

**MINUTES OF THE
SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY – EAST
BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2013**

The regular monthly Board Meeting of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority - East (Authority or SLFPA-E) was held on Thursday, April 18, 2013, in the Second Floor Council Chambers, Joseph Yenni Bldg., 1221 Elmwood Park Blvd., Harahan, Louisiana, after due legal notice of the meeting was sent to each Board member and the news media and posted.

Mr. Doody called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. and led in the pledge of allegiance.

PRESENT:

Timothy P. Doody, President
John M. Barry, Vice President
Louis E. Wittie, Secretary
Stephen Estopinal, Treasurer
Richard A. Luettich, Jr.
Ricardo S. Pineda

ABSENT:

David P. Barnes, Jr.
Thomas L. Jackson
G. Paul Kemp

OPENING COMMENTS:

Mr. Doody advised that the SLFPA-E has been informed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) that there is a need to reprogram approximately \$27 million from the Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity (LP&V) Project and funds from the SELA Project to help finish the work on the West Bank and Vicinity (WB&V) Project. The SLFPA-E is formulating a response to the USACE's reprogramming request, which will include comments concerning replies received from the USACE in July of 2012 when the last reprogramming effort was accomplished. The USACE's replies were in response to SLFPA-E concerns that included the Bayou Bienvenue bridge, pile bending moments, and roadway transitions along the T-walls in the Lake Borgne Basin Levee District. The USACE set a schedule for itself on many of these issues, which has not been met. It has assured the SLFPA-E that it has plenty enough money; however, the pool is shrinking considerably. He commented that the SLFPA-E favors the completion of the entire system for the protection of all of the citizens of Southeast Louisiana. However, it is unsure whether the USACE adequately calculated how much money is needed. There is also a need to move money from the IHNC projects into the FCEE (100 percent federal money) pool in order to complete the work along the outfall canals.

Mr. Doody reported that the SLFPA-E is in discussions with a towboat operator about keeping a boat on standby in the IHNC during the upcoming hurricane season in order to roundup any vessels that may break free during a tropical event. The SLFPA-E is working with the USACE and U.S. Coast Guard on this issue. The SLFPA-E is also working with its Legal Counsel on liability issues concerning such an arrangement.

Mr. Doody informed the Board that a media event is being organized and has been scheduled for May 31st in anticipation of the upcoming hurricane season. The points of contacts for the various entities have met and developed preliminary plans. A meeting will be held on April 26th to review the plans in detail. Participating entities include SLFPA-E, Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-West, USACE, Coast Guard, Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans, Jefferson Parish Drainage, Louisiana Homeland Security, Port of New Orleans, City of New Orleans, and Jefferson, St. Charles, St. Tammany and Tangipahoa Parishes. He commented on the importance of letting the public know that the various entities are communicating in advance of hurricane season and are making preparations. Part of the preparations includes table top exercises being set up by the USACE for mid-May.

Mr. Doody commented on two bills currently being considered in the Louisiana Legislature that could impact the SLFPA-E. Senate Bill (SB) 173 by Senator Morrell creates the New Orleans Lakefront Airport Authority and transfers control of the New Orleans Lakefront Airport from the Non-Flood Protection Asset Management Authority to the newly created Authority. The asset would still be owned by the Orleans Levee District. The SLFPA-E's concern for the community is for the airport to be managed by a professional organization. The net assets from the Non-Flood Protection Assets are pledged to pay off the Go Zone Bonds issued by the State to the Orleans Levee District after Hurricane Katrina. The outstanding debt is currently \$26 million. House Bill (HB) 74 by Representative Lorusso concerns the setback easement along the outfall canals.

Mr. Doody explained that the I-Storm Team is meeting in New Orleans this week and assisting with the review of the USACE Water Control Manual. The I-Storm Team includes members from various countries with large barrier structures. The SLFPA-E is a member of the I-Storm Team and benefits greatly from the dialog with other members on the challenges of operating and maintaining large barriers.

Mr. Doody commented that he was unable to attend the Town Hall Meeting sponsored by Councilmember Susan Guidry yesterday because the I-Storm Team was in town; however, Robert Turner, SLFPA-E Regional Director, and Gerry Gillen, Orleans Levee District (O.L.D.) Executive Director, participated in the meeting and reviewed some of the lakefront projects currently under construction.

