

**MINUTES OF THE  
SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY–EAST  
BOARD MEETING  
THURSDAY, JULY 16, 2020**

The regular monthly Board Meeting of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (Authority or FPA) was held on July 16, 2020. Due legal notice of the meeting was sent to each Board member and the news media and posted.

In accordance with Section 2 of the Governor’s Proclamation Number 59 JBE 2020: Renewal of State of Emergency for COVID-19 Extension of Emergency Provisions, the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority – East held its July board meeting, scheduled for Thursday, July 16, 2020, both physically and virtually, with limited capacity for attendance and observation at the physical meeting location. Commissioners, FPA leadership, essential staff, media and the public were allowed to participate, space permitting, in the physical meeting at 6920 Franklin Ave., New Orleans, La., or virtually, via video conference. The video conference was livestreamed for observation by the public, accessible from the following links:  
<https://stream.lifesizecloud.com/extension/2000076559/d7307d29-07a1-4d48-8d55-9318165661e6> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2z1ZTSeDZIQ>

Consistent with La. R.S. 42:14(D), public comments could be submitted via email to [comments@floodauthority.org](mailto:comments@floodauthority.org) beginning 30 minutes prior to commencement of the meeting and continuing during the conduct of the meeting until the Public Comment item on the published agenda was reached, at which point comments received would be read into the record.

Mr. Miller called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m. and led in the pledge of allegiance. Mr. Cosse called the roll and a quorum was present:

**PRESENT:**

Herbert I. Miller, President  
Mark L. Morgan, Vice President  
Clay A. Cosse, Secretary  
Lambert J. Hassinger, Jr.  
Eugene J. Joanen, IV  
Jason P. Latiolais (via video conference)  
K. Randall Noel (via video conference)  
Herbert T. Weysham, III

**ABSENT:**

Quentin D. Dastugue, Treasurer

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW COMMISSIONER AND ADMINISTERING OATH OF OFFICE**

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President Miller administered the Oath of Office to Eugene Joanen and invited him to address the Board. Mr. Joanen’s term of office commenced on July 2, 2020.

Mr. Joanen stated that he was honored to be a member of the Board and eager to learn. The Commissioners are stewards of a very daunting task—that of maintaining the flood defense system. He added that he was anxious to get started.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

A motion was offered by Mr. Hassinger, seconded by Mr. Morgan and unanimously adopted, to adopt the agenda.

**RESOLUTION NO. 07-16-20-01 – APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING HELD ON JUNE 18, 2020**

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On the motion of Mr. Hassinger,  
Seconded by Mr. Morgan, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East approves the minutes of the Board Meeting held on June 18, 2020.

The foregoing was submitted to a vote; the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Mr. Cosse, Mr. Hassinger, Mr. Joanen, Mr. Latiolais, Mr. Morgan,  
Mr. Noel and Mr. Weysham

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Dastugue

**EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AND APPRECIATION:**

Mr. Miller announced that the Police Employee of the Month is Officer Kevin Wheeler. Officer Wheeler is a Police Officer 2A with the Orleans Levee District Police Department. The FPA Employee of the Month is Charles Morgan, who is a Mechanic 3 in the Orleans Levee District Mechanic Shop. Officer Wheeler and Mr. Morgan will be presented Certifications of Commendation for being selected as the Employees of the Month at a future Board meeting when COVID-19 protocols allow.

**OPENING COMMENTS BY PRESIDENT AND COMMISSIONERS:**

Mr. Miller advised that the Committee assignments for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-2021 are being prepared. He asked that Commissioners who have a preference regarding Committee assignment notify him.

Mr. Morgan brought to the Board's attention the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans' (SWBNO) request to degrade a portion of the levee along Monticello Avenue. He explained that in 1829 the Mississippi River flooded and the levee in River Ridge was breached allowing floodwaters to almost reach New Orleans. Sometime thereafter, the Orleans Levee District, which was established in 1890, built a levee (along what is now Monticello Avenue) perpendicular to the Mississippi River to divert waters from any upstream levee breaks to the lake. After the 1928 Flood Control Act (Mississippi River and Tributaries Project), the Mississippi River Levee was constructed to provide project

flood protection. Therefore, the Monticello Avenue levee is no longer functional or necessary. The levee continues dividing industrial properties from residential properties. The SWBNO asked to degrade a section of the levee approximately 400-ft. in length. The dirt or clay from the degraded levee can be stored and used for future repairs or upgrades.

