

**MINUTES OF
SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY-EAST
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON FEBRUARY 6, 2014**

PRESENT: Louis Wittie, Chair
Timothy Doody, Committee Member
Stephen Estopinal, Committee Member
Paul Tilly, Committee Member

The Operations Committee of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (SLFPA-E or Authority) met on February 6, 2014, in Meeting Room 201, Orleans Levee District Franklin Administrative Complex, 6920 Franklin Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana. Mr. Wittie called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

Opening Comments: None.

Adoption of Agenda: The agenda was approved as presented.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the January 9, 2014 Operations Committee meeting were approved.

Public Comments: None.

New Business:

A. Discussion of issuance of a Task Order to Eustis Engineering for testing services for Florida Avenue Bridge Erosion Control Project. (O.L.D.)

Felton Suthon, Orleans Levee District (O.L.D.) Engineer, advised that the scope of work for the task order to Eustis Engineering includes minor backfill and welding testing. Salvaged sheetpile will be relocated to backup a deteriorating drainage wall and to replace the Hesco baskets currently in place. The project will allow Florida Avenue to remain open during high tide conditions. The not-to-exceed amount of the Eustis Engineering task order is below the threshold requiring Board approval.

B. Discussion of issuance of a Task Order to URS for Resident Inspection Services for the Florida Avenue Bridge Erosion Control Project. (O.L.D.)

Mr. Suthon advised that the O.L.D. is requesting approval for the issuance of a task order to URS for onsite inspection of the previously discussed project.

A motion was offered by Mr. Estopinal, seconded by Mr. Tilly and unanimously adopted, to recommend that the Board approve the issuance of the task order to URS.

C. Discussion of award of a construction contract to the lowest responsive bidder for OLD Project 27833 - Seawall Erosion Protection Reaches 4 and 5. (Orleans Levee District)

Mr. Suthon advised that bids were received on January 31st for the construction of the Seawall Erosion Protection Project Reaches 4 and 5. The project extends from Franklin Avenue to the Seabrook Bridge. Eight bids were received. The apparent lowest responsive bidder was TKTMJ, Inc. in the amount of approximately \$6.65 million. The next lowest bid was approximately \$7.2 million. John Holtgreve with Design Engineering, Inc. (DEI) advised that DEI has had several conversations with representatives of TKTMJ following the receipt of bids and had reviewed the bid with the contractor. TKTMJ, Inc. has done work in the past for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and is currently doing work for the New Orleans Sewerage and Water Board. The project budget is about \$7 million.

A motion was offered by Mr. Estopinal, seconded by Mr. Tilly and unanimously adopted, to recommend that the Board award the contract to the lowest responsive bidder.

Levee District Reports: (copy of reports appended to minutes)

Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS): Robert Turner, SLFPA-E Regional Director, reviewed the HSDRRS status report. He offered the following additional comments:

- LPV 105.02 (Hayne Boulevard) – The monolith replacement is anticipated to be completed by the USACE’s contractor in mid-February.
- LPV 109.02 (South Point to CSX Railroad Levee Enlargement) and LPV 111 – The USACE is expected to raise some areas of the levee from one-half to one foot before turning the projects over to the local sponsor. Surveys performed prior the issuance of the Notification of Contract Completion (NCC) letters by the USACE showed some areas below the design grade averaging three to four inches. The deficient areas total about 2,000 to 3,000 feet.
- Bayou Dupre Control Structure – A problem was discovered by the USACE relative to the bearing material on the hinge and pintle assemblies for the sector gate. The USACE’s dewatering of the structure and replacement of the bearing material is anticipated to commence on February 17th. The project will take 75 days to complete and will impact some of the local marine interests. Alerts will be issued concerning the closure of the structure.
- LPV 01.2 (Foreshore Protection Reaches 1 and 2) – A meeting took place with the USACE on the erosion issue and the USACE subsequently presented a hybrid plan on a method for repair. The proposed plan is to trench behind the eroded area, install geotextile fabric and place additional rock at the trench and extending a distance of 10 to 15 feet onto the berm in order to provide a wider armored area.
- The IHNC Surge Barrier and Seabrook Complex Structures have been turned over to the SLFPA-E for operation and maintenance. The O.L.D. established a Complex Structure Group to track and manage the operation and maintenance (O&M) of the

complex structures. The O.L.D. is in the process of setting up a system for managing the complex facilities through an asset management program. Maintenance records must be submitted to the USACE on a regular basis.

Lake Borgne Basin Levee District (LBBLD): Nick Cali, LBBLD Executive Director, reviewed the LBBLD status report and offered the following additional comments:

- The St. Bernard Parish President, elected officials and tourism industry representatives have been made aware of the soon coming closure of the Bayou Dupre Control Structure for repair. The USACE will be working a seven day per week, ten hour per day schedule in order to complete the repair in advance of the shrimp season and hurricane season.
- LBBLD personnel received training from the O.L.D. relative to maintenance, record keeping and supply purchases for the Caernarvon Sector Gate.

Orleans Levee District (O.L.D.): Mr. Suthon reviewed the O.L.D. status report. The currently on-going Lakefront Seawall Erosion (Reach 1B) Project was briefly discussed. Mr. Holtgreve advised that the original contract deadline is February 12th. The current schedule indicates that the project will be completed by the end of April or early May. DEI is reviewing the contractor's schedule and will provide a recommendation after the review. The contractor will be allowed some additional time due to weather conditions. The contract provides for liquidated damages for unapproved delays.

East Jefferson Levee District (EJLD): Fran Campbell reviewed the EJLD status report. She reported that the purchase of the property adjacent to the Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport from the City of New Orleans is anticipated to take place shortly. A final review of the documents is being conducted. One private parcel has been purchased. Three private parcels may need to be expropriated due to the number of owners and successions involved. If it can be prepared in time, a resolution for the expropriation of one or more of the private parcels will be placed on the agenda for the next Board meeting.

The Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) requested and received assistance from LBBLD, O.L.D. and EJLD personnel on January 28-29 (Winter Storm Leon). Levee district personnel spread salt and sand to help keep roadways and bridges open due to the freezing temperatures and icy conditions and conducted traffic control. Mr. Turner commented on the great job done by the levee district personnel under very difficult conditions and on the effective use of levee district equipment. Discussions have taken place about additional training to assist in future winter storm emergencies. Mr. Doody inquired about the possibility of applying for reimbursement for the services provided by the levee districts. He stressed that the SLFPA-E's mission is safety and commended the levee districts for the close cooperation that was demonstrated.

There were no further discussions; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.