

**MINUTES OF THE
SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY-EAST
BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2025**

A Public Hearing was held on Thursday, October 16, 2025 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. Vicari called the meeting to order at 10:18 a.m. and led the pledge of allegiance. In Mr. Marsiglia's absence, Ms. Settoon called the roll and a quorum was present.

PRESENT:

Pete G. Vicari, President
Michael Schnell, Vice-President
K. Randall Noel, Treasurer
Deborah M. Settoon, P.E, Commissioner
Roy M. Carubba, P.E., Commissioner
David Martin. P.E. Commissioner
Kerwyn King, P.E. Commissioner

ABSENT: Gregory Marsiglia

Introduction and Oath of Office for New Board member Kerwyn King.

A motion was offered by Mr. Martin and seconded by Mr. Noel to adopt the agenda. The agenda was unanimously adopted.

A motion was offered by Mr. Martin and seconded by Mr. Carubba to approve the minutes of the Board Meeting held on September 18, 2025. A discussion ensued. Ms. Settoon asked to change wording in the minutes which she felt was inaccurate or confusing. A motion to amend and adopt as amended was offered by Ms. Settoon and seconded by Mr. Schnell. The vote was as follows: Yeas; Ms. Settoon, Mr. Schnell, Mr. Noel, Mr. Martin; Nays: Mr. Vicari, Mr. Carubba: Abstain, Mr. King: Absent: Mr. Marsiglia. The motion to amend failed. Mr. Vicari then asked if everyone was ready to vote on the original motion to approve the minutes. The original motion to approve the minutes was then voted on and the vote was as follows: Yeas: Mr. Vicari, Mr. Carubba, Ms. Settoon, Mr. Martin, Mr. Schnell, Mr. King: Nay: Mr. Noel, Absent: Mr. Marsiglia. The original motion to approve the minutes passed.

Employee of the Quarter Award was presented to Pat Johnson, Administrative Assistant 5.

OPENING COMMENTS BY PRESIDENT AND COMMISSIONERS

Mr. Vicari asked members if there were any comments.

Mr. Carubba provided comments pertaining to the previous board meeting.

Mr. Martin provided comments pertaining to two on-going maintenance projects.

Ms. Settoon asked that Directors remember to advise the Board when a major initiative is being implemented.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Vicari called for public comments.

The following individuals provided public comment:

Mr. Ben Muller
Mr. Fallan Cornish
Mr. Robert Drouant
Ms. Sonya Duhe
Ms. Lisa James
Ms. Ann Keifer
Ms. Kathy Finn
Mr. Frank Barett
Mr. Mark Robert
Mr. Richard DeMarco

PRESENTATIONS:

Roman Dody, presented an award of appreciation and gratitude to IT Specialist Darryl White for his 28 years as a State employee.

REPORT BY REGIONAL DIRECTOR

Directors Report: Ryan Foster advised the Board that he would be asking the Board to approve the awarding of two contracts for on-going projects: Project No. E2780166: West Return Floodwall Splash & Turnaround Pads Rehab and Project No. E2430016: Orpheum Ave Crest Widening and Slope Paving. This is an ease of maintenance project.

Current initiative Interior Canal Drone Inspections;

Tropical Weather update: no expected activity for the next 7 days.

Regional Director Jeff Williams presented his reports as follows:

- **Readiness report:**

- Infrastructure readiness – 3rd quarterly inspections complete; all 17 PCCP pumps available, no threats to system integrity.
- Staffing Readiness - Engineering and PCCP vacancies remain; overtime increasing to cover gaps. 2 new hires in Operations – Engineer intern; Mitigation underway via cross-training and Civil Service pay scale updates;
- Financial Readiness: Operating funds stable; bond reinvestments secured at 3.9% through 2029; Preparing 50 year spend-plan to guide future millage recommendations.
- Media Coverage – Positive coverage continued for Katrina 20 events and stakeholder tours. Two articles on the Police Department’s Special Response Team and overall police spending have since been published. Media and legislative interest in these topics remain elevated and leadership continues proactive communication to ensure accuracy and transparency.

Engineering:

- System update
 - Stable system status; no major issues
 - 25 permits issued in September
 - 42 permits issued to date in October
 - Q3 inspections complete
 - Monticello Levee risk Assessment
 - FPA staff met with S&WB Executive staff
 - S&WB expressed interest
 - Turnover coordination has begun
- Projects
 - Lakeshore/Franklin Safety Project – Awarded at September Board meeting contract execution underway.
 - West Return Wall Splash Pad Repair – 15 bids received (opened Oct. 7) award expected this month.
 - LPV Bridge Design – Design complete
 - Orpheum Slope Paving – 12 bids received (opened Oct 13); award expected this month.
 - Civil/Survey IDIQ – 85% of contracts executed.