Chris Humphreys, Director of Engineering, further explained that the 400-ft. levee section to be degraded is located at the Orleans-Jefferson Parish line just south of Claiborne Avenue. The SWBNO is decommissioning two of the large settling basins and backfilling the area. The SWBNO cannot obtain a driveway permit from the Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) for its trucks because of the inadequate width between the levee toe and the tanks. Therefore, the SWBNO asked to degrade the 400-ft. section of levee. The FPA's Engineering, Maintenance and Operations staffs do not have any issue with the degrading of the levee as long as the SWBNO follows good engineering practices. Granting permission to the SWBNO to perform the work does not require Board action.

Mr. Morgan requested that General Counsel ensure that the FPA is protected from any potential liabilities associated with the SWBNO's work in connection with any rights-of-way that may have been given to Entergy. Mr. Humphreys suggested that after the work is accomplished the FPA transfer the levee section and/or maintenance of the section to the SWBNO.

Mr. Miller instructed that the FPA's permission to allow the SWBNO to perform the work be postponed until he is able to consult with the Jefferson Parish Councilperson for the district so that he can obtain his/her concurrence. Mr. Morgan noted that the SWBNO is bidding the work on July 27<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Humphreys advised that there are currently gaps along the levee and that Jefferson Parish is planning to partially degrade the Monticello Avenue levee north of the proposed SWBNO work for the construction of a bike path along the levee. He added that the SWBNO's engineer notified him two days ago about the proposed work.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

There were no comments from the public in attendance and no comments submitted by the public to be read.

### **PRESENTATIONS:**

#### **Update by Lakefront Management Authority:**

Louis Capo, Executive Director of the Lakefront Management Authority (LMA), provided a financial update on the LMA as of June 30, 2020 (FY 2019-2020).

- **REVENUES** - Revenues are approximately \$500,000 less than the budgeted amount, basically due to the following:

- 1) The milling/overlay of the main runway, which started in July, 2019 and ended in late November – early December, 2019, caused a significant reduction in fuel sales. Fuel sales are the second largest revenue source for Lakefront Airport (land and hangar rents are the largest source).
  - 2) Upon completion of the runway project, fuel sales began increasing (January \$26,000 and February \$37,000); however, in March fuel sales started to decrease due to the COVID-19 pandemic and have significantly declined (March \$16,000, April \$1,700).
  - 3) Ad Valorem tax revenues from Orleans Parish were approximately \$150,000 less than budgeted and about \$350,000 less than the revenues collected in the prior fiscal year.
- **EXPENDITURES** – Expenditures decreased about \$400,000. The FPA is confident about FY 2019-2020 since revenues and expenditures for the FY are close to balancing.
  - **LEASE REVENUES** –
    - The LMA has aggressively pursued the collection of delinquent rents from the tenants at the various properties.
    - Orleans Marina occupancy is currently at 83%. As of June 30, 2020, delinquent rents totaled only \$5,500.
    - South Shore Harbor occupancy is currently at 65%. As of June 30, 2020, delinquent rents totaled \$17,000.
    - The lease for one major tenant along the New Basin Canal was placed in default for non-payment of rent (two quarters). If the default is not cured, the LMA intends to pursue eviction.

Mr. Miller inquired about the receipt of revenues from the WWII Museum for PT-305, which was moored at South Shore Harbor.

Mr. Capo explained that the WWII Museum was a sub-tenant of Studio Network Lakefront. The lease for Studio Network Lakefront was placed in default and a Civil District Court hearing will be held on July 20<sup>th</sup> relative to eviction.

Mr. Cosse asked about the status of PT-305.

Wilma Heaton, FPA Director of Governmental Affairs and LMA Chair, explained that the LMA has worked closely with the WWII Museum. The boat is currently in dry dock and the Museum advises that it will remain there about a year due to financial difficulties.

### **COMMITTEE MEETINGS:**

**Finance Committee:** The Committee did not meet in July.

**Operations Committee:** Mr. Morgan reported that the Committee met prior to the Board meeting and considered the five items on its agenda. The Committee's recommendations will be provided as the items are taken up on the Board agenda.

