SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY-EAST POLICY

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN MEETINGS OF THE BOARD BY PERSONS WITH AN ADA DISABILITY OR THEIR CAREGIVER

I. PURPOSE:

In compliance with R.S. 42:14 – Meetings of public bodies to be open to the public, Section 4, to adopt rules, regulations and procedures to facilitate a member of the public with a disability recognized by the Americans with Disabilities Act or his/her designated caregiver upon request to participate remotely in the meetings of the Board.

II. DEFINITIONS:

"ADA disability" shall mean a disability recognized under the Americans with Disability Act in accordance with Title 42 U.S. Code § 12102 – Definition of Disability.

"Meetings of the Board" as used herein shall include Board Meetings, Special Board Meetings, Public Hearings, Committee Meetings and Subcommittee meetings.

III. APPLICABILITY:

The provisions herein apply only to qualified members of the public with an ADA disability or their caregiver for the remote participation in the meetings of the Board.

Requests for reasonable accommodations for members of the public with an ADA disability, other than remote participation in the meetings of the Board, shall be submitted and processed in accordance with the SLFPA-E's ADA Policy.

The provisions of this policy are not applicable to an executive session held in accordance with the law.

IV. POLICY AND RULES:

The SLFPA-E Board of Commissioners is committed to ensuring that its meetings are open to the public and that all members of the public, including persons with an ADA disability and/or his/her designated caregiver, is afforded an opportunity to participate in said meetings.

V. PROCEDURES AND REGULATIONS:

The SLFPA-E Information Technology (IT) staff shall ensure that meetings of the Board are livestreamed and can be accessed by any member of the public to view.

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A statement shall be included on all SLFPA-E meeting agendas to notify the public that special assistance or other reasonable accommodation in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the law, can be requested by contacting the SLFPA-E ADA Coordinator at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting or as soon as practical. Requests may be made verbally or in writing.

Members of the public with an ADA disability and/or their designated caregiver shall be afforded the opportunity to participate in the meetings of the Board by providing public comment via email. SLFPA-E IT staff shall establish a means for the submittal of public comments via email immediately prior to and during the meetings of the Board. Comments received via email will be read by SLFPA-E staff during the meeting and made a part of the record of the meeting.

The SLFPA-E ADA Coordinator shall document the request, if not submitted in writing by the requestor, and engage in an interactive process with the requestor relative to the requested accommodation. The ADA coordinator shall notify the IT staff, the Public Information Director and the Board Administrator of the request for coordination relative to the submittal of public comments by email immediately before or during the meetings of the Board.

All documents presented to the public at the meetings of the Board shall be electronically transmitted or emailed by the SLFPA-E Administrative staff to persons participating in said meetings in accordance with this policy.

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On the motion of Mr. Fierke, Seconded by Mr. Arrigo, the following resolution was offered:

RESOLUTION NO. 02-22-24 -03 - POLICY FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE MEETINGS OF THE BOARD BY PERSONS WITH AN ADA DISABILITY OR THEIR CAREGIVER

WHEREAS, Act 393 of the 2023 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature requires public bodies subject to the Open Meetings Law to adopt a policy to allow persons with a disability recognized by the ADA or their caregiver to participate remotely in the meetings of their boards; and

WHEREAS, Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East Board of Commissioners is committed to ensuring that its meetings are open to all members of the public, including persons with an ADA disability and/or his/her designated caregiver; and

WHEREAS, the Policy for Public Participation in the Meetings of the Board by Persons with an ADA Disability or Their Caregiver provides rules, regulations and procedures for remote participation in said meetings; and

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East adopts the Policy for Public Participation in the Meetings of the Board by Persons with an ADA Disability or Their Caregiver, dated February 22, 2024.

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

YEAS:

Mr. Arrigo, Mr. Duplantier, Mr. Fierke, Mr. Miller, Mr. Noel, Mr. Rabb,

Ms. Settoon and Mr. Settoon

NAYS:

None

ABSENT:

None

This resolution was declared adopted this 22nd day of February, 2024.

I hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East at its meeting on February 22, 2024, held in New Orleans, LA, at which a quorum was present.

Thomas G. Fierke

Secretary