station.

Mr. Malbrough introduced Mr. John Deblieux, VP of Deepwater Riser Services, LLC in Houma, LA. Mr. Deblieux submitted a Foreign Trade Zone application and is requesting a Letter of No Objection from the BLFWD.

Mr. Malbrough explained what the Letter of No Objection would mean for our district, specifically the Ad Valorem taxes we receive from the storage of equipment in foreign trade zones. With the Letter of No Objection, Deepwater Riser Services' customers would be exempt from the Ad Valorem taxes that are remitted to BLFWD.

Mr. Malbrough stated that Deepwater Riser Services has the support of the other local governing agencies and recommended that we mirror the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement that Terrebonne Parish Government has with them. The execution of the CEA would limit the exemption of Ad Valorem taxes to 5 years.

Mr. Malbrough asked the Board to approve the submittal of the Letter of No Objection to Deepwater Riser Services and the execution of the CEA that mirrors the one in place between Deepwater Riser Services and Terrebonne Parish Government.

Moved by Commissioner Donald Schwab, seconded by Commissioner Barry Soudelier to approve the submittal of the Letter of No Objection to Deepwater Riser Services and the execution of the CEA that mirrors the one in place between Deepwater Riser Services and Terrebonne Parish Government. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Malbrough reported the updates to the Pump Capacity Improvements Project (PCIP). We have formally submitted our comments back to the USACE. The USACE is anticipating their review to be completed by June 22<sup>nd</sup>. It will then take 2 weeks to prepare their report that goes out on public notice to SHPO.

Mr. Malbrough reported the progress on the North Water Control Structure Project. He met on-site with the Contractor and the Engineer to discuss the resolution to the piling issue with the gate. The scheduled completion date is increased by 10 days and should now be finished early July.

Mr. Malbrough discussed the progress on the Weir Removal Project. The project is in a waiting period. Once we receive the substantial completion on the North Water Control Structure, it can go out for bid.

Mr. Malbrough discussed the contract for sewer inspection services for the Bayou Folsé Watershed Project in conjunction with BTNEP. BTNEP acquired a grant for \$30,900.00 to visually inspect the sewer systems along the Bayou Folsé Watershed. Mr. Malbrough advised that this would not be enough funding for water testing.

Mr. Malbrough asked the Board to approve the authorization for himself and Mr. Marionneaux to negotiate and execute a contract with an independent contractor for sewer inspections of the Bayou Folsé Watershed, not to exceed \$50,000.00.

Moved by Commissioner Jake Giardina, seconded by Commissioner Donald Schwab to approve the authorization for Mr. Malbrough and Mr. Marionneaux to negotiate and execute a contract with an independent contractor for sewer inspections of the Bayou Folsé Watershed, not to exceed \$50,000.00. Motion carried unanimously.

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

- Nicholls bayou side project moving along
- Napoleonville Project in the permitting process
- FOBL held their quarterly board meeting on June 16<sup>th</sup> – Approved the submission of a Downtown Thibodaux bayou side pedestrian/bicycle/paddle trail
- Public Floating Dock Park - lumber ordered to start prototype
- Leeville public launch advertisement underway

Chairman Hugh Caffery asked for any public comments. There were none.

Moved by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell, seconded by Commissioner Donald Schwab to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

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Hugh Caffery, Chairman

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Gene Harrell, Vice-Chairman