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT:**

Derek Boese, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), reviewed the highlights of his report:

- COVID-19 Updates/Status: The FPA experienced a total of 10 cases with the majority of the cases testing positive at the beginning of the pandemic and one new case in late June. Seven employees have returned to work, one employee is still in recovery and one employee feels fine but continues to test positive. Four employees came into minimal contact with the employee testing positive in June; however, all have tested negative. The FPA continues having employees tested who are potentially exposed through family and outside sources. The FPA has sufficient PPE for employees. Self-identified high risk individuals continue to work from home. All other employees have returned and are working staggered shifts and adhering to protocols. On-site cleaning staff continues wiping down facilities daily.
- Gulf waters continue to warm. No tropical events were forecasted for the next several days. The Mississippi River level continues to drop. The river at the time of the Board meeting was at an elevation of 8-ft. and projected to drop to about the 6-ft. range by mid-August.
- Project Highlights:
  - East Jefferson Foreshore Pilot Erosion Control Project. Engineering staff and vendors are making revisions and adjustments to the pilot test projects based on performance during Tropical Storm Cristobal.
  - Lakeshore Drive – The Seawall Erosion Control Phase IV Project is underway and going well. The Blue Light Pole Project has been completed. The Robert E. Lee to Canal Boulevard Resurfacing and Pedestrian Safety Design is anticipated to be completed by the end of July or early August.
  - The Surge Barrier I-STORM redundancy projects were delayed due to COVID-19, but are continuing to move forward.
  - The Bellaire Drive property that was part of a litigation settlement has been turned over.
- Technology:
  - Drone technology is being used to collect outfall canal bathymetry, aerial photography and LIDAR.
  - Drones will be used for the 40 Arpent Canal levee certification.
  - The needs analysis phase of the Asset Management Program has been completed and the FPA is beginning the evaluation phase.

- Tiger Dam Demonstration:

Mr. Humphreys explained that Tiger Dam technology has existed since Hurricane Katrina. The dam is a series of water filled tubes that can be quickly deployed and can potentially be another tool for emergency flood fighting efforts. The vendor recommends placing two tubes on bottom and one tube on top. The tubes are manufactured in multiple sizes (18-inch to 48-inch diameter). Water was pumped from Lake Pontchartrain into the tubes for the demonstration. Tiger Dams have been tested by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for various levels of resistance to puncture. The tubes can be connected using a sleeve and configured for corners or dips. Chocks are put in place and straps are used to secure the tubes. A-frames can be used to secure large tubes. Mr. Boese added that Tiger Dams could potentially replace the use of Hesco baskets and sandbags and are more easily deployed. A protective blanket can be placed atop the Tiger Dam for additional puncture resistance.

Mr. Morgan pointed out that in an erosion protection project the Tiger Dam tubes were pumped with sand and covered with soil for protection against UV rays. Also, in 2016 the State deployed a Tiger Dam along Airline Highway to protect Ascension Parish residents from flooding from Lake Maurepas. The dam was about four feet in diameter and kept about a foot of water from going over the highway. Mr. Humphreys added that Plaquemines, St. Charles and St. John Parishes have acquired the Tiger Dam technology.

- Training:

- Three Human Resources employees received SHRM-Certification and one employee is taking the test this month.
- Liability/Risk Training was provided by the FPA's General Counsel via videoconference on July 15<sup>th</sup>.
- IT staff is developing a Cybersecurity Training Program to augment the State's requirements.
- Fourteen Maintenance supervisors completed OSHA-10 training.
- The Director of FEMA and senior staff toured the IHNC Surge Barrier on July 15<sup>th</sup>. The USACE's Operations Director and CPRA's New Orleans Office representative attended the tour.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **RESOLUTION NO. 07-16-20-02 - ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF ID-IQ CONTRACTS FOR GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING AND TESTING SERVICES**

Mr. Morgan asked to take the discussion of Agenda Items B1, B2 and B3 at the same time. He explained that the items were for a one-year extension of the FPA's current Indefinite Delivery-Indefinite Quantity (ID-IQ) Contracts. The contracts were awarded in

2019 and included a one-year initial term and two one-year options. The first item was for Geotechnical Engineering and Testing services with a not to exceed value of \$500,000 and included three firms (Eustis Engineering, LLC, Ardaman & Associates, Inc. and Fugro Consultants, Inc.). The second item was for Surveying Services with a not to exceed value of \$500,000 and included four firms (Linfield, Hunter & Junius, Inc., T. Baker Smith, LLC, Bryant Hammett & Associates and Fenstermaker). The third item was for Civil Engineering services with a not to exceed value of \$1 million and included eight firms (AECOM, Burk-Kleinpeter, Evans-Graves, HNTB, Linfield, Hunter and Junius, Tetra Tech, Jacobs and Design Engineering, Inc.). He pointed out that the FPA's task orders have been spread among all of the firms. The Operations Committee recommended that the Board approve the one-year extension of all of the ID-IQ Contracts.

