

**MINUTES OF THE
SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY–EAST
BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2023**

The regular monthly Board Meeting of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (Authority or FPA) was held on February 16, 2023, in the Franklin Avenue Administrative Complex Meeting Room 201, 6920 Franklin Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana, after due legal notice of the meeting was sent to each Board member and the news media and posted.

Mr. Noel called the meeting to order at 11:10 a.m. and led in the pledge of allegiance. Mr. Cosse called the roll and a quorum was present:

PRESENT:

K. Randall Noel, President
Jason P. Latiolais, Treasurer
Clay A. Cosse, Secretary
Richard G. Duplantier, Jr.
Derek N. Rabb (arrived 11:15 a.m.)
William A. Settoon, Jr.

ABSENT:

Roy M. Arrigo, Vice President
Thomas G. Fierke
Herbert I. Miller

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

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

RESOLUTION NO. 02-16-23-01 - APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 19, 2023

On the motion of Mr. Latiolais,
Seconded by Mr. Duplantier, 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 January 19, 2023.

The foregoing was submitted to a vote; the vote thereon was as follows:
YEAS: Mr. Cosse, Mr. Duplantier, Mr. Latiolais, Mr. Noel and Mr. Settoon
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Mr. Arrigo, Mr. Fierke, Mr. Miller and Mr. Rabb

SAFETY MINUTE:

Clay Bardwell, Safety Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, advised that he, Sgt. Arthur Agee, Officer Kevin Wheeler and Officer Carl Cade were certified last week as CPR instructors for first aid and basic life support. The instructors will conduct classes over several months so that all FPA employees will have the opportunity to learn these important skills. Employees who work in remote areas, such as the IHNC Surge Barrier, will be confident that their coworkers have the skills needed until EMS arrives. Police Officers will receive more advanced BLS (Basic Life Support) training in order to assist EMS. He thanked Daniel Rosenthal with HSI for providing the certification training and the Police Officers who took the initiative and time out of their busy schedules to take part in this program.

OPENING COMMENTS BY PRESIDENT AND COMMISSIONERS:

Mr. Noel asked that Commissioners volunteer to provide messages for the FPA employees' newsletter. Mr. Duplantier volunteered for the March issue, Mr. Cosse for July and Mr. Settoon for September.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Ryan Taylor brought attention to the need for litter cleanup, grass cutting, lighting and trash cans along the Haynes Boulevard Levee. He advised that the trash and litter had been picked up on the street side of the levee; however, the grass was mowed a week later, after more littering had taken place, leaving small pieces of litter along the levee. Weather permitting, he asked that trash cleanup and mowing be coordinated to prevent this issue. No action had been taken on the trash on the lakeside of the levee, which continues to accumulate and is an eyesore to walkers and joggers using the paved area along the top of the levee.

Mr. Taylor stated that he and his wife started a non-profit revitalization initiative, the New Orleans East Restoration Project, which focuses on Hayne Boulevard. The initiative's plans were submitted to District E Councilman Oliver Thomas, State Representative Jason Hughes, the Mayor's Office, the Department of Public Works and Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD). Complaints were lodged about speeding vehicles along Hayne Boulevard, which has caused multiple accidents and several fatalities. DOTD completed an assessment and recommended bringing Haynes Boulevard from four-lanes to two-lanes and a center turning lane, along with bike lanes, lighting and landscaping. A request was also made for compliance with the City of New Orleans' Complete Streets Policy (CAO Policy Memorandum 134R). The initiative's plans are under review and a meeting will be scheduled soon. In conjunction with the initiative's efforts, he reiterated his request for levee maintenance and trash cleanup on both the lakeside and landside of the levee on a consistent schedule, that safety lighting be installed along the paved area on the top of the levee, which is used by walkers and joggers, and that Levee District Police patrol along Hayne Boulevard and use radar to control speeding. He also asked that a trash container be located on the levee near Castnet Seafood where heavy littering takes place.

Kelli Chandler, Regional Director, advised that discussions have taken place regarding contracting services to supplement the FPA's grass maintenance efforts along the Hayne Boulevard Levee. In addition, Levee District Police have increased patrols along Hayne Boulevard.

Mr. Noel thanked Mr. Taylor for his efforts and his care about this important area.

PRESENTATIONS:

None.

REPORT BY REGIONAL DIRECTOR:

Kelli Chandler, Regional Director, provided her report. Security is being reviewed for all FPA facilities with the following results:

- IHNC Surge Barrier - Existing cameras are being replaced and additional cameras installed.
- Permanent Canal Closures and Pumps (PCCP) – Replacement of cameras and aging servers.
- Franklin Facility – Installation of cameras in the warehouse along with access control gates along the parking lot to deter vandalism.
- Consideration of GPS tracking on FPA equipment. A system (Samsara) was recently demonstrated that provided various data, including mileage. A test pilot will be done on equipment that is most vulnerable to theft before rolling the system out on all equipment.

