

**MINUTES OF
SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY-EAST
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON FEBRUARY 5, 2015**

PRESENT: Louis Wittie, Chair
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 5, 2015, in Meeting Room 201, Orleans Levee District Franklin Administrative Complex, 6920 Franklin Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana. Mr. Wittie called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Opening Comments: None.

Adoption of Agenda: The Committee adopted the agenda as presented.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the December 11, 2014 Operations Committee meeting were approved.

Public Comments: None.

New Business:

A. DEI presentation of ACI Concrete Award for Seawall Erosion Phase 1B. (O.L.D.)

Jim Martin with Design Engineering, Inc. (DEI) announced that the American Concrete Institute Louisiana Chapter (ACI) awarded its 2014 Paving Concrete Project Award of Excellence and 2014 Most Improvement to Public Award to Reach 1B of the Seawall Erosion Control Project. The project includes 16,489 square yards of pile supported concrete pavement, 2,739 linear feet of subsurface drainage improvements and 505 concrete bollards. The ACI advised that the project is one of the top two projects in Louisiana and has been submitted to the national competition.

B. Discussion of the issuance of a task order to Atkins North America, Inc. in the amount of \$146,000 to provide quarterly inspections for the IHNC Surge Barrier and the Seabrook Sector Gate Complex. (O.L.D.)

Gerry Gillen, Orleans Levee District (O.L.D.) Executive Director, explained that the O.L.D. would like to issue a task order in the amount of \$146,000 to Atkins North America, Inc. (Atkins) under the SLFPA-E Indefinite Delivery-Indefinite Quantity (ID-IQ) Contract for the quarterly inspections of the complex structure walls. A separate task order has been issued to Atkins for pre and post event inspections.

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 Atkins.

C. Discussion of the issuance of a task order to Burk-Kleinpeter, Inc. in the amount of \$162,338.20 to prepare Plans & Specifications and provide construction and part time inspection for the removal of existing paint, repaint and repair of the Mississippi River Floodgates. (O.L.D.)

Mr. Gillen advised that the O.L.D. would like to issue a task order in the amount of \$162,338.20 to Burk-Kleinpeter, Inc. (BKI) under the ID-IQ contract with the SLFPA-E for the preparation of plans and specifications for the removal of the existing paint by sandblasting and the repainting of the 74 floodgates along the Mississippi River. Traces of lead have been detected in the paint; therefore, the paint must be removed in accordance with OSHA standards. Required repairs, such as replacement of seals, will also be addressed in the 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 BKI.

D. Police Building Site Status Presentation by RCL Architecture, LLC (O.L.D.)

Mr. Gillen advised that the SLFPA-E authorized RCL Architecture, LLC to perform a site study of four proposed sites for the construction of a new police facility.

Alton Davis with RCL Architecture, LLC (RCL) provided copies of the report on the site study to Committee members. He reviewed the four sites:

- Site One – Construction of a single story building at the location of the existing facility (Loft Building) on the O.L.D. Franklin Avenue campus
- Site Two – Construction of a new single story building located on the northeast corner of the O.L.D. Franklin Avenue campus
- Site Three – Construction of interior offices and vehicle storage in the existing warehouse building on the O.L.D. Franklin Avenue campus
- Site Four – Construction of a three story building at the corner of Elysian Fields Avenue and Lakeshore Drive (past location of the O.L.D. Police Station)

Mr. Davis explained that RCL considered the following factors for each of the four sites: zoning requirements, demolition requirements, environmental conditions, utilities and infrastructure, need for temporary facilities, community impact, parking, security, schedule, and economics and costs.

Mr. Davis reviewed the Site Comparison Matrix. He noted that RCL was not requested to make a formal recommendation, just an unbiased survey of the sites. The sites on the O.L.D. campus are zoned L-1 Light Industrial Use. The Elysian Fields site is zoned RS-1 Single Family Residential District; however, a police station and government offices would be allowed by conditional use. He pointed out that under Article 9 of the Louisiana Constitution approval from the City is not required. He added that there has been discussion about including SLFPA-E staff offices in the construction at the Elysian Fields site, if selected.