Mr. Doody advised that he met earlier in the week with Robert Lupo, Chairman of the Non-Flood Protection Asset Management Authority (NFPAMA), who requested financial assistance from the SLFPA-E Board for the operation and maintenance of the Non-Flood Protection Assets until the NFPAMA's portion of the SLIP tax millage takes effect. The request for one million dollars per year over a three year period was phrased in

terms of a potential loan. It was also learned during the meeting with Mr. Lupo that there are issues with the lighting along Lakeshore Drive. The utility crossings are completed to a point where the lights can be tested; however, the lights are not working. The engineers are working to determine the cause and it was suggested that the repair may be costly.

Mr. Doody commented that O.L.D. personnel are scheduled to participate in exercises beginning next month to operate the IHNC Surge Barrier Barge Gate. The USACE's contractor is currently engaged in fixing the struts inside the barge.

Mr. Doody reported that the USACE has affirmed its decision to award a contract to the joint venture PCCP Constructors for the construction of the Permanent Canal Closures and Pumps at the London Avenue, Orleans Avenue and 17th Street Outfall Canals.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

A motion was offered by Mr. Barry and seconded by Mr. Estopinal to approve the agenda. A request was made to amend the agenda to include a discussion of the litigation entitled "Haspel & Davis Milling and Planting Company, Ltd., et al. v. Board of Levee Commissioners of the Orleans Levee District, Docket No. 31-357, 25th Judicial District Court for the Parish of Plaquemines, State of Louisiana" under Executive Session. Mr. Doody called for public comment on the amendment of the agenda. There was no public comment. The amended agenda was unanimously approved by a roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 04-18-13-01 – APPROVAL OF MARCH 21, 2013 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

On the motion of Mr. Estopinal,
Seconded by Mr. Wittie, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East approves the minutes of the Board Meeting held on March 21, 2013.

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

YEAS: Mr. Barry, Mr. Estopinal, Mr. Luettich, Mr. Pineda and Mr. Wittie

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Barnes, Mr. Jackson and Mr. Kemp

PRESENTATIONS:

- 1. Executive Summary Report - Hurricane Surge Hazard Analysis:
The State of the Practice and Recent Applications for Southeast Louisiana**

Robert Jacobsen, P.E., advised that he was retained by the SLFPA-E to assist Mr. Turner with detailed technical reviews of the USACE's approach to developing surge hazard analysis and the design criteria associated with the surge hazard analysis. Today's presentation will offer findings and conclusions. A more detailed discussion can take place at another meeting or during a Webinar.

Mr. Jacobsen reviewed the objectives of the study:

1. Describe State of the Practice (SOP) – what can be done today.
2. Evaluate 2005-09 analysis in context of SOP.
3. Recommend improvements to analysis.
4. Assess implications for HSDRRS performance.
5. Recommend revisions to HSDRRS design.
6. Recommend other improvements to surge risk management.

Mr. Jacobsen advised that the five tasks involved in surge hazard analysis were previously reviewed in Coastal Advisory Committee meetings. The five reports on the tasks will be placed on the SLFPA-E website. The reports were peer reviewed through a parallel State effort.

Mr. Jacobsen noted that the study showed that a surge hazard analysis that supports a Food Insurance Study (FIS) and Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) accreditation is good for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) purposes—but may not be good enough for the SLFPA-E's mission.

Mr. Jacobsen discussed two findings relative to the state of the practice:

- 1) There have been significant advances in estimating surge hazard, as well as significant reductions in systemic and local bias over the past several years. The USACE broke tremendous ground and greatly advanced the state of the practice in the period in which the study was done; however, the practice is moving forward. Five areas of critical advances are:
 - i. Hurricane Climatology – There have been seven years of hurricanes since the cutoff date for the USACE's analysis (2005). Additional research has taken place in the areas of hurricane trends, the role of the loop current and coastal water temperature in local hurricane return period, intensity, wind field extent and dynamics, and surge threat of large, slow moving, low intensity hurricanes.
 - ii. Modeling – There have been tremendous improvements in the ability to mimic land surfaces and bathymetry and resolve how a surge moves into an area and eliminate potential local biases in the models.
 - iii. Surge Hazard Joint Probability Analysis (JPA) – Advances in computer technology [High Performance Parallel Computing (HPCC)] allow for more sophisticated calculations.
 - iv. JPA for Polder Inundation

- v. Future Conditions Hazard Analysis – Capabilities exist to look at many more scenarios, including varying loss of different critical land features on the future surge hazard.
- 2) Estimate uncertainties are very large – The amount and period length of the data and the quality of the models and high watermarks contribute to the precision of the estimates. There is a very wide standard distribution when modeling with normally distributed uncertainty. The state of the practice is getting better at eliminating bias, but is not reducing the uncertainty.

