

**MINUTES OF THE
SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY – EAST
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 2007**

A Special Meeting of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority - East (Authority) was held on Wednesday, March 7, 2007, at the St. Bernard Council Chambers, 8201 West Judge Perez Drive, Chalmette, Louisiana, after due legal notice of the meeting was sent to each member and the news media and posted.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by President Jackson, who then led in the pledge of allegiance. The roll was called and a quorum of the Board was present.

Present:

Thomas L. Jackson, President
John M. Barry, Secretary
Timothy P. Doody, Treasurer
David P. Barnes, Jr.
Stradford A. Goins
George Losonsky, Ph.D.
Larry A. McKee
Sara Lee St. Vincent
Louis E. Wittie

Absent:

Abril B. Sutherland, Vice President
Ricardo S. Pineda

RESOLUTION #03-07-07-001 - Agenda

On the motion of Mr. Goins

Seconded by Mr. Doody, the following resolution was offered:

“A resolution to approve and accept the agenda for the Special Board Meeting of March 7, 2007.”

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

YEAS: Mr. Barnes, Mr. Barry, Mr. Doody, Mr. Goins, Mr. Losonsky,
Mr. McKee, and Mr. Wittie

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Pineda
Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. RESOLUTION #03-07-07-002 – Lake Borgne Levee District Issues

Mr. Barry read the resolution, which was offered by Mr. Doody and seconded by Mr. Barry, for discussion.

Mr. Robert Turner, Director Lake Borgne Basin Levee District (LBBLD), began the discussion on the on-going problems in St. Bernard Parish since Hurricane Katrina. The goal of the meeting was to bring all of the assisting agencies together to attempt to resolve some of the outstanding issues, especially relative to near term needs. FEMA, National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness and Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD) were invited to the meeting in anticipation of obtaining a status of requests, working out any problems hindering those requests and establishing a timetable for solutions. Debris removal and temporary pumping for lost capacities are immediate needs. Debris in the canals is continuing to cause damage to equipment at the pump stations, along with reducing hydraulic capacity. The solution to the debris problem is to have NRCS complete the canals determined for eligibility within the Emergency Watershed Protection Program as soon as possible and to have FEMA task the USACE to complete the other canals.

Mr. Turner explained Pump Stations 2 and 3 were totally destroyed by Hurricane Katrina and are scheduled to be rebuilt by the USACE, but will not be back on line until about the

summer of 2008. The reliability of the remaining stations has been greatly reduced because the pumps were under salt water for an extended period of time and the continuing debris issues. He further described some of the problems encountered, such as, scavenging parts from off line stations to repair Pump Station 5, which is scheduled for major renovation by the USACE and is currently operating at 50%--down from the 67% capacity that it had been operating at since the hurricane. The USACE has a contract out to try to get the electric pumps at Stations 1 and 4 back on line, and repairs are required at Station 8 in order to continue operation. A short term solution would be to request FEMA to task the USACE to provide temporary pumping similar to what had been provided for the St. Bernard Parish government, and long term solution would be to get those stations that require renovation or reconstruction back on line as soon as possible and storm proof the pump stations.

Mr. Turner pointed out that the Caernarvon to Verrett levee, which is an important part of the protection system for St. Bernard Parish, is more than three feet below project grade in some areas. The USACE had completed plans for this reach, which was scheduled for a levee lift in 2001, however, funding was not appropriated at that time through Congress in order for the work to proceed. This effort is currently partially funded through the Third Supplemental, however, there may not be sufficient funding to complete the project. Mr. Turner explained the construction delays due to stability and design issues, and pointed out this area is at risk from even smaller storms than anticipated. Solutions are sufficient funding to complete the project and federal assistance for flood fighting in the event that a storm approaches the coast.

Mr. Turner explained the reasons the pump stations require storm proofing; i.e., employees and equipment are currently at risk, and the possibility of backflow through the pump stations in the event of an overtopping of the levee along the MRGO, but not an overtopping of the interior levee sections. A solution would be to have the language (i.e., New Orleans and surrounding area) in the authorization changed to include the LBBLD and Congress increase the appropriations for storm proofing of the pump stations.

Mr. Turner touched on other long term solutions; e.g., restoration of all levees to their authorized heights and the 100 year level of protection, armoring of all vulnerable levees, the closure of the MRGO, the wetlands protection and restoration projects and implementation of the CPRA final plan.

