## MINUTES OF SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY-EAST COASTAL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 18, 2021

PRESENT: Eugene J. Joanen, IV, Chair

Roy Arrigo, Committee Member

The Coastal Committee of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (FPA or Authority) met on November 18, 2021, at the Franklin Avenue Administrative Complex, Meeting Room 201, 6920 Franklin Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana. Mr. Joanen called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

<u>Opening Comments</u>: Mr. Joanen advised that an item was included on today's agenda for Mark Schexnayder to provide information on proposed coastal projects; however, he was unable to attend today's meeting. Mr. Schexnayder will attend the next meeting of the Coastal Committee along with several individuals who are involved in coastal projects located around Lake Pontchartrain.

**Adoption of Agenda:** The Committee adopted the agenda as presented.

<u>Approval of Minutes</u>: The minutes of the Coastal Committee meeting held on June 17, 2021 were approved.

Public Comments: None

## **New Business:**

A. Mark Schexnayder – Proposed coastal projects relative to the vision for the south shore of Lake Pontchartrain.

Item was deferred.

## B. Look ahead for 2022.

Mr. Joanen advised that he anticipated providing the top three issues/projects (e.g., foreshore protection, current coastal projects in Jefferson Parish, and potential mitigation for the St. Bernard Port) for the Coastal Committee's focus for 2022.

## C. Report from Coastal Committee members.

Mr. Arrigo reported that he attended the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) meeting held on November 17<sup>th</sup>. The CPRA Director provided a review of projects with a primary focus from the Texas border to the mouth of the Mississippi River. None of the projects covered were located adjacent to the FPA's jurisdiction. Reports were also provided at the CPRA meeting by local officials on Hurricane Ida

recovery. He added that after the meeting he spoke to Scott Kirkpatrick, the lobbyist for the Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana, who advised that the construction of the new Industrial Canal Locks, that would replace the current locks at St. Claude Avenue, would be an upcoming issue. He stated that Mr. Kirkpatrick told him that the locks are the weak spot in the FPA's protection perimeter and that the project would be coming up again for review and comment. In the past, the project received opposition from the neighborhood; however, it has since been adjusted and changed.

Mr. Joanen advised that he anticipated receiving drawings from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the proposal to bring in sediment for the Ninth Ward Triangle project and that he would bring this information to the Committee.

Chris Humphreys, Director of Engineering, commented that he recently visited the IHNC Surge Barrier and that he saw that the Golden Triangle marsh creation project was well underway. The project would add natural fronting protection for the Surge Barrier and would benefit the FPA's flood defense system. He suggested that the Committee receive an update on the project from the CPRA.

Mr. Joanen added that the LSU design team is developing plans for the Central Wetlands. These wetland projects that are being discussed cobbled together will provide a united front for surge protection. Mr. Humphreys pointed out that the Central Wetlands is the storage area should the IHNC Surge Barrier be overtopped.

Mr. Arrigo noted that at this time CPRA projects are growing more land than is being lost due to coastal erosion. He expressed the need for CPRA discussion on projects in the area between the mouth of the Mississippi River and the Mississippi State border, which would impact the FPA's jurisdiction.

Mr. Joanen commented on potential Federal infrastructure funding, particularly with the environmental justice caveat, that could be used for coastal projects

There was no further business; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.