

**MINUTES OF
SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY-EAST
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON JUNE 3, 2010**

PRESENT: Louis Wittie, Chair
David Barnes, Committee Member
Timothy Doody, Committee Member
Stephen Estopinal, Committee Member

The Operations Committee met on June 3, 2010 in the Second Floor Hall of the Lake Vista Community Center, 6500 Spanish Fort Blvd., New Orleans, LA. Mr. Wittie called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Opening Comments: None.

Adoption of Agenda: Mr. Doody explained that the SLFPA-E's Legal Counsel, Robert Lacour, advised that the Executive Session discussion could not be placed on this agenda. He offered a motion to remove Item VIII.A under Executive Session and to approve the amended agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Estopinal and the Committee unanimously adopted the agenda as amended.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the May 13, 2010 Committee meeting were approved.

Public Comments: None.

New Business:

A. Discussion of Human Resources issues dealing with policies and regulations for levee district employees.

Mr. Wittie advised that each of the three levee districts (East Jefferson, Lake Borgne Basin and Orleans Levee Districts) has an employee hand book. The consolidation of the levee districts' hand books covering employee conduct and work regulations into a uniform document for use by the Authority and levee districts had been discussed shortly after the Authority was established.

Robert Turner, SLFPA-E Regional Director, explained that each employee is issued an employee hand book by the levee district at the time that he is hired. The employee must acknowledge by signature that he has received and read the hand book. Revisions are documented and provided to all employees. Each employee must acknowledge by signature that he has received and read the revision. At a meeting about a month ago, the executive directors discussed having their Human Resources people meet to update the hand books and determine areas of uniformity across the districts. The employee hand books cannot be entirely uniform because of differences between the levee districts, such as the LBBLD being the only levee district with pump

station operations, the strong police presence in two of the three levee districts and health care participation. The process to determine opportunities for uniformity will begin today with the meeting of HR representatives from each of the levee districts. The tentative plan is for the HR representatives to review one policy or section of the hand book at a time and provide recommendations to upper level staff. Recommendations will be brought to the Committee and then the Board once the process has progressed enough that significant changes can be made. He estimated that the Committee may see something within the next two months on one or two of the policies where there is a larger discrepancy between the districts and a bigger opportunity to reach conformity along those lines. Other areas may take longer. The documents had been reviewed by attorneys in the past. Changes will be reviewed from a legal perspective before being submitted to the Committee and the Board.

LEVEE DISTRICT REPORTS:

East Jefferson Levee District (EJLD): Fran Campbell, EJLD Executive Director, reviewed the monthly status report (copy appended).

Ms. Campbell advised that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is negotiating with a private land owner for a triangular piece of land required for the West Return Floodwall. A cooperative endeavor agreement is needed between the EJLD and the airport relative to the construction of the floodwall. The USACE and the airport are working out the issue concerning landing lights in connection with the construction of the Airport Runway Floodwall. The issue concerning the relocation of the Causeway Commission building remains on-going. A letter is needed from the Causeway Commission approving the plans for the construction of the floodwall. Mr. Doody requested that Ms. Campbell set up a meeting with the Causeway Commission Director, State representatives, a USACE Real Estate representative, Robert Turner and herself relative to this issue.

Mr. Wittie inquired about the status of tree removal. Ms. Campbell advised that most of the trees in question are located along the Mississippi River Levee and that the EJLD is awaiting guidelines from the USACE.

Mr. Doody asked about the Treasure Chest Casino's hurricane plan. Ms. Campbell explained that the Casino boat captain advised that six hours is needed to prepare in advance of a hurricane. The EJLD will leave a 12-ft. opening in the gap at the Williams Boulevard which will be closed with sandbags after the Casino completes its preparations. She discussed the availability of fuel from the Casino boat during a hurricane emergency.

Orleans Levee District (O.L.D.): Gerry Gillen, O.L.D. Executive Director, reviewed the monthly status report (copy appended). He advised that the O.L.D. safe house build out is scheduled to be completed in mid-October; however, the hardened structure could be used without electricity in the event of a hurricane by mid-August.

Mr. Doody asked the status of pending real estate issues. Mr. Gillen replied that an agreement with the Port is under consideration by legal counsel in connection with LPV

104.02 (Seabrook tie in at Norfolk Southern Railway Floodgate). Also, a meeting will be held on July 16 at the Port of New Orleans relative to the France Road Gate.

Lake Borgne Basin Levee District (LBBLD): Stuart Williamson, LBBLD Executive Director, reviewed the status of the monthly status report (copy appended). He explained that a tremendous amount of rubble has been placed at Paris Road and the back levee and that there has been some movement of the rubble. He stated that he will research the permit and contact the owner/contractor concerning this situation.

Mr. Estopinal inquired about the non-federal levees. Mr. Turner advised that the non-federal levees are inspected quarterly and copies of the reports are submitted to the Authority and the Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration (OCPR). He pointed out that the LBBLD must flood fight an area along the reach on the north side of the Violet Canal in advance of an approaching storm. A flood fight plan is included in the LBBLD Emergency Operations Procedures Manual.

There was no further business; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 10:37 a.m.