

**MINUTES OF  
SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY-EAST  
LEGAL COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON NOVEMBER 17, 2022**

PRESENT: Richard G. Duplantier, Jr., Chair  
Roy M. Arrigo, Committee Member  
Thomas G. Fierke, Committee Member  
Derek N. Rabb, Committee Member

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The Legal Committee of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (Authority or FPA) met on November 17, 2022, in the Franklin Avenue Administrative Complex, Meeting Room 201, 6920 Franklin Avenue, New Orleans, LA. Mr. Duplantier called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

**Opening Comments:** None

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

**Approval of Minutes:** The Committee approved the minutes of the meeting held on October 20, 2022.

**Public Comments:** None.

**Report of Executive Counsel:**

Mr. Duplantier advised that he received a report on the current status of litigation from Michelle White and that nothing substantive has changed. The FPA is waiting for Judge Medley's decision on class certification for the London Avenue Canal litigation (alleged proper takings claims). The decision has been pending about 60 days; however, Judge Medley has a year to issue a decision. The London Avenue Canal case is the most important piece of uninsured pending litigation. There have been no other significant developments.

**New Business:**

**A. Hiring recommendation for new Executive Counsel.**

Mr. Duplantier explained that Michelle White resigned and is working with the FPA at this time under contract. The FPA conducted an exhaustive search with the assistance of Kenyetta Sewell, Human Resources (HR) Director, and her staff to fill the position of Executive Counsel. The job was posted in as many places as possible and the FPA received 30-plus resumes. Mr. Duplantier and Mr. Fierke conducted an initial round of interviews with the most promising candidates. A second interview was recently conducted with one of the candidates, Kirk Ordoyne, who is currently the Assistant

General Counsel at the Dallas Independent School District. Mr. Ordoyne was previously a Senior Attorney at the Port of New Orleans and before that spent five years with the Jefferson Parish District Attorney's Office.

Mr. Duplantier further explained that he and Mr. Fierke found Mr. Ordoyne to be highly qualified and that he expressed significant interest in permanently returning to Louisiana. As a Senior Counsel at the Port he handled many employment and police issues. He currently helps to oversee a budget of about six billion dollars and is responsible for negotiating many of the construction contracts. Mr. Ordoyne is anticipated to be a valuable resource for the FPA.

Mr. Duplantier advised that under the process the Board makes a recommendation to make an offer to Mr. Ordoyne, which is contingent on a background check. Once the background check clears, Mr. Ordoyne can accept the offer and take the position. He stated that the salary is set by Civil Service and recommended that an offer be made to Mr. Ordoyne, subject to a background check to be completed by the HR Department, of \$165,000, which he reiterated is the Civil Service maximum salary. He added that competition for attorneys is very expensive at this time; therefore, hiring Mr. Ordoyne at this salary is a miracle.

Mr. Duplantier offered a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Fierke and adopted by the Committee, that the Legal Committee recommend hiring Kirk Ordoyne as the new Executive Counsel. Mr. Arrigo noted that Mr. Ordoyne is a good candidate for the position.

Mr. Duplantier advised that he spoke with Mr. Ordoyne briefly about the background check and that he felt confident, based on speaking with Mr. Ordoyne's references, that there would not be any issues. If the process goes smoothly, Mr. Ordoyne is anticipated to begin work on January 5, 2023. Mr. Duplantier explained that he planned to ask Ms. White to extend her contract to December 31, 2022, and added that he would monitor any issues that come up during the interim five days.

There was no further business; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 9:38 a.m.