Ms. Chandler advised that employees who participated in several surveys requested additional training. In order to provide as much training as possible, the FPA is investing in training the trainer due to employee numbers and difficulty scheduling outside trainers for multiple sessions. Recent or upcoming training (not including training for Police Officers) includes: Basic Life Support, CDL, Skid Steer, Excavator, Bucket Truck, Skid Steer, Manlift, Back Hoe, Front End Loader, Levee Inspector and New Hire Orientation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee: Mr. Latiolais reported that the Finance Committee met prior to the Board meeting. The Committee reviewed the updated Purchasing Policy and recommended Board approval subject to the change in verbiage recommended by the Committee. The Committee also reviewed the draft Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Budget, which must be approved by the Board in March.

Operations Committee: Mr. Cosse reported that the Operations Committee met prior to the Board meeting and recommended all three items on its agenda for approval. The items will be discussed as the motions are taken up by the Board.

Coastal and Technical Committee: The Coastal and Technical Committee did not meet in February; therefore, there was no report.

Legal Committee: The Legal Committee did not meet in February; therefore, there was no report.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION NO. 02-16-23-02 - ADOPTION OF UPDATED/REVISED PURCHASING POLICY

Mr. Latiolais advised that revisions to the policy included an increase in approval authority for the Regional Director from \$100,000 to \$150,000. The Committee recommended that “Regional Director” be changed to “Regional Director and his or her designee” in the event the Regional Director is not available. The Board had no objection to the recommended change in language. The updated Purchasing Policy will be revised to include the change recommended by the Committee.

On the motion of Mr. Latiolais,
Seconded by Mr. Duplantier, the following resolution was offered:

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 05-20-21-03, the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (FPA) approved an updated/revised Purchasing Policy dated May 20, 2021, to govern the FPA and levee districts under its jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, the FPA staff reviewed the aforementioned policy and updated and revised said policy to reflect current requirements and needs; and

WHEREAS, the updated/revised Purchasing Policy was reviewed by the Finance Committee on February 16, 2023 and recommended for approval by the Board.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East adopts the updated and revised Purchasing Policy dated February 16, 2023.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any and all resolutions or policies adopted prior to this resolution and in conflict with the approved Purchasing Policy dated February 16, 2023, are null and void.

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

YEAS: Mr. Cosse, Mr. Duplantier, Mr. Latiolais, Mr. Rabb and Mr. Settoon

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Arrigo, Mr. Fierke and Mr. Miller

RESOLUTION NO. 02-16-23-03 - INSTALLATION OF SECURITY / SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS AT THE IHNC SURGE BARRIER SECTOR GATE

Chris Humphreys, Director of Engineering, advised that the four cameras initially furnished by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) when the Surge Barrier was constructed and are no longer serviceable and will be replaced and that three additional cameras will be installed at access points to the structure (the ramp, boat launch and ground level) for security purposes. The Operations Committee recommended that the Board approve the proposed Change Order with AT&T.

On the motion of Mr. Latiolais,
Seconded by Mr. Duplantier, the following resolution was offered:

WHEREAS, the IHNC-Lake Borgne Surge Barrier is a major feature of the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System with two navigation gates (Sector Gate and Barge Gate) at the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW), which are utilized by a significant amount of marine traffic, including commercial vessels and barges; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) initially installed four PTZ (pan, tilt, zoom) security / surveillance video cameras at the Surge Barrier Sector Gate as part of the construction of the Surge Barrier Project; and

WHEREAS, the cameras installed by the USACE are in need of replacement and three additional CAT 6 cameras are required for security purposes; and

WHEREAS, the AT&T Network Integration Pricing Schedule dated July 2, 2021, is an on-going security initiative involving all FPA facilities; and

WHEREAS, AT&T provided a Change Order to said Network Integration Pricing Schedule in the total amount of \$124,700.38 for four PTZ cameras and three CAT 6 fixed cameras, including configuration, installation and licenses, at the Surge Barrier Sector Gate, Approach Ramp and Boat Launch; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned cameras at the Surge Barrier Sector Gate comprise Phase One of the Sector Gate/Barge Gate project; and

WHEREAS, the installation of cameras on the south side of the channel around the Barge Gate shall be included in Phase Two of the project at a later date; and

WHEREAS, funding for Phase One is include in Budget line BPROJ039.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East approves the installation of four PTZ cameras and three CAT 6 fixed cameras at the IHNC Surge Barrier Sector Gate, Approach Ramp and Boat Launch by AT&T at a total cost of \$124,700.38.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the FPA Regional Director, or in his/her absence the Director of Engineering, is hereby authorized to execute the aforementioned Change Order with AT&T, and any and all other documents necessary to accomplish the above.