Councilman DiFatta, who was joined by other Council members and the Parish President, thanked Mr. Turner for bringing these issues to light and commented on the joint effort to protect the people of St. Bernard Parish. He pointed out it was just learned yesterday that the project to raise the levee from Bayou Bienvenue to the Industrial Canal to at least its authorized height, which was thought would be completed by this hurricane season, is not even on the drawing board, and commented on the importance of this levee reach to this region. He asked the Authority to take a position with the Council and request the USACE to raise this reach, not to an authorized height of 14 feet, but to 18 feet.

Colonel Richard Wagenaar, USACE New Orleans District Commander, explained the USACE is an authorities based organization and all the work that is currently being done has been authorized by Congress. The USACE with local assistance can seek authorization from Congress on work that is not authorized, otherwise it is very difficult to move forward on those areas. This may be the issue with raising this reach to 18-ft. or higher. The mission of Task Force Guardian was to repair the system; therefore, the section from Bayou Bienvenue to the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal (IHNC) was repaired to its pre-Katrina condition.

Colonel Jeffrey Bedey, USACE Commander of the Hurricane Protection Office (HPO), commented, relative to the issues presented, the USACE has been attempting to identify a path on how it can assist within its authorities in meeting the challenges associated with bringing the level of protection up for this community. He reported a package was awarded on February 5th for electrical and maintenance repairs for Pump Stations 1, 6, 4, 7 and 8, which are scheduled to be completed the first week of June. The USACE is awaiting receipt of proposals, which are due on March 12, for the packages that would allow significant repairs to Pump Stations 2, 3, and 5. The proposals will be evaluated, and if in order, award will be made and work will proceed, with those stations anticipated be fully operational in late May of 2008. Colonel Bedey stated the USACE would be happy within its authorities to work through the storm proofing concerns with the LBBLD and the Authority. He pointed out the current storm proofing authority and appropriation applies specifically to Orleans and Jefferson Parishes, and clarified the over-arching authority speaks to the Greater New Orleans area; however, the supporting documentation that developed the numbers associated with storm proofing which ultimately became the appropriation talked very specifically to Jefferson and Orleans Parishes. He recommended the best path to take would be to ask for an additional appropriation within that

authority and appropriation language that would identify dollars that would be linked specifically to work within St. Bernard Parish.

President Jackson asked Colonel Bedey to work with the LBBLD to develop the materials needed, which the Authority, along with elected Parish officials, will bring to Congress to urge and, if necessary, demand that Congress provide the necessary money and authorization as quickly as possible.

Colonel Bedey clarified President Jackson's request, which is for technical assistance and drafting services on the part of the USACE to aid in a future Congressional action. He mentioned the USACE has already been working on this technical support and aid in identifying the technical requirements with a rough estimated cost of \$20 million. He commented, within its authorities, the USACE is working as members of the same team with the same common goals.

Colonel Wagenaar suggested, should Congress provide the authority to work on storm proofing these pump stations, this would at a minimum give the USACE the flexibility to manipulate internal funds and in the future additional funds could be requested from Congress.

Colonel Bedey reported, as a result of a meeting held last week, NRCS, in conjunction with the local sponsor, will work on the debris removal in those canals under its authority, and then FEMA will come in and go beyond that so that all the canals can be cleared. Degradation of gear drives resulting from the debris will be addressed in the pump station repair efforts. He stated he could not give a definitive answer today relative to temporary pumps; however, the USACE is doing modeling and engineering work that would allow the basis for a determination. In that way, should the USACE find the authority to provide temporary pumps, it would have the engineering behind the rationale that lead to that decision.

Mr. Turner pointed out modeling conditions as they currently exist in the canals would be difficult and requested during the course of the modeling that consideration be given to the reliability factor of the existing stations on line and that he be allowed to review the results of those models once it becomes available. Colonel Bedey agreed with Mr. Turner's request for review and indicated he would look at the modeling effort based on Mr. Turner's comments.

