

**MINUTES OF  
SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY-EAST  
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON AUGUST 17, 2023**

PRESENT: William A. Settoon, Jr., Chair  
Roy M. Arrigo, Committee Member  
K. Randall Noel, Committee Member

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The Finance Committee of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (FPA or Authority) met on August 17, 2023, in the Franklin Avenue Administrative Complex, Meeting Room 201, 6920 Franklin Avenue, New Orleans, La. Mr. Settoon called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**Opening Comments:** None.

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

**Approval of Minutes:** The Committee approved the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on June 15, 2023.

**Public Comments:** None.

**Regional Finance Director's Report:**

Denise Williams, Regional Finance Director, provided the following report:

- The Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-2023 financial audit is in progress and the auditors are working hard to complete the audit by August 31, which is the date that the annual financial report must be submitted to the Office of Statewide Reporting and Accounting (OSRAP). This year information requested by the auditors is being loaded on a portal for their use. Every three years the Legislative Auditor's Office decides whether it will audit the FPA or engage an accounting firm to conduct the audit. The audit for FY 2022-2023 is being conducted by Erickson-Krentel CPAs and Consultants.
- The Accounting Supervisor position was filled by an internal candidate. The vacated position has been posted. In addition, a newly approved accounting position, which replaced an administrative position that handled payroll, has been posted. After these vacant positions are filled, Finance will be fully staffed.
- PRONTO provided a demonstration in late June of the FlowCentric Supplier Portal (an add on or enhancement to the core PRONTO system). The FPA anticipated the add-on going live by July 1<sup>st</sup>; however, due to delays caused by PRONTO, it may not go live until September or October.
- As of a week ago, the Louisiana Asset Management Pool (LAMP) interest rate increased slightly to 5.29 percent due to the increase in Federal interest rates. Meetings have been scheduled for August 27 with a representative from LAMP

and in September with a representative from Edward Jones to provide overviews of the FPA's accounts. The Edward Jones representative will also attend the September Finance Committee meeting.

**New Business:**

**A. Presentation of unaudited Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 year-end budget to actual.**

Ms. Williams reviewed the unaudited FY 2023 year-end budget to actual report. The numbers are not final until the audit report is issued. Revenues for the three levee districts were more than their expenses. The Board rolled up (increased) ad valorem tax millage rates for the Orleans and East Jefferson Levee Districts. Expenses through the end of the fiscal year were basically under budget. The sheriffs/assessors fees for the collection of ad valorem taxes for the levee districts were over budget because insufficient amounts were budgeted.

Ms. Williams advised that many projects were delayed and will commence this fiscal year (FY 2024). She pointed out that the London Avenue Canal erosion mitigation/repairs listed on page 3 was double budgeted on lines 22 and 27. The project was completed; therefore, the \$2 million on line 27 was not needed.

Ms. Williams explained that insurance deductibles are not budgeted; however, the Orleans and East Jefferson Levee Districts had expenses for payment of insurance deductibles (mostly accident claims) that created a variance.

Ms. Williams advised that the \$27 million shown as a transfer to other agencies in the Orleans Levee District SLIP Fund Budget was for the pre-Katrina cost share of the Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity Project which was owed to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. This amount was budgeted in FY 2023, but payment was not made because additional reviews took place and the amount was recalculated and dropped to \$12 million. Therefore, \$12 million has been accrued for the current fiscal year (FY 2024), but not budgeted. Money has been set aside for this payment.

Mr. Settoon requested additional information on the issues with PRONTO. Kelli Chandler, Regional Director, clarified that the issues do not involve the core PRONTO system, but relate to the add-on or enhancement for vendors to electronically upload invoices. Ms. Williams explained that a good two-day session was conducted with PRONTO staff after which Finance/Purchasing staff was supposed to conduct tests; however, PRONTO had not yet developed the testing system. Both Ms. Chandler and Ms. Williams attempted to contact PRONTO staff; however, due to commitments to other clients, PRONTO has not been as responsive as it should be. The FPA must pay PRONTO's travel costs when its staff comes to the FPA's facility and has paid part of the cost for the add-on/enhancement. Ms. Chandler advised that the FPA will not approve additional travel to the FPA's facility until staff is able to test the system.

There was no further business; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 10:18 a.m.