

**MINUTES OF
SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY-EAST
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE INFORMATIONAL MEETING
HELD ON JANUARY 9, 2025**

PRESENT: Thomas G. Fierke, Chair
Roy M. Carubba, Committee Member

The Operations Committee of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (Authority or FPA) was scheduled to meet at 9:00 a.m. on January 9, 2025, in the Franklin Avenue Administrative Complex, Meeting Room 201, 6920 Franklin Avenue, New Orleans, La. Due to the lack of a quorum, an informational meeting was held.

Opening Comments: None

Public Comments: None.

Report of Director of Engineering:

Chris Humphreys, Director of Engineering, reported that the 17th Street Canal Erosion Control Project reached substantial completion. Cycle Construction was in the process of demobilizing the large crane and commencing site cleanup. The project was completed ahead of schedule.

New Business:

A. Discussion of a proposed change order to the contract with Baker Pile Driving and Site Work, LLC, in the amount of \$231,191.00 for the 40 Arpent Sheetpile Wall Rehab Project Phase I.

Mr. Humphreys explained that bids had been taken for the 40 Arpent Sheetpile Wall Rehab Project Phase I and that Baker Pile Driving was awarded the contract in the amount of \$1,951,000. The engineer's estimate for the project was \$4.75 million. Due to unforeseen conditions, a change order is needed to increase the contract amount by \$231,191 (12.14%). Required repair quantities had been estimated based on two previous similar contracts. As the contractor dug below grade for the recoating, significantly more corrosion was discovered than initially estimated. The bid tabulation specified a quantity of 640 sq. ft. The current overrun is 1,367 sq. ft. and an additional 844 sq. ft. overrun is projected. The change order provides for the current and the projected overruns.

Ryan Foster, Engineer, explained that the project was bid based upon the engineer's square foot estimate. The engineer's estimate was based on field observations during the design process and two previous sheetpile rehab projects. Considerably less corrosion was found during construction of the two previous projects in the Orleans Levee District and East Jefferson Levee District. In addition, the FPA did not have good

information on the age of the sheetpile for the current project. The Lake Borgne Basin Levee District project included two types of sheetpile, one of which had significantly more corrosion than the other type. The project is located in the Central Wetlands and exposed to waters from the GIWW.

Mr. Carubba asked about accountability relative to change orders. Mr. Foster advised that the project has a full-time resident inspector and that an in-house project manager monitors the daily work reports. The change order is based on the unit price provided in the bid. There was no change to the scope of the project.

B. Discussion of proposed selection of firms for the purpose of entering into Indefinite Delivery-Indefinite Quantity (ID-IQ) contracts to provide professional Construction Materials Testing & Inspection Services on an as-needed basis.

Mr. Foster advised that the current Indefinite Delivery-Indefinite Quantity (ID-IQ) contracts are expiring. The selection will provide a new pool of material testing service contracts for use on an as-needed basis. Four firms submitted Statements of Qualifications. The review team consisted of Ryan Foster, Donald Jerolleman, Wilma Heaton, Joshua Rondeno, and Roy Carubba. The ranking was circulated to the Operations Committee on January 8. The top two ranked firms currently have ID-IQ contracts. Staff recommended that at least two firms be selected for the purposes of competitiveness and availability.

Mr. Carubba asked if there was any reason not to select all four firms and noted that all four firms were qualified. Mr. Foster responded, no; there was no downside. The rankings for the four firms were close. Mr. Carubba recommended that all four firms be selected, which would allow for flexibility and a more competitive environment.

Mr. Fierke asked about the importance of institutional knowledge. Mr. Foster explained that institutional knowledge was not critical for the subject services (e.g., materials testing, and vibration monitoring). Mr. Fierke concurred with Mr. Carubba regarding the selection of all four firms.

C. Discussion of proposed selection of firms for the purpose of entering into ID-IQ contracts to provide professional Support Services (Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing) on an as-needed basis.

Mr. Foster advised that Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing Services had been broken out from the umbrella of Architectural Services due to the benefit of directly contracting these services and the elimination of a layer of overhead. Three firms submitted Statements of Qualifications. One firm is a subcontractor on a number of on-going FPA maintenance projects. He commented that there was no downside to selecting all three firms. Mr. Carubba recommended that all three firms be selected.

There were no further discussions; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 9:18 a.m.