Colonel Bedey next addressed the Caernarvon to Verrett levee and echoed Mr. Turner's concern. He explained that a means by which to fund that project has been identified; i.e., a piece of the recent request by the Administration to re-appropriate \$1.3 billion out of the Fourth Supplemental into the Third Supplemental. He acknowledged the Bayou Bienvenue to IHNC levee reach is below the previously authorized level of protection and expressed his concerns relative to the IHNC issue. Colonel Bedey explained he has been charged not only with all the levee and floodwall work on the east bank, but doing it from a systems approach and perspective. He felt the means by which to protect the IHNC has been identified that will provide the requisite level of protection in a manner that optimizes time and cost, and expressed his reluctance as an engineer to approach protection along the IHNC piece meal, adding it will not be any sooner than 2010 before protection along the IHNC can be effected in its totality. He advised the USACE is committed to providing protection along the IHNC and that meetings are currently being held individually with 12 design-build firms from across the world in an attempt to obtain the best information from engineers and contractors on how to approach IHNC protection. He commented this system was repaired last June to the pre-Katrina authorized level of protection, and the system as a whole is stronger today than it was in August, 2005, however, it is not where it needs to be. The USACE took a hard look from a stability perspective, repaired the walls that failed, and through actions taken since Hurricane Katrina is confident it has minimized the risk of catastrophic failure along the IHNC; however, the height deficiency does still exist.

When asked by President Jackson whether there was some method to bring the protection along the IHNC to a consistent level, Colonel Bedey replied the USACE is looking into what interim measures could be taken along this stretch of levee, however, he did not want to make any promises that he could not follow thru with, and any such measures would be done in consultation with this Authority.

Parish President Rodriguez suggested the basket system, which is used by other parishes, as a temporary fix. He further pointed out the low area where the MRGO and GIWW funnel, which needs addressing, and inquired as to whether the anticipated studies for the closure of the MRGO have commenced.

Senator Walter Boasso commented the reason this Authority was created was to assure all of the metropolitan area was protected. He asked the Authority to diligently look at alternatives, and offered his assistance in the Legislature.

Colonel Bedey clarified funding is not the issue relative to raising protection along the IHNC; after the Fourth Supplemental was passed through Congress, extensive engineering studies were done, and little pieces could be done along the IHNC, however, the magnitude of the work to replace all the I-walls along the IHNC with T-walls would take longer than to build gates. Those areas critically low were identified and are being raised; once that work is done, other areas will be looked at and worked on. He reiterated 12 design-build firms are being asked how can the level of protection necessary be achieved for this community in the most timely and cost effective manner.

President Jackson asked that the Authority and USACE work closely together to identify anything that can be done to try to provide the best protection possible between now and the time gates are in place.

Representative Nita Hutter commented much of what needed to be done prior to Hurricane Katrina was not done, which left St. Bernard Parish vulnerable. She felt what had been heard today may have a negative affect on those who will be making a decision relative to rebuilding and further commented on the needs of St. Bernard Parish.

Mr. Doody asked that the Representatives present support and adopt in the Legislature a resolution similar to the one being offered today.

Representative Kenneth Odinet thanked the Authority for its efforts and stood ready to assist. He asked that the language that was inserted into the act creating the Authority requiring the closure of the MRGO be guarded.

Councilwoman Hoffmeister commented on how the Council learned about the Bayou Bienvenue to IHNC levee reach at its meeting yesterday and the frustration of the citizens.

Mr. Eddie Williams, FEMA Debris and Demolition Group Leader, addressed the canal debris issue, explaining FEMA now has a better understanding of what the NRCS will be doing, and FEMA will assess, in conjunction with Mr. Turner, the remainder of the canals, which is anticipated to take approximately 15 days, and will then task the USACE with a scope of work to execute contracts for the remainder of the work. Mr. Mike Park, Director of the USACE La Recovery Field Office, added timeliness of executing the work will depend on the scope of work and the dollar value of that work.

President Jackson stressed the importance of completing the debris removal in the canals prior to the spring rainfalls and requested the project be accelerated, and Mr. Turner offered his assistance in assessing the canals.