- Operations (PCCP /Repairs)
 - London, Orleans and 17th Street canal: Repairs remain on schedule across all three pump stations.
- Human Resources
 - Governmental Affairs: Candidate selected with pre-employment process on-going.
 - Regional Director – Interviews scheduled for next week.
 - Career Fair
 - Hosted career fair on October 15th
 - 86 candidates attended
 - 16 tentative job offers issued
- Public Information
 - Coordination and Outreach
 - SWBNO Coordination Meeting
 - Career Fair Support
 - Increased social media presence
 - Deployed signage
- OLDPD & EJLDPD: Mission & Readiness
 - **Mission Alignment:** Our police departments protect both lives and the levee system; public safety and flood protection are shared obligations executed with professionalism and fiscal discipline
 - **Role & Responsibilities;**
Fully commissioned law-enforcement agencies (Orleans & East Jefferson.
Patrol and safeguard critical flood-control assets, neighborhoods, universities, Lakefront Arena, and MSY Airport.
 - First responders for high-risk or emergency events within and around the levee system.
 - SRT Training Overview:
Focused on active-shooter response, crisis intervention, de-escalation, and tactical casualty care.
Officers remain on regular duty; not a separate tactical team.
Conducted during normal work hours, no added cost; enhances readiness and liability protection.
 - **Fiscal & Operational Accountability**
No reserve funds or special budgets used.
Training and equipment align with best-practice standards for critical-infrastructure law enforcement.

Mr. Williams asked Superintendent Rondeno to give an update on on-going initiatives in the police department.

- **State of the Agency: Opportunities for Growth**
 - Strengthen internal culture and communication.
 - Enhance public trust through transparency and outreach.
 - Build workforce readiness through training, succession and recruitment of talent.
 - Modernize data, policy, and technology systems to sustain long-term efficiency.
- **Path Forward: From Readiness to Resilience**
 - Strategic Planning: Launching a multi-year Strategic Plan connecting daily operations to long-term system needs.
 - Public Trust: Expanding Transparency, community engagement and media visibility.
 - Cultural Transformation: Using employee feedback to rebuild trust and strengthen communication and accountability.
 - Collaboration: Aligning resources and advocacy with SWBNO, CPRA, and USACE for shared resilience.
 - Operational Readiness: Strengthening workforce pipelines and cross-training to sustain reliability.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance

Randy Noel advised that the Finance Committee met and makes no recommendation on the ad valorem tax.

Meeting break – 5 minutes

NEW BUSINESS:

Administrative:

RESOLUTION NO. 10-16-2-02 – ADOPTION OF ORLEANS LEVEE DISTRICT

MILLAGE RATES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2026

On the motion of Mr. Noel, seconded by Mr. Carubba, the following resolution was offered:

WHEREAS, the following ad valorem taxes are levied by the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (the “Authority”) acting as the governing authority of the Orleans Levee District:

The “**General Tax**” authorized by Article 6 Section 39 (A) of the Louisiana Constitution.

The “**Maintenance Tax**” authorized by the Special Election of March 5, 1974 and imposed by the District’s Resolution No. 1-081899.

The “**Special Levee Improvement Tax**” authorized by the Special Election of November 6, 2012.

WHEREAS, the Proposition for the November 6, 2012 Special Election for the extension and rededication of the Special Levee Improvement Tax specified that the revenues or proceeds of 0.61 of the 6.07 Mills shall be dedicated and used for the operation and maintenance of the non-revenue producing assets not directly related to drainage or flood protection of the Lakefront Management Authority; and

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East, acting as the governing authority of the Orleans Levee District of the Parish of Orleans, Louisiana, in a public meeting held on October 16, 2025, which meeting was conducted in accordance with the Open Meetings Law and the additional requirements of Article VII, Section 23(C) of the Louisiana Constitution and R.S. 47:1705(B), that the following **adjusted** millage rates be and they are hereby levied upon the dollar of the assessed valuation of all property subject to ad valorem taxation within said Parish for the year 2026, for the purpose of raising revenue:

General Tax – 4.80 Mills

Maintenance Tax - .66 Mills

Special Levee Improvement Tax – 5.33 Mills with the proceeds of .49 Mills to be dedicated and used for the operation and maintenance of the non-revenue producing assets.

Section 1. Millage to be levied in 2026. The following millages are adopted and levied for the tax year 2026 on all property subject to taxation within the portion of Orleans Parish located on the East Bank of the Mississippi River by the Orleans Levee District:

General Tax – 4.80 Mills

Maintenance Tax - .66 Mills

Special Levee Improvement Tax – 5.33 Mills with the proceeds of .49 Mills to be dedicated and used for the operation and maintenance of the non-revenue producing assets

SECTION 2. Statement of Total Millage to be Levied. A total of 10.79 mills shall be levied in 2026 for the General Tax, the Maintenance Tax and the Special Levee Improvement Tax.