Mr. Davis advised that the 2013 Loft Building assessment is included in the report under Appendix A. The building has structural issues, hazardous materials and the electric

and mechanical features are not up to code. The O.L.D. plans to demolish the Loft Building regardless of the site selection; therefore, the cost of demolition was included in the cost estimate for each of the four sites. If the Elysian Fields site (Site Four) is selected, the old gas station/police station and trailer currently on the site must first be demolished. An assessment for hazardous materials would be required for the demolition of the building at Site Four. The underground tanks at Site Four were removed a number of years ago. The subsurface conditions at Site Two are unknown; therefore, some testing would be required. The slab would have to be trenched in order to bring utilities to Site Three in the warehouse building. The only site that would require temporary facilities is Site One (Loft Building). Trailers are available in the warehouse building. If one of the sites on the O.L.D. campus is selected, there would be no community impact. If the Elysian Fields site is selected, he recommended that two or three public meetings be held in order to bring public awareness. Parking is available at the three sites located on the O.L.D. Campus. Parking (18-22 spaces) would be available under the raised structure at the Elysian Fields site. Additional parking may potentially be available adjacent to the site. If one of the sites located on the O.L.D. campus is selected, there would be no impact to security. If the Elysian Fields site is selected, there would be no police presence on the O.L.D. campus except during police patrols.

Mr. Davis reviewed the proposed schedule and estimated cost for each site. He reiterated that the cost to demolish the Loft Building was included in the estimate for each site:

- Site One: \$1,910,150 – 15 months
- Site Two: \$1,935,450 - 13.5 months
- Site Three: \$1,233,375 - 10.5 months
- Site Four: \$3,295,325 - 15.5 months (Additional office space was included for SLFPA-E and \$1,300,000 in Capital Outlay funding has been requested for Site Four)

Craig Boudreaux, O.L.D. Police Capt., was asked his preference. He commented that he would prefer Site Two, which would afford a physical police presence on the O.L.D. campus. Selection of Site Three could result in a security problem with the public going through the warehouse building.

Mr. Estopinal offered a motion that RCL return to the Operations Committee with an amended site comparison of Site Two (NE corner of O.L.D. campus) with the inclusion of office space for the SLFPA-E and Site Four (Elysian Fields). He noted that the comparison should take into consideration the Capital Outlay funding request for Site Four. Mr. Tilly requested that Site Three be included in the comparison and Mr. Estopinal concurred.

Wilma Heaton, SLFPA-E Director of Governmental Affairs, commented that it is 9-1/2 years post Hurricane Katrina and the Elysian Fields site sits as a blighted piece of property. In accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the SLFPA-E and the Non-Flood Protection Asset Management Authority (NFPAMA), the Elysian Fields property is under the control of the NFPAMA. The NFPAMA Board unanimously adopted a resolution giving the SLFPA-E control of the Elysian Fields property should the site be selected for the construction of the police station. She pointed out that at the

Elysian Fields site there is the availability of the UNO Reach and Technology Park, the community and surrounding area, and the benefit received from a public policy perspective of placing the police station at the Elysian Fields location.

The motion offered by Mr. Estopinal was seconded by Mr. Tilly and unanimously adopted.

Levee District Reports:

Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) Status Report:

Robert Turner, SLFPA-E Regional Director, reviewed the highlights of the HSDRRS Status Report. In addition he advised that the program manager for the levee lifts that will be constructed prior to the placement of armoring by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has developed a schedule for the projects. The schedule has been submitted to the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) and the USACE. Design of the lifts must commence as soon as possible in order to meet the schedule. Therefore, an item will be placed on the Board agenda to approve the advertisement of a Request for Qualifications for engineering services for the design work. The levee districts' annual inspections are currently in progress. A meeting was recently held with the USACE and CPPA concerning the semi-annual reports in order to improve and streamline the process. A meeting was held with the USACE last month to discuss the periodic inspection report. A periodic inspection was conducted of the Mississippi River Levee in 2010 and many of the HSDRRS projects underwent an initial periodic inspection more recently. Copies of the multiple lists that were generated during the inspections were received last month and are being reviewed. Minimally and unacceptable items must be addressed (unacceptable within a year and minimally acceptable within two years). Some items existed prior to the turnover of projects to the levee districts and will be addressed by the USACE. The USACE and SLFPA-E do not consider that any the items identified present a problem for the system to defend against the design flood. The USACE will be issuing a report soon on the St. Bernard Parish T-walls. The report will address identified issues such as corrosion, pile bending moment and floodside scour.

Police Activities: No report.

Lake Borgne Basin Levee District (LBBLD): Nick Cali, LBBLD Executive Director, reviewed the highlights of the LBBLD Status Report. The safe room at Pump Station No. 8 is under construction. There was a problem with water intrusion in the hydraulic fluid at LPV-149. LBBLD and USACE staff met on site and took remedial action to mitigate the problem. The USACE will have the contractor drain the fluids, redo the seals and make the necessary corrections to ensure that the gate functions correctly.

Orleans Levee District (O.L.D.): Gerry Gillen, O.L.D. Executive Director, reviewed the highlights of the O.L.D. Status Report.

East Jefferson Levee District (EJLD): Fran Campbell, EJLD Executive Director, reviewed the highlights of the EJLD Status Report.

There was no further business; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.