Mr. John Connolly, FEMA Public Assistance Officer, advised he and Mr. Williams have been working closely with the USACE. FEMA recognized the short term issues associated with pumping and immediate flood issues are directly correlated with the drainage canals, and is therefore working with Mr. Turner to address this issue, dealing first with the most critical areas, also recognizing the USACE has responsibility for the existing pumps. He explained FEMA's authorities are limited in this arena and must address what is disaster related; therefore, its focus is on the debris, in combination with the work NRCS has agreed to do. FEMA is a grant program and a grant for \$3 million had been written to allow for debris removal, however, it was beyond the capability of the entity to execute a contract; therefore, recognizing the urgency, FEMA is looking to the USACE and their contracting ability to execute that work. He clarified FEMA authorized and paid for all the work by the USACE for debris removal in the canals to include 1,000 feet in front of each of the pump stations and the cross culverts, in order to bring back some functionality to those systems while the remainder of the work is performed. FEMA recognized that in a five-year event homes and businesses would be flooded, which provided the authority for FEMA.

FEMA authorities, grant processes and contracting procedures were briefly discussed.

Temporary pumps were further discussed. Mr. Connolly explained the USACE would provide the modeling tools to make a determination relative to inundation patterns and the level of pumping capacity to offset a five year event, however, he did not have this data as yet.

Mr. Tom Kirkpatrick, LA State Coordinating Officer, advised projects requiring matching funds would go through his office for approval and to notify DOA to look for matching funds. He commented on the systemic issues and the need for legislation to provide a better understanding of the relationships between federal agencies in catastrophic situations. The Congress has legislation pending to waive the 10% match; however, he suggested in the event

that is not done, local representatives be contacted to assure the State has the funds to provide the 10% match.

Mr. Randolph Joseph with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) advised the Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) program is not an annually funded program, but is only funded when a catastrophic event occurs, and further explained how the program works. Ten million dollars was scavenged across the United States and made available to the State of Louisiana at 100 percent; however, this funding was quickly used up. The next allocation came in under the regular EWP program and at that time was 75% cost share and 25% local match. This program was subsequently changed to 100%, and NRCS is working with the LBBLD and now has priorities outlined, the channels designed, surveyed and ready to go to contracting, as soon as the remaining documents, including land rights issues, which will require an attorney's opinion are received.

Mr. Turner added, plans were received about the end of January and it was determined NRCS would require additional land outside of the existing rights-of-way and certification by an attorney as to the rights to those lands, which should be resolved within the next several days. A resolution will then be required authorizing the projects and land rights issues.

Councilman Lynn Dean commented on coastal erosion problems and recommendations.

Mr. Harold Daigle, DOTD Public Works and Hurricane Protection Office, offered assistant and support to the Authority and the LBBLD.

Mr. Goins offered a friendly amendment to the resolution to include the Caernaveron to Verrett and Bayou Bienvenue to Inner Harbor Navigation Canal Protection System, and any other shortcomings that were discussed. The amendment was accepted by the Board.

On the motion of Mr. Doody,
Seconded by Mr. Barry, the following resolution was offered:

RESOLUTION #03-07-07-002 – Lake Borgne Levee District

“Whereas the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority – East (“SLFPA – East”) is charged with flood protection of a large geographical area, and

Whereas one of these areas includes the geographical area of St. Bernard Parish and its citizens,

Whereas the Lake Borgne Levee District has suffered catastrophic damage to its flood protection systems including pumps, pump stations, drainage canals, and levees from the effects of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and

Whereas it has been eighteen months since the hurricanes have passed,

Whereas the Lake Borgne Levee District is still suffering from the effects of the hurricanes, and

Whereas the residents of St. Bernard Parish are currently endangered by the lengthy delay in repairs to the flood protection systems, including the need for temporary pumping capacity, sediment removal from all canals, storm-proofing pump stations, raising the Caernarvon to Verret levee to its authorized height, raising the Bayou Bienvenue to the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal levee and floodwall, and completion of the design and construction of permanent pump stations to replace those ruined by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita,

Be it resolved that the SLFPA-East urges the Louisiana Congressional Delegation to seek the intervention of the Legislative and Executive branches of the Government of the United States of America to resolve all delays and expedite the repair, reconstruction, or rebuilding of the flood protection systems by all governmental agencies involved, including, but not limited to, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, National Resources Conservation Service, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

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

YEAS: Mr. Barnes, Mr. Barry, Mr. Doody, Mr. Goins, Mr. Losonsky,
Mr. McKee, and Mr. Wittie

NAYS: None
ABSENT: Mr. Pineda
Motion carried.

President Jackson called for recess for lunch at 1:15 p.m.

The Board reconvened at 2:00 p.m., the meeting was called back to order and the Board proceeded with agenda.