On the motion of Mr. Morgan,  
Seconded by Mr. Weysham, the following resolution was offered:

**WHEREAS**, the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (FPA) by Resolution No. 07-18-19-04 approved the execution of Indefinite Delivery-Indefinite Quantity (ID-IQ) Contracts with the following consultants for providing Geotechnical Engineering and Testing Services on an as needed basis for an initial term of one year with two one-year options to renew said contracts:

Eustis Engineering, LLC  
Ardaman & Associates, Inc.  
Fugro Consultants, Inc.

**WHEREAS**, the aforementioned contracts have a total not-to-exceed value of \$500,000; and

**WHEREAS**, the initial one-year term will soon expire and the FPA wishes to exercise the first one-year renewal option of the contracts; and

**WHEREAS**, funding for the aforementioned services is provided in Budget Item BIDIQ03.

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East approves the extension of the ID-IQ Contracts for providing Geotechnical Engineering and Testing Services for a one-year period.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the FPA Chief Administrative Officer, or in his absence the Director of Engineering, is authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to carry out the above.

The foregoing was submitted to a vote; the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Mr. Cosse, Mr. Joanen, Mr. Latiolais, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Noel and  
Mr. Weysham

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: Mr. Hassinger

ABSENT: Mr. Dastugue

**RESOLUTION NO. 07-16-20-03 - ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF ID-IQ CONTRACTS FOR SURVEYING SERVICES**

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On the motion of Mr. Morgan,  
Seconded by Mr. Weysham, the following resolution was offered:

**WHEREAS**, the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (FPA) by Resolution No. 07-18-19-05 approved the execution of Indefinite Delivery-Indefinite Quantity (ID-IQ) Contracts with the following consultants for providing Surveying Services on an as needed basis for an initial term of one year with two one-year options to renew said contracts:

Linfield, Hunter & Junius, Inc.  
T. Baker Smith, LLC  
Bryant Hammett & Associates  
Fenstermaker

**WHEREAS**, the aforementioned contracts have a total not-to-exceed value of \$500,000; and

**WHEREAS**, the initial one-year term will soon expire and the FPA wishes to exercise the first one-year renewal option of the contracts; and

**WHEREAS**, funding for the aforementioned services is provided in Budget Item BIDIQ02.

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East approves the extension of the ID-IQ Contracts for providing Surveying Services for a one-year period.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the FPA Chief Administrative Officer, or in his absence the Director of Engineering, is authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to carry out the above.

The foregoing was submitted to a vote; the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Mr. Cosse, Mr. Joanen, Mr. Latiolais, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Noel and  
Mr. Weysham

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: Mr. Hassinger

ABSENT: Mr. Dastugue

**RESOLUTION NO. 07-16-20-04 - ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF ID-IQ CONTRACTS FOR CIVIL ENGINEERING SERVICES**

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On the motion of Mr. Morgan,  
Seconded by Mr. Weysham, the following resolution was offered:

**WHEREAS**, the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (FPA) by Resolution No. 08-15-19-04 approved the execution of Indefinite Delivery-Indefinite Quantity (ID-IQ) Contracts with the following consultants for providing Civil

Engineering Services on an as needed basis for an initial term of one year with two one-year options to renew said contracts:

AECOM  
Burk-Kleinpeter  
Evans-Graves  
HNTB  
Linfield, Hunter and Junius  
Tetra Tech  
Jacobs  
Design Engineering, Inc.

**WHEREAS**, the aforementioned contracts have a total not-to-exceed value of \$1,000,000; and

**WHEREAS**, the initial one-year term will soon expire and the FPA wishes to exercise the first one-year renewal option of the contracts; and

**WHEREAS**, funding for the aforementioned services is provided in Budget Item BIDIQ01.

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East approves the extension of the ID-IQ Contracts for providing Civil Engineering Services for a one-year period.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the FPA Chief Administrative Officer, or in his absence the Director of Engineering, is authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to carry out the above.