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

YEAS: Mr. Cosse, Mr. Duplantier, Mr. Latiolais, Mr. Rabb and Mr. Settoon

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Arrigo, Mr. Fierke and Mr. Miller

RESOLUTION NO. 02-16-23-04 - TASK ORDER WITH HNTB FOR PHASE IB OF THE VIDEO INSPECTION OF O.L.D. CULVERTS

Mr. Humphreys advised that the USACE requires that all valves and culverts within the flood protection system be inspected every five years. The valves and culverts were inspected four years ago. The results were reviewed and the USACE requested that the 11 culverts that were inaccessible for various reasons (e.g., inability to locate an access point or debris blockage) be addressed. HNTB's subcontractor owns specialized equipment to inspect the 11 culverts. Approval of the Task Order with HNTB was recommended by Mr. Humphreys and the Operations Committee.

On the motion of Mr. Latiolais,
Seconded by Mr. Settoon, the following resolution was offered:

WHEREAS, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers requires that the Orleans Levee District (O.L.D.) perform a videotape inspection of all culverts along the Mississippi River Levee Floodwall (MRL) and the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) within said District; and

WHEREAS, Phase IA (evaluation of previously inspected culverts) has been completed; however, the culverts at 11 locations, which comprise Phase 1B, remain uninspected due to various reasons; and

WHEREAS, the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (FPA) entered into Indefinite Delivery-Indefinite Quantity (ID-IQ) Contract No. 33-07 with HNTB to provide Civil Engineering Services on an as-needed basis; and

WHEREAS, HNTB submitted a proposal with a total estimated cost of \$125,307.50 to video inspect the culverts at the 11 locations comprising Phase 1B and to prepare a report with recommendations for the repair of damaged pipes, valves and concrete at the accessible locations and recommendations for installing access at the locations where access points are unknown; and

WHEREAS, funding for the Task Order with HNTB for Phase IB is located in Budget Line Item BIDIQ01.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East authorizes the issuance of a Task Order to HNTB with a not-to-exceed amount of \$125,307.50 for the pipe video inspection of the culverts at 11 locations along the Orleans Levee District's flood protection system (Phase IB).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the FPA Regional Director, or in his/her absence the Director of Engineering, is hereby authorized to execute the above mentioned Task Order with HNTB, and any and all other documents necessary to accomplish the above.

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

YEAS: Mr. Cosse, Mr. Duplantier, Mr. Latiolais, Mr. Rabb and Mr. Settoon

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Arrigo, Mr. Fierke and Mr. Miller

RESOLUTION NO. 02-16-23-05 - AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR THE LBBLD MRL SLOPE PAVING PROJECT (PROJECT NO. L2770016)

Mr. Humphreys explained that the majority of the project’s scope can be accomplished at this time and that the contractor was requested to provide an estimate on damming and pumping the remaining area so that the entire scope can be accomplished this year. The contract cost will increase if the area can be dammed and the repairs made, and, if not, the contract cost will decrease. The project budget is \$150,000.

On the motion of Mr. Latiolais,
Seconded by Mr. Duplantier, the following resolution was offered:

WHEREAS, four bids were obtained for the Lake Borgne Basin Levee District (LBBLD) Mississippi River Levee (MRL) Slope Paving Project (Project No. L2770016), as follows:

Bidding Contractors	Total Bid Price
Hard Rock Construction	\$121,875
Boh Bros. Construction Company, LLC	\$177,500
Command Construction, LLC	\$181,100
Cycle Construction Company, LLC	\$249,250

WHEREAS, the lowest responsive and responsible bid was submitted by Hard Rock Construction in the amount of \$121,875; and

WHEREAS, the FPA Engineering Estimate for the project is \$150,000.00; and

WHEREAS, funding for the project is included in Budget Line Items BPROE001 and BPROE011.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority–East (FPA) authorizes the award of a contract in the amount of \$121,875 to Hard Rock Construction for the LBBLD MRL Slope Paving Project (Project No. L2770016).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the FPA Regional Director, or in his/her absence the Director of Engineering, is hereby authorized to execute the above mentioned contract with Hard Rock Construction, and any and all other documents necessary to accomplish the above.

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

YEAS: Mr. Cosse, Mr. Duplantier, Mr. Latiolais, Mr. Rabb and Mr. Settoon

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Arrigo, Mr. Fierke and Mr. Miller

The next regular monthly meeting of the Board will be held on March 16, 2023.

There was no further business; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.