2. RESOLUTION #03-07-07-003 – Water Resource Management

Mr. Barry requested a friendly amendment to the resolution to read "Hurricane Katrina" in paragraph three, and substitute "Congress and the Executive Branch" in lieu of "federal government" in the resolved paragraph. The amendment was accepted by the Board.

Mr. Barry clarified in reference to studies, he meant every study with which he had any familiarity, which were a reasonable number of studies. He commented on the importance of this resolution, and that many of today's problems resulted from the process followed in water resource management. He cited examples of areas that should be addressed, such as the USACE having a line item to deal with all the problems in the New Orleans region for flood control, in lieu of funding each individual project separately, and the use of outside peer review.

President Jackson noted the IPET investigation as an example of external peer review, and that the external peer review process is in the Water Development and Resource Act (WRDA), should that be passed.

Mr. McKee suggested the Authority having the levee districts peer reviewed by outside levee district members.

On the motion of Mr. Barry,
Seconded by Mr. Barnes, the following resolution was offered:

Whereas, for many decades every study of water resource management has recognized the need to approach water resource questions in a comprehensive and integrated manner, and

Whereas, careful studies of the 1993 upper Mississippi River flood confirmed the danger of approaching flood control in a piecemeal manner yet none of the recommendations made after the 1993 flood were adopted,

Whereas, Hurricane Katrina further confirmed the danger to life and property of a piecemeal approach to flood control,

Whereas, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in its own analysis of its failure to protect the New Orleans metropolitan area stated that the flood control given our region was "a system in name only,"

Whereas, the very existence of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority and our own authority signifies the recognition by the people of the state of Louisiana of the need for comprehensive and integrated planning for water management,

Whereas, the failure of the federal government to address water resource issues in a comprehensive manner is the result not only of failures in the Army Corps of Engineers but in the Office of Management and Budget and in the authorization and appropriation process in the Congress,

Resolved,

That the Congress and the Executive Branch give the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers the necessary authority and flexibility to address water resource issues, including flood protection, coastal restoration, and navigation, in an integrated way and not as a collection of individual projects, and that the Congress instruct the Corps to use outside peer review and that the Congress use its own over-sight responsibilities to guarantee that the most effective and cost-efficient engineering be employed.

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

YEAS: Mr. Barnes, Mr. Barry, Mr. Doody, Mr. Goins, Mr. Losonsky,
Mr. McKee, and Mr. Wittie

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Pineda
Motion carried.

3. RESOLUTION #03-07-07-004 – Official Journal

The Board discussed whether bids would be required. President Jackson recommended the selection of the Times Picayune, and removing the fiscal year 2007-2008 reference, and making any necessary adjustments, in order to make a selection at this meeting, since budget hearing notices needed to be published before the next meeting.

On the motion of Mr. Doody,
Seconded by Mr. Barry, the following resolution was offered:

“A resolution to select the Official Journal for the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority – East:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Authority select the Times Picayune as the Official Journal.”

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

YEAS: Mr. Barnes, Mr. Barry, Mr. Doody, Mr. Goins, Mr. Losonsky,
Mr. McKee, and Mr. Wittie

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Pineda

Motion carried.

4. RESOLUTION #03-07-07-005 – 29th Annual National Hurricane Conference

On the motion of Mr. Doody,
Seconded by Mr. Barry, the following resolution was offered:

“A resolution authorizing the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority - East Board Members and the Executive Directors of East Jefferson Levee District, Orleans Levee District and Lake Borgne Basin Levee District to attend the 2007 National Hurricane Conference on April 2-6, 2007 at the Hilton Riverside, New Orleans, Louisiana, to include registration fee of \$300.00 and travel expenses under Section 162(h)(1)(B)(ii) of Title 26 of the United States Code.”

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

YEAS: Mr. Barnes, Mr. Barry, Mr. Doody, Mr. Goins, Mr. Losonsky,
Mr. McKee, and Mr. Wittie

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Pineda

Motion carried.

5. RESOLUTION #03-07-07-006 – Open Capital One Payroll Account

On the motion of Mr. Doody,
Seconded by Mr. Goins, the following resolution was offered:

“A resolution authorizing Timothy P. Doody, Treasurer, to open a payroll account with Capital One Bank for the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority – East. Authorized signatories on the account will be the officers of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority – East and all checks will require 2 signatures.”