SECTION 3. Certification of Levy. The Authority acting for the District hereby certifies the annual levy of the General Tax, the Maintenance Tax and the Special Levee Improvement Tax to the Council of the City of New Orleans for the purpose of causing the three taxes to be entered on the tax rolls of said City and collected by its Finance Department in the manner and under the conditions and with interest and penalties prescribed by law for City taxes; and such monies, the

ad valorem taxes including interest and penalties connected therewith, thus collected shall be paid to the District as provided by law for the tax year 2026.

SECTION 4. Further Actions. The President of the Authority or the Interim- Regional Director for the Authority are hereby authorized and empowered to execute any and all documents necessary to accomplish the above purposes.

The foregoing resolution was read in full, the roll was called on the adoption thereof, and the resolution was adopted by the following votes:

YEAS: Mr. Vicari, Mr. Schnell, Mr. Noel, Ms. Settoon, Mr. Carubba, Mr. Martin, Mr. King

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Mr. Marsiglia

**RESOLUTION NO. 10-16-25-03 – ADOPTION OF ORLEANS LEVEE DISTRICT
MILLAGE RATES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2026**

On the motion of Mr. Noel, seconded by Mr. Carubba, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority – East on behalf of the Orleans Levee District in a public meeting held on October 16, 2025, which meeting was conducted in accordance with the Open Meetings Law and the additional requirements of Article VII, Section 23(C) of the Louisiana Constitution and R.S. 47:1705(B), that the taxing district voted to increase the millage rates, but not in excess of the prior year’s maximum rates on all taxable property shown on the official assessment roll for the year 2026, and when collected, the revenues from said taxes shall be used only for the specific purposes for which said taxes have been levied. Said millage rates are:

	<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>2026 Levy</u>
General Tax	4.80 mills	5.46 mills
Maintenance Tax	.66 mills	.75 mills
Special Levee Improvement Tax	5.33 mills	6.07 mills

With the proceeds of .61 mills to be dedicated and used for the operation and maintenance of the non-revenue producing assets

A total of 12.28 mills shall be levied in 2026 for the General Tax, the Maintenance Tax and the Special Levee Improvement Tax

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Authority acting for the District hereby certifies the annual levy of the General Tax, the Maintenance Tax and the Special Levee Improvement Tax to the Council of the City of New Orleans for the purpose of causing the three taxes to be entered on the tax rolls of said City and collected by its Finance Department in the manner and under the conditions and with interest and penalties prescribed by law for City taxes; and such monies, the ad valorem taxes including interest and penalties connected therewith, thus collected shall be paid to the District as provided by law for the tax year 2026.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President of the Authority or the Interim Regional Director for the Authority are hereby authorized and empowered to execute any and all documents necessary to accomplish the above purposes.

The foregoing resolution was read in full, the roll was called on the adoption thereof, and the resolution was adopted by no less than two-thirds of the total membership of the taxing authority voting in favor as required by Article VII, Section 23(C) of the Louisiana Constitution and R.S. 47:1705(B).

The votes were as follows:

YEAS: Mr. Vicari, Mr. Schnell, Mr. Noel, Mr. Carubba, Mr. Martin, Mr. King

NAYS: Ms. Settoon

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Mr. Marsiglia

RESOLUTION NO. 10-16-25-04 – AUCTION OF SURPLUS ITEMS.

On the motion of Mr. Carubba, seconded by Mr. Martin, the following resolution was offered:

WHEREAS, the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (FPA), East Jefferson Levee District (On the motion of Mr. EJLD), Orleans Levee District (OLD), and Lake Borgne Basin Levee District (LBBLD) intend to sell certain items by auction that have been determined to be surplus; and

WHEREAS, a notarized affidavit shall be executed by the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (FPA) Interim Regional Director, or his designee, on behalf of the FPA, EJLD, OLD, and LBBLD listing the items to be sold by auction, an estimated value of each item and certifying that the items listed are surplus.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East authorizes the sale of surplus items by the FPA, EJLD, OLD, and LBBLD by an auction and authorizes the FPA Interim Regional Director, or his designee, to execute any and all documents necessary to accomplish the above.