Mr. Jacobsen reviewed twelve findings of the 2005-09 analysis:

Four Major Low Bias Factors: Under-Estimation of Surge Hazard:

1. Climatology does not include large, slow-moving, low intensity hurricanes for 100-yr surge hazard -- no Gustavs or Isaacs.
2. Surge model contains superseded approaches and mesh contains outdated topographic, bathymetric, land cover, and HSDRRS data. Hurricane Katrina hindcast validation under-represented surge height by >1.5 ft along south Lake Pontchartrain.
3. JPA approach and small (152) storm set overly smooth interpolation and extrapolation of regional surge response to variations in hurricane characteristics. No Camille-like storms for evaluation of 500-yr surge.
4. 2057 analysis does not consider key coastal land losses; applies a uniform surge increase for most of east-bank.

Three Other Important Bias Factors:

5. USACE's specific approach to computing the CDF adds a small High Bias "Cushion."
 - Modestly increased the 100-year and 500-year exterior surge hazard estimates—at one location by 0.4 and 1.1 feet, respectively.
6. Approach to characterizing foreshore wave heights.
 - Rayleigh distribution of wave heights.
 - Breaker parameter (Hs/Depth) of 0.4
 - Combined effect could mitigate or exacerbate—don't know.
7. JPA for the 2011 conditions did not re-simulate all the storms in the set. Again, don't know the effect.

Five Issues on Quantifying Uncertainty:

8. No variation in hurricane dynamics—intensification/growth/decay.
9. Combined wind/surge/wave model uncertainties indicated by other recent studies.
10. Uncertainties in JPA method and CDF integration.
11. Uncertainties in polder inundation hazard analysis have not yet been addressed: seepage, overtopping, breaching, rainfall, pumping and internal routing.
12. Analysis for wave overtopping at 10% exceedance level does NOT use actual statistical uncertainties.

- Substituted drastically lower σ for exterior surge— some reaches by a factor >4.
- Did not vary the wave height with depth (in Monte Carlo).

Mr. Jacobsen stated that the bottom line of the review of the current analysis versus the state of the practice is that the bias and uncertainty issues mean that the 2005-09 surge hazard analysis is outdated for southeast Louisiana surge risk management purposes beyond the 2013 NFIP FIS and HSDRRS accreditation. He added that he is not passing judgment on the flood insurance study and the accreditation because those studies are driven by other risk management criteria.

Mr. Jacobsen discussed two recommendations for improving the surge hazard analysis:

- 1) A reanalysis should be done as soon as possible to the state of the practice. The SLFPA-E Board should exert a leadership role in insisting that this reanalysis is done with the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA). A reanalysis should be done on a regular basis.
- 2) Encourage critical research for surge hazard analysis. For example, additional data is needed on waves and breaker parameters.

Mr. Jacobsen reviewed the implications of the study. He emphasized that he was addressing levees and not floodwalls. The floodwalls were overdesigned to the future 100-year overtopping condition. Performance is relative to the hydraulic design criteria. In many cases the levees were overbuilt for construction reasons; therefore, the current height is higher than the hydraulic design height. References are made to the hydraulic design height and not current as-built heights.

Mr. Jacobsen explained that the higher median estimate of the 100-year surge eats into freeboard. There are locations with only three feet of freeboard. He estimated that there will be locations where freeboard will be reduced by more than two feet. FEMA's criteria require at least two feet of freeboard. He discussed the relationship between freeboard and the overtopping rate associated with waves. The reduction in freeboard means higher overtopping rates. He pointed out that the waves may also have bias. The bias factors mean that the 500-year numbers are also off, and it is more likely that the 500-year numbers are off than even the 100-year numbers. The USACE's guidance for levee accreditation suggests at least a 10 percent exceedance level or at most a 90 percent non-exceedance level. The revisions for bias and uncertainty together can increase estimates of current overtopping hazards at the 10 percent exceedance level by an order of magnitude. He pointed out that the analysis done in 2009 was the state of the practice at that time.

Mr. Jacobsen reviewed additional implications. The new estimates that are likely to come about are going to exceed the criteria the USACE included in its design. The USACE has stated that overtopping at the median estimate must be 0.1 and at the 10 percent exceedance level must be .01. Reality means that these numbers will be exceeded. If the USACE stays with these criteria, then the levees must be raised. In addition, there is a polder risk associated with higher wave overtopping rates. He

pointed out, however, that wave overtopping volumes are still small. This implication is not something that would potentially impact volumes, but rather the integrity of the levees. Lastly, advances in the state of the practice imply a higher 2057 risk.