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

YEAS: Mr. Barnes, Mr. Barry, Mr. Doody, Mr. Goins, Mr. Losonsky,
Mr. McKee, and Mr. Wittie

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Pineda

Motion carried.

6. RESOLUTION #03-07-07-007 – Contract with ADP for Payroll Services

President Jackson offered as a friendly amendment to the resolution authorizing Timothy P. Doody, Treasurer, to negotiate a contract with ADP for the purpose of providing payroll services to the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East and authorize the Treasurer to sign any and all agreements to effect this action. The amendment was accepted by the Board.

On the motion of Mr. Losonsky,

Seconded by Mr. Goins, the following resolution was offered:

“A resolution authorizing Timothy P. Doody, Treasurer, to negotiate a contract with ADP for the purpose of providing payroll services to the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East, and authorizing the Treasurer to sign any and all agreements to effect this action.”

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

YEAS: Mr. Barnes, Mr. Barry, Mr. Doody, Mr. Goins, Mr. Losonsky,
Mr. McKee, and Mr. Wittie

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Pineda

Motion carried.

7. RESOLUTION #03-07-07-008 – Orleans Levee District Capital One Signatories

Mr. Stevan Spencer, OLD Director, explained he and Gerry Gillen are the current signatories, and two additional signatories would be necessary in the event they are not available. The OLD auditor is currently determining whether the additional signatories contemplated would be acceptable, and the following language was proposed for amending the resolution, “Additional signatories will be determined after consultation with OLD auditor and approval by the Treasurer”. The proposed amendment was accepted by the Board.

On the motion of Mr. Doody,

Seconded by Mr. Losonsky, the following resolution was offered:

“A resolution to designate the Orleans Levee District Director of Hurricane and Flood Protection and Chief Engineer to be authorized signers for any and all Capital One Bank Accounts in the name of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority – East as Managing Authority of the Orleans Levee District, as set forth in the attached list. Additional signatories will be determined after consultation with OLD auditor and approval by the Treasurer.

The President or the Treasurer are authorized to sign any and all necessary documents or take any and all actions necessary to carry out the above.”

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

YEAS: Mr. Barnes, Mr. Barry, Mr. Doody, Mr. Goins, Mr. Losonsky,
Mr. McKee, and Mr. Wittie

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Pineda

Motion carried.

8. RESOLUTION #03-07-07-009 – Operating Account Signatories

On the motion of Mr. Doody,

Seconded by Mr. Losonsky, the following resolution was offered:

“A resolution authorizing signatories on the operating account to be the officers of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority – East and all checks will require 2 signatures.”

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

YEAS: Mr. Barnes, Mr. Barry, Mr. Doody, Mr. Goins, Mr. Losonsky,
Mr. McKee, and Mr. Wittie

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Pineda

Motion carried.

9. Discussion of Draft Coastal Protection Plan.

Mr. Barry offered a motion to consider the draft Coastal Protection Plan of the State in order to come to a Board position, which was seconded by Mr. Doody.

Mr. Barry explained the final draft of the Coastal Protection Plan will be going to the Louisiana Legislature next month, and suggested a meeting be held prior to the Authority’s regular meeting in April in order to allow the State to present the draft of the plan. He expressed his concern relative to comments and a procedural criticism that were communicated to him by

members of the scientific community, adding the team did a laudable job bringing the plan to this point and pointing out the pressures due to the timeframe imposed upon the plan by the Legislature.

President Jackson commented on the importance of the plan, which the Authority would be obligated to follow once it is adopted by the State. He concurred with the recommendation that the CPRA make a presentation on the draft plan and suggested the possibility of two regular Board meetings a month for an indefinite period.

President Jackson explained there have been questions concerning the two levee districts which were created on the north shore in Tangipahoa and St. Tammany Parishes in the same act that created this Authority. Mr. Barnes and Mr. Wittie were requested to meet with their respective parish presidents to discuss and report back their positions as to the future of those levee districts. To bring an active levee district into existence, the Constitution requires a popular vote to assess a tax millage to be applied that levee district.

Mr. Barry withdrew his motion relative to the consideration of the draft Coastal Protection Plan.

Mr. Doody extended an invitation to the Board members to view the pump stations located in St. Bernard Parish.

There was no further business, therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 2:43 p.m.