

**MINUTES OF  
SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY-EAST  
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON NOVEMBER 16, 2023**

**PRESENT:** Thomas G. Fierke, Chair  
Herbert I. Miller, Committee Member

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The Operations Committee of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (Authority or FPA) met on November 16, 2023, in the Franklin Avenue Administrative Complex, Meeting Room 201, 6920 Franklin Avenue, New Orleans, La. Mr. Fierke called the meeting to order at 10:15 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 June 15, 2023.

**Public Comments:** None.

**Report of Director of Engineering:**

Chris Humphreys, Director of Engineering, provided a report on the following projects:

**Jefferson Parish Lakefront Foreshore Rehabilitation Project –**

In 2020 the FPA worked with the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority to request funding for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to rehabilitate the foreshore that had eroded due to multiple hurricanes. The project extends about 6 miles from the West Return Wall to about 2,000 feet east of the Suburban Pump Station. The request was submitted to the USACE, transmitted to Washington, D.C., and approved. The project is currently in design.

The foreshore will be rebuilt to the original design. The rock dike was designed to an elevation of 4.5 feet. The current elevation is less than one foot allowing erosion. The FPA is responsible for maintaining the foreshore protection, which is part of the hydraulic design that allows the levee to work at its current elevation. The foreshore rehabilitation project is 100 percent Federally funded at a cost of \$24.5 million. The project is anticipated to be advertised in the second quarter of 2024.

**Continuation of the Erosion Mitigation Project along the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Canal –**

Several years ago, the east bank of the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Canal was rebuilt south of Veterans Boulevard to Sewerage and Water Board Pump Station 6. The project

consisted of placing fill and installing a geo-cell confinement system with 3-inches of crushed stone.

The current project would rebuild the east bank of the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Canal north of Veterans Boulevard to Old Hammond Highway. It includes driving 30-foot coated steel sheetpile about 23 feet from the floodwall, placement of compacted fill, and installation of a geo-cell confinement system anchored with J-hooks along with the placement of crushed stone. The project will be constructed entirely from the canal using barges. The FPA is communicating with Jefferson Parish relative to closing a lane on either Veterans Boulevard or Old Hammond Highway during off hours so that a crane can be used to place barges, equipment and supplies in the canal. The project is in the final stage of the Coastal Use Permit process. The FPA's consultant conducted extensive stability analyses.

After Hurricane Katrina, the USACE installed rip-rap on the west side of the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Canal north of Veterans Boulevard.

Mr. Humphreys advised that the gates at the Bayous Bienvenue and Dupre complex structures were closed due to high tides caused by east winds and that the Caernarvon Canal was being monitored. The Emergency Operations Center is manned 24/7 during high tide conditions.

**New Business:**

**A. Discussion of the proposed award of a contract to Durr Heavy Construction, LLC, in the amount of \$702,472.00 for the Outfall Canal Slope Paving Project and recommendation to the Board.**

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Mr. Humphreys advised that ten bids were received for the Outfall Canal Slope Paving Project and ranged from \$702,472 to \$1.5 million. The lowest responsive bid was submitted by Durr Heavy Construction, LLC (Durr), in the amount of \$702,472. The Engineers' estimate was \$801,520. He recommended approval of the award of the contract to Durr.

The Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the Board approve the award of the contract for the Outfall Canal Slope Paving Project to Durr.

**B. Discussion of the issuance of a proposed Task Order to HNTB for a not-to-exceed amount of \$582,806.00 for video inspection services and recommendations for repairs of valves and adjoining culverts at 75 locations along the Orleans Levee District's flood protection system (Phase 3), and recommendation to the Board.**

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Mr. Humphreys explained that the Orleans Levee District (O.L.D.) is required to video inspect and repair, as needed, all of the valves in the flood protection system in Orleans Parish every five years. The last video inspection was conducted at a cost of \$865,000. HNTB is benefitting from the prior work and submitted a proposal to video inspect

valves and adjoining culverts at 75 locations along the O.L.D.'s flood protection system and provide repair recommendations. The video inspection performed five years ago was done by a different consultant and access points for 12 valves could not be located. HNTB did some preliminary work for the FPA and located the access points for the 12 valves. The recommended repairs will be made.

There was no further business; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 10:26 a.m.