Mr. Jacobsen stated that the performance concerns indicate that HSDRRS levees as designed have significant shortcomings for surge risk management purposes beyond the 2013 FIS accreditation.

Mr. Jacobsen reviewed four recommendations relative to the HSDRRS design:

- 1) Define statistical exceedance levels with the actual statistics.
- 2) Discussions are needed among the SLFPA-E, CPRA, USACE, National Academy of Sciences and professional risk managers of facilities such as nuclear power plants about the correct exceedance level for the SLFPA-E's purpose. The discussion about exceedance criteria drives three changes:
 - i. Design criteria are needed for freeboard at whatever exceedance level is decided.
 - ii. Reach by reach design criteria are needed for the overtopping exceedance level at the 100-year level. The exceedance level criterion for overtopping is currently 0.1 and is uniform across the system. It is not likely that this criterion will be met in the future. It may not be reasonable to raise every levee to meet this criterion and it may be more appropriate to have allowances depending on the armoring.
 - iii. A discussion is needed concerning resiliency at the 500-year level in terms of the exceedance level. Resiliency discussions should be comprehensive and include overtopping and erosion issues on both the foreshore and protected sides.
- 3) Resiliency measures should be accelerated for reaches not likely to be changed by future analysis.
- 4) A systematic approach:
 - 1st Priority: Minimize 100-year wave overtopping in accordance with design criteria at exceedance level -- surveys, inspections and maintenance.
 - 2nd Priority: 500-year resiliency at exceedance level.
 - 3rd Priority: "High Level."

Mr. Jacobsen ended the presentation by discussing some of the issues dealing with surge risk management:

- The levees south of the system drive some of the system's risk.
- Proposed changes to levees associated with the Mississippi Delta Management Plan will affect risk in this area. Therefore, hurricane surge risk should be a part of the Mississippi Delta Management Planning.

- The 100-year risk faced by this community is primarily rainfall. Decisions regarding 100-year and 500-year risks should include all of the flood hazards faced by the community.

Mr. Luettich commented that his overall assessment was that the presentation was on target. It is clear that what was done in the 2005-09 timeframe was well done; however, the state of the practice has simply advanced. There are better tools and datasets and new storms to include in the overall analysis process in order to provide the information needed to know how to set the standard deviations. He stated that he agreed with the overall message and added that the analysis should be redone on a five year basis commensurate with the State Master Plan.

Mr. Doody expressed his support for the use of best science. He commented that the SLFPA-E will follow through with discussions with the CPRA and look to the USACE for participation.

Mr. Turner advised that a draft copy of Mr. Jacobsen's report was transmitted to the USACE. He subsequently met with the USACE's Hydraulics Branch staff concerning various portions of the report. It was noted that there is a need to re-gather some of the individuals originally involved the 2005-09 analysis process. The USACE is considering putting together a hydraulics workshop. The SLFPA-E has offered to help sponsor the workshop. He pointed out that the State also has an effort looking into this process and is moving in a similar direction. Mr. Jacobsen is also serving on the State's team.

Mr. Luettich pointed out that Mr. Jacobsen had been requested to identify areas using the information that he had at hand that were most likely to need improvement.

Mr. Jacobsen suggested outreach to the State, the Pontchartrain Levee District and other entities relative to the study.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Craig Berthold informed the Board that he spoke to an insurance person with the USACE and was advised that the USACE does not require its contractors to carry insurance unless the project is for the construction of a Federal installation. The remediation work along the 17th Street Canal was not considered a Federal installation and property owners must sue the joint venture that did the work for damages. Because of the insurance issue and potential for damage, he asked whether the construction of the permanent pumping station, which was awarded to a joint venture, is considered a Federal installation. Mr. Doody advised that he would obtain the requested information.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee: Mr. Estopinal reported that the Finance Committee met on April 4th. The Committee referred the adoption of millage rates for the Lake Borgne Basin

Levee District to the Board for approval. Mr. Doody advised that the Orleans Levee District Flood Division received a dividend of approximately \$56,000 from Louisiana Workers Compensation Corp. (LWCC).

Operations Committee: Mr. Wittie reported that the Operations Committee met on April 4th. The Committee considered the following items:

- A structural change was requested by Wildlife and Fisheries (WL&F) to the Bayou St. John Obsolete Flood Control Demolition Project. A WL&F Foundation check was received by the Orleans Levee District in the amount of \$21,484.80 as reimbursement for this request with the balance to be applied to the Bayou St. John Dredging Project. A resolution has been placed on the agenda relative to this item.
- The Committee was requested to delay the acceptance of the AECOM Operations and Maintenance Cost Study due to the discovery of some discrepancies that must be resolved.
- The discussion of the New Orleans East Land Bridge Feasibility Level Study prepared by Ben C. Gerwick, Inc. was deferred to a Study Group, which will meet after the Board meeting.
- The Regional Director reported at the Committee meeting on the continuing problems with the operation of the IHNC Surge Barrier Barge Gate. He also reported on the subsidence of a portion of the South Point to GIWW Levee below the design grade. The USACE will construct another lift before turning the project over to the levee district.

Legal Committee: The Legal Committee did not meet during the month of April.

CPRA/Governmental Affairs: Mr. Barry reported that a panel discussion took place at yesterday's CPRA meeting on some recent studies. The first discussion concerned a study dealing with marsh nutrients and an experiment that was conducted in New England where a large amount of nutrients were put into a marsh and proved to be harmful to the marsh. The second discussion concerned a CPRA commissioned study completed in December that reviewed the existing technical literature on fresh water diversions. The conclusion of the study was that fresh water diversions are not going to build land. The question remains whether diversions that carry sediment build land. The use of Mardi Gras Pass in the Bohemia Spillway as a model system was brought up at the CPRA meeting. In addition, a presentation was provided by P. J. Hahn on Cat Island, which is a nesting ground for pelicans. In 1935 the island was 350 acres. In 1998 the island was 40 acres. The island is now one acre. A project is contemplated to rebuild the island. Cat Island was in the direct path of the BP oil spill.

Mr. Doody noted that the SLFPA-E has two diversions within its jurisdiction (Caernarvon and Mardi Gras Pass). He commented on the need to understand the impact of adding fresh water to the ecosystem and suggested that a study be commissioned. He requested that the Coastal Advisory Committee consider this issue.

Mr. Doody reported that the SLFPA-E has discussed participating in the cost of the construction, operation and maintenance of a bridge over Mardi Gras Pass with the CPRA and the operator. The construction of the bridge is estimated at \$700,000.

Mr. Doody advised that the SLFPA-E engaged the firm of Cardno Entrix to identify land owned by the levee districts that would be useful in setting up a mitigation bank. The total value of the mitigation bank credits that the SLFPA-E controls in usable land is in the neighborhood of five to seven million dollars. Therefore, a funding source for coastal restoration projects from a mitigation bank is not a real possibility. The firm was requested to put out the word that the SLFPA-E may be interested in selling some of the land for use in a mitigation bank. Selling the land would not generate the funds that selling mitigation credits would generate; however, it would generate some funds for projects such as reestablishing the land bridge. He commented on the need for the SLFPA-E to focus energy on coastal restoration.

Mr. Barry advised that the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) bill has been delayed in Congress largely due to gun control issues. The WRDA bill should come up in the Senate in the next couple of weeks.

Coastal Advisory Committee: The Coastal Advisory Committee did not meet during the month of April.

REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

The Regional Director's Report was distributed (copy appended to the minutes). Mr. Turner commented on the following issues:

- IHNC Surge Barrier Barge Gate – The USACE plans to begin operating the gate on weekly basis starting about mid-May in order to gain experience and become knowledgeable about potential issues. Mr. Doody pointed out that the WRDA bill, which includes language relative to the operation and maintenance of the gate, has not worked its way through Congress and would probably not become law prior to the beginning of the hurricane season. Therefore, the SLFPA-E will probably be responsible for operating the gate during the upcoming hurricane season. In addition, should the WRDA bill become law, the SLFPA-E will need to consider whether it is more beneficial financially to participate in the cost share arrangement for the USACE to operate the gate or whether the O.L.D. should operate the gate.
- Openings in the HSDRRS – The work related with the closure of two openings in Jefferson Parish associated with the frontal protection at two pump stations is anticipated to be completed by June 1st. A section of the Southpoint to GIWW Levee in New Orleans East subsided slightly below the design grade elevation. The levee lift to correct the situation is anticipated to be completed in the May-early June timeframe.