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

YEAS: Mr. Vicari, Mr. Schnell, Mr. Noel, Ms. Settoon, Mr. Carubba, Mr. Martin,

Mr. King
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Mr. Marsiglia

Engineering and Operations

On the Motion of Mr. Noel, seconded by Mr. Carubba, the following resolution was offered:

RESOLUTION NO. 10-16-25-05 – AWARD OF PROJECT NO. E2780166: WEST RETURN FLOODWALL SPLASH & TURNAROUND PADS REHAB

WHEREAS, the West Return Floodwall Splash and Turn Around Pads Rehab Project (OLD Project No. E2780166) was advertised and fifteen sealed bids were opened and read at the Franklin Avenue Facility on October 7, 2025, as follows:

Bidding Contractors	Total Bid Price Bid
Kass Bros. Inc	\$780,764.00
Hard Rock Construction, L.L.C.	\$787,589.00
Procivil LLC	\$791,502.00
Brown Industrial Construction, LLC	\$798,974.50
Buck Town Contractors & Co.	\$871,000.00
Kort's Construction Services, Inc.	\$898,995.00
Beverly Construction Co. LLC	\$958,884.00
Command Construction Industries, LLC	\$975,390.00
Triumph Construction, LLC	\$1,100,987.00
Cycle Construction Company, LLC	\$1,178,842.00
Durr Heavy Construction Company, LLC	\$1,274,374.00
C.E.C, Inc:(Complete Engineering & Construction)	\$1,323,383.00
Boh Bros. Construction Company, LLC	\$1,330,000.00
Thigpen Construction Co. Inc.	\$1,977,000.00
TKTMJ, Inc.	\$2,730,698.00

WHEREAS, the lowest responsive and responsible bid was submitted by Kass Brothers, Inc., in the amount of \$780,764.00; and

WHEREAS, the Engineering Estimate for the base bid project is \$1,092,756.50; and

WHEREAS, funding for the project is included in FY 26 Budget Line Item 23.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority–East (FPA) authorizes the award of a contract in the amount of \$780,764.00, for the West Return Floodwall Splash & Turnaround Pads Rehab Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the FPA Interim Regional Director, or in his absence the Director of Engineering, is hereby authorized to execute the above mentioned contract with Kass Brothers, Inc. 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. Vicari, Mr. Schnell, Mr. Noel, Ms. Settoon, Mr. Carubba, Mr. Martin, Mr. King

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Marsiglia

RESOLUTION NO. 10-16-25-06 – AWARD OF PROJECT NO. E2430016: ORPHEUM AVE CREST WIDENING AND SLOPE PAVING.

On the motion of Mr. Carubba, seconded by Mr. Noel, the following resolution was offered:

WHEREAS, the Orpheum Ave Crest Widening and Slope Paving Project (EJLD Project No. E2430016) was advertised and twelve sealed bids were opened and read at the Franklin Avenue Facility on October 13, 2025, as follows:

Bidding Contractors	Total Bid Price Bid
Procivil, LLC	\$1,205,982.00
Command Construction Industries, LLC	\$1,390,237.00
Barriere Construction Co., LLC	\$1,398,126.00
Kass Bros, Inc	\$1,398,373.00
Beverly Construction Co., LLC	\$1,422,567.00
Kort's Construction Services, LLC	\$1,444,992.00

Brown Industrial Construction, LLC	\$1,533,466.00
Buck Town Contractors & Co	\$1,576,000.00
Hard Rock Construction, LLC	\$1,577,108.75
LA Contracting Enterprise, LLC	\$1,726,000.00
Durr Heavy Construction, LLC	\$2,198,735.00
Cycle Construction Co., LLC	\$2,833,671.00

WHEREAS, the lowest responsive and responsible bid was submitted by Procivil, LLC, in the amount of \$1,205,982.00; and

WHEREAS, the Engineering Estimate for the base bid project is \$2,180,000; and

WHEREAS, funding for the project is included in FY26 Budget Line Item 17.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority–East (FPA) authorizes the award of a contract in the amount of \$1,205,982.00, for the Orpheum Ave Crest Widening and Slope Paving Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the FPA Interim Regional Director, or in his absence the Director of Engineering, is hereby authorized to execute the above mentioned contract with Procivil, LLC 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. Vicari, Mr. Schnell, Mr. Noel, Ms. Settoon, Mr. Carubba, Mr. Martin, Mr. King

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Marsiglia

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was offered by Mr. Carubba, seconded by Ms. Settoon and unanimously adopted to convene into Executive Session to discuss the listed agenda item.

A motion was offered by Mr. Noel, seconded by Mr. Carubba and unanimously adopted to reconvene in regular session. Mr. Vicari announced that no action was taken in Executive Session.

Mr. Vicari announced that a Special meeting of the board will be held on October 23, 2025.

The next monthly Board meeting will be held on November 20, 2025.

There was no further discussion therefore the meeting was adjourned.