The foregoing was submitted to a vote; the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Mr. Cosse, Mr. Joanen, Mr. Latiolais, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Noel and Mr. Weysham

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: Mr. Hassinger

ABSENT: Mr. Dastugue

## **RESOLUTION NO. 07-16-20-05 - FRANKLIN AVENUE FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

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Mr. Morgan advised that the fire protection system at the Franklin Facility is in need of upgrading for safety and insurance purposes. Digital Engineering proposes to use a subcontractor for a large portion of the work; therefore, the Operations Committee requested that the CAO, Derek Boese, Deputy CAO, Rusty Kennedy, and General Counsel, Michelle White, ensure that the subcontractor meets the FPA's minimum insurance requirements and qualifications. Digital Engineering also proposes to heat trace the fire protection system, which may not be necessary; therefore, the firm was asked to separate this portion of the work. Additional studies will be done to determine whether temperatures inside the Franklin Warehouse drop below 40 degrees, which would make heat tracing necessary.

On the motion of Mr. Morgan,  
Seconded by Mr. Weysham, the following resolution was offered:

**WHEREAS**, the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (FPA) entered into an Indefinite Delivery-Indefinite Quantity Contract with Digital Engineering for providing Facilities Management Services on an as needed basis; and

**WHEREAS**, the FPA is in need of design and construction administration services for the Franklin Avenue Fire Protection System Improvements Project; and

**WHEREAS**, a proposal has been received from Digital Engineering to provide the aforementioned services with a not to exceed amount of \$118,483; and

**WHEREAS**, funding for the aforementioned services is available in Budget Line Item BIDIQ05 (Facilities IDIQ).

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East approves the issuance of a task order with a total not to exceed amount of \$118,483 to Digital Engineering for design and construction administration services for the Franklin Avenue Fire Protection System Improvements Project.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the FPA Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), or in his absence the Director of Engineering, is authorized to execute the aforementioned task order with Digital Engineering and any and all other documents necessary to carry out the above.

The foregoing was submitted to a vote; the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Mr. Cosse, Mr. Hassinger, Mr. Joanen, Mr. Latiolais, Mr. Morgan,  
Mr. Noel and Mr. Weysham

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Dastugue

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 07-16-20-06 - FRANKLIN AVENUE WAREHOUSE OFFICE RENOVATIONS PROJECT**

Mr. Morgan advised that the Operations Committee reviewed the proposed task order for the renovations. Although the FPA has a ID-IQ Civil Engineering contract with Meyer Engineering, the renovations are basically an architectural project. The created spaces would replace the trailers currently being used by some of the staff. Construction is estimated to cost a total of \$2.3 million. The construction cost is currently budgeted; however, the Committee requested that the project be broken into phases in the event financial difficulties are experienced. In addition, the project should be phased in order to accommodate staff who will be displaced due to construction. The Committee also requested that construction take place during the winter and spring months (December 1 – June 1).

On the motion of Mr. Morgan,  
Seconded by Mr. Hassinger, the following resolution was offered:

**WHEREAS**, the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (FPA) entered into an Indefinite Delivery-Indefinite Quantity Contract with Meyer Engineers for providing Facilities Management Services on an as needed basis; and

**WHEREAS**, the FPA is in need of design and construction administration services for the Franklin Avenue Warehouse Office Renovations Project; and

**WHEREAS**, a proposal has been received from Meyer Engineers to provide the aforementioned services with a not to exceed amount of \$225,054; and

**WHEREAS**, funding for the aforementioned services is available in Budget Line Item BIDIQ05 (Facilities IDIQ).

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East approves the issuance of a task order with a total not to exceed amount of \$225,054 to Meyer Engineers for design and construction administration services for the Franklin Avenue Warehouse Office Renovations Project.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the FPA Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), or in his absence the Director of Engineering, is authorized to execute the aforementioned task order with Meyer Engineers and any and all other documents necessary to carry out the above.

The foregoing was submitted to a vote; the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Mr. Cosse, Mr. Hassinger, Mr. Joanen, Mr. Latiolais, Mr. Morgan,  
Mr. Noel and Mr. Weysham

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Dastugue

The next regular monthly Board meeting will be held on August 20, 2020, in the Second Floor Council Chambers, Joseph Yenni Building, 1221 Elmwood Park Blvd., Harahan, LA.

There was no further business; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.