- IHNC to Franklin Avenue Levee Reach – Sheetpile is being driven for use as a cut-off wall for seepage along this reach. The project is estimated to take 130 days. The SLFPA-E will continue monitoring this project.
- HSDRRS – Mississippi River Levee (MRL) Tie-in at Caernarvon – The USACE is modifying the tie-in and raising the floodwall several feet. The 65 percent design plans have been reviewed by the SLFPA-E. The 95 percent plans are due by the end of April.
- Outfall Canals – Additional work will be required on the west side of the 17th Street Canal in a 2,000-ft. section south of Veterans Highway. The USACE affirmed its decision to award a contract to the joint venture of PCCP Constructors for the construction of the Permanent Canal Closures and Pumps.
- Water Control Plans – The SLFPA-E is meeting with the USACE on a regular basis and reviewing and commenting on the Water Control Manuals that will govern the operation of the gate structures. One of the main purposes for the I-Storm Team’s visit to New Orleans is to assist with the review of the proposed Water Control Manuals. The USACE is receiving valuable input based on the experience of the various international barrier owners on the Team.
- Non-Federal Levee Certification – BFM, Inc. is currently conducting the required profile surveys. The SLFPA-E is in the process of negotiating the next phase of the contract with Tetra Tech for assistance with the certification.
- Document Management System – An item has been placed on the Board Agenda to authorize the advertisement of a Request for Proposal for the development of a document management system as part of the Levee Information Management System. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds are available for a significant portion of this project.

Mr. Pineda commented on the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012. The Act makes flood insurance rates nationwide reflect the true risks. There is a pushback by some states because of substantial rate increases. Mr. Barry advised that the CPRA received a lengthy presentation at its March meeting on the regional National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Rates may conceivably decrease for some in the New Orleans Metropolitan area; however, the premium numbers are virtually catastrophic for other areas of the State—mostly coastal communities. Mr. Pineda commented on the importance of the accreditation of the HSDRRS.

RESOLUTION NO. 04-18-13-02 - RECOGNIZING COLONEL EDWARD R. FLEMING

Mr. Doody and Mr. Barry commented on honesty and straightforwardness exhibited by Colonel Fleming and on his dedication to flood protection. Mr. Pineda commented that he has worked with Colonel Fleming on issues across the country and that he has been very professional and responsive and is a credit to the USACE.

On the motion of Mr. Barry, Mr. Doody, Mr. Estopinal, Mr. Luettich, Mr. Pineda and Mr. Wittie:

“A resolution recognizing the commitment and contributions of Colonel Edward R. Fleming, the New Orleans District’s 61st Commander and District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East and to the citizens of Southeast Louisiana.”

WHEREAS, since his graduation from the United States Military Academy West Point, New York, in 1989, Colonel Edward R. Fleming has served the United States Army and the citizens of the United States throughout his long distinguished career in numerous command and staff assignments marked by combat and peacekeeping deployments in the United States and abroad; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Fleming assumed command of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers New Orleans District on July 23, 2010, becoming responsible for the completion of the \$14.4 Billion Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) for the greater New Orleans area – one of the largest civil works programs at over \$350 million annually; and

WHEREAS, as Commander of the New Orleans District, Colonel Fleming assumed responsibility for 2,800 miles of navigable waterways, including five of the top fifteen ports in the nation, 1,300 miles of levees and floodwalls, 11 navigation locks, six major flood control structures, and other projects designed to create and protect wetlands; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Fleming has worked untiringly in the service of the citizens of Southeast Louisiana to implement and further flood protection and coastal restoration for the region; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Fleming has worked with leaders at all levels of local, state and federal government to accomplish the unprecedented task of constructing the massive risk reduction program, and his leadership and management have been instrumental in setting the conditions for success.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East hereby expresses its gratitude and appreciation to Colonel Edward R. Fleming for his dedication and contribution to the protection of the citizens of Southeast Louisiana, and its warmest regards and best wishes for his continued success.

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

YEAS: Mr. Barry, Mr. Doody, Mr. Estopinal, Mr. Luettich, Mr. Pineda
and Mr. Wittie

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Barnes, Mr. Jackson and Mr. Kemp

RESOLUTION NO. 04-18-13-03 – APPROVAL OF LEGAL INVOICES

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

WHEREAS, the legal invoices submitted to the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (SLFPA-E), East Jefferson Levee District, Lake Borgne Basin Levee District and Orleans Levee District listed on the spreadsheet entitled “Legal Invoices Approved on April 18, 2013”, have been reviewed and approved by the appropriate levee district Executive Director, the SLFPA-E Regional Director and the SLFPA-E General Counsel, Robert Lacour; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned invoices were submitted to the members of the Legal Committee for review.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the legal invoices listed on the spreadsheet entitled “Legal Invoices Approved on April 18, 2013” are hereby approved.

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

YEAS: Mr. Barry, Mr. Estopinal, Mr. Luetlich, Mr. Pineda and Mr. Wittie

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Barnes, Mr. Jackson and Mr. Kemp

RESOLUTION NO. 04-18-13-04 – ADVERTISEMENT AND ISSUANCE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Mr. Turner commented on the need for a document management system to organize and store documentation on the HSDRRS and rights-of-ways.

On the motion of Mr. Estopinal,

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

WHEREAS, Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (SLFPA-E) and the levee districts under its jurisdiction are in need of professional consulting services for the design and implementation of a document management system for storing electronic Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) documents and for assistance with the acquisition and loading of existing/historic documents into the system; and

WHEREAS, the document management system will have a searchable database of information that works seamlessly with the document management interface and allows users to easily find documents related to specific construction projects, non-federal levees, canals, related attributes or geographic location; and

WHEREAS, funding for the aforementioned project is available through a Community Development Block Grant.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East authorizes the advertisement and issuance of a Request for Proposals for the design and implementation of a Document Management System as described above.

The foregoing was submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:
YEAS: Mr. Barry, Mr. Estopinal, Mr. Luettich, Mr. Pineda and Mr. Wittie
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Mr. Barnes, Mr. Jackson and Mr. Kemp

**RESOLUTION NO. 04-18-13-05 –
RENEWAL OF EJLD FLOOD INSURANCE COVERAGE**

Fran Campbell, East Jefferson Levee District (EJLD) Executive Director, advised that there is no increase in coverage. There is a rate increase of \$138.

On the motion of Mr. Estopinal,
Seconded by Mr. Wittie, the following resolution was offered:

WHEREAS, the East Jefferson Levee District (EJLD) flood insurance coverage is due to expire on May 19, 2013 and a quotation was received for renewal through Arthur Gallagher Risk Management Services; and

WHEREAS, coverage for the EJLD Administration Building (203 Plauche) can be renewed under National Flood Insurance Plan at an annual premium of \$2,638 with coverage of \$320,000 on the building and \$80,000 on contents, each with a \$1,000 deductible.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East authorizes the renewal of Flood Insurance Coverage as stated above under the National Flood Insurance Plan through Arthur Gallagher Risk Management Services, for a one year period commencing on May 19, 2013, and authorizes the EJLD Executive Director to sign any and all documents necessary to carry out the above.

The foregoing was submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:
YEAS: Mr. Barry, Mr. Estopinal, Mr. Luettich, Mr. Pineda and Mr. Wittie
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Mr. Barnes, Mr. Jackson and Mr. Kemp

**RESOLUTION NO. 04-18-13-06 – BAYOU ST. JOHN
OBSOLETE WATER COASTAL STRUCTURE**

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

WHEREAS, Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (SLFPA-E) Resolution No. 10-18-12-03 awarded the Bayou St. John Obsolete Water Control Structure Removal Project to Anders Construction, Inc., and established a construction budget in the amount of \$95,000; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries (LW&F) requested a field construction change to the concrete strut support location and pledged to reimburse the Orleans Levee District (O.L.D.) using LW&F Foundation Funds; and

WHEREAS, the pending change orders totaling \$11,261.42 exceed the established construction budget.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Orleans Levee District is hereby authorized to accept the LW&F Foundation check in the amount of \$21,484.80 of which \$4,027.06 is to reimburse for the Water Control Structure WL&F related change order and the remaining \$17,457.74 is to be used for the Bayou St. John Dredging Project in accordance with LW&F letter dated April 8, 2013, and to increase the construction budget up to \$100,000 with SLIP FY 2013 funds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the O.L.D. Executive Director is authorized 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. Barry, Mr. Estopinal, Mr. Luettich, Mr. Pineda and Mr. Wittie

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Barnes, Mr. Jackson and Mr. Kemp

Ordinance No. 1 – 2013 was read in its entirety by Mr. Estopinal. Nick Cali, Lake Borgne Basin Levee District (LBBLD) Executive Director, advised that the millage rates are the same as last year's rates.

ORDINANCE NO. 1 - 2013

The following ordinance was offered by Mr. Estopinal and seconded by Mr. Barry:

AN ORDINANCE LEVYING AND IMPOSING MILLAGE RATES AND ASSESSMENTS FOR TAX YEAR 2013 ON ALL THE PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION IN THE LAKE BORGNE BASIN LEVEE DISTRICT

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Board of Commissioners of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East, Louisiana, acting as the governing authority of the Lake Borgne Basin Levee District, Louisiana (the "District"), to levy taxes and assessments for the year 2013;

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East, Louisiana, acting as the governing authority of said District, that:

SECTION 1. Operation and Maintenance Taxes. Under the authority of the Constitution and Laws of the State of Louisiana, the following millages for special taxes are hereby levied, assessed and imposed on all the property in the Lake Borgne Basin Levee District, Louisiana (the "District"), for the year 2013, for the respective purposes described below:

2013 Millage Rate	Election Date	Years Authorized	Purpose
3.83	N/A	N/A	Constitutional Tax (La. Const. Article VI, Section 39)
4.27	Oct. 17, 2009	2011-2020	Constructing and maintaining necessary levees, levee, drainage, flood protection, and hurricane flood protection, and all other purposes incidental thereto.
3.00	Nov. 15, 2003	2005-2014	Constructing and maintaining necessary levees, levee drainage, flood protection, and hurricane flood protection and all other purposes incidental thereto.

SECTION 2. Local or Forced Contribution. Under the authority of Part II and Sub-Part B of Part VI, Chapter 4, Title 38 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, and other constitutional and statutory authority supplemental thereto, a local or forced contribution of Fifty-Two and 80/100 Dollars (\$52.80) per mile of railroad lines within the District is hereby levied and assessed for the year 2013, for the purpose of constructing and maintaining levees, levee drainage, and for all other purposes incidental thereto.

SECTION 3. Collection of Taxes. The proper administrative officials of the Parish of St. Bernard, State of Louisiana, are hereby empowered, authorized and directed to spread said taxes and assessment, as set forth above, upon the assessment roll of said Parish for the year 2013, and to make the collection of the taxes and assessment imposed for and on behalf of the District according to law, and the taxes and assessment herein levied shall become a permanent lien and privilege on all the property subject to taxation as herein set forth, and the collection thereof shall be enforceable in the manner provided by law.

Specifically, the Assessor of the Parish of St. Bernard shall extend said taxes and assessment on said assessment roll as required by law, and the Sheriff and ex officio tax collector of the Parish of St. Bernard shall collect said taxes and assessment in the same manner as state taxes are collected and shall settle therefor with the State Treasurer, as provided by Section 404 of Title 38 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended; provided, however the proceeds of the tax levied by Section 3 of this ordinance shall be remitted to the District pursuant to the authority of Section 551.9 of Title 39 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, and other constitutional and statutory authority.

Certified copies of this ordinance shall be forwarded to the St. Bernard Parish Assessor and to the St. Bernard Parish Sheriff and ex officio tax collector as complete authority to levy and collect the taxes and assessment herein provided.

SECTION 4. Publication. This ordinance shall be published one time in the official journal of District in the manner provided by law.

SECTION 5. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective immediately.

The foregoing ordinance was read in full; the roll was called on the adoption thereof, and the vote thereupon was as follows:

YEAS: Mr. Barry, Mr. Doody, Mr. Estopinal, Mr. Luettich, Mr. Pineda and Mr. Wittie

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Barnes, Mr. Jackson and Mr. Kemp

ABSTENTIONS: None

And the ordinance was declared adopted on this, the 18th day of April, 2013.

RESOLUTION NO. 04-18-13-07 –
ST. BERNARD PARISH MRT TRAILHEADS (PHASE III)

Mr. Cali explained that the SLFPA-E would certify as the landowner that it intends to give permission to St. Bernard Parish (the project owner) to construct the project on its lands and will abide by the cooperative agreement with the Parish. LBBLD staff participated in the plan-in-hand design review meeting held last week and all of the changes recommended by the LBBLD were accepted. Mr. Doody added that the agreement should include language stating that the SLFPA-E and LBBLD are not responsible for any changes to the project that may be necessitated by a future levee lift, and naming the entity responsible for liability and for maintenance and the area to be maintained. Mr. Cali advised that the agreement will be reviewed by legal counsel.

On the motion of Mr. Wittie,

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

WHEREAS, funding is being sought for the construction of a proposed bike path on top of the Mississippi River Levee in St. Bernard Parish through an application to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for the St. Bernard Parish MRT Trailheads (Phase III) Project as part of the LA Rec Trails Program; and

WHEREAS, the project will be sponsored by the St. Bernard Parish Government and the landowner/operator/manager of the project will be the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East authorizes the SLFPA-E President to execute the Approval by Land

Manager, and any and all other necessary documents, in connection with the aforementioned FHWA Grant Application.

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

YEAS: Mr. Barry, Mr. Estopinal, Mr. Luettich, Mr. Pineda and Mr. Wittie

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Barnes, Mr. Jackson and Mr. Kemp

**RESOLUTION NO. 04-18-13-08 –
ADVERTISEMENT AND ISSUANCE OF A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR
PROJECT AND CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES IN CONNECTION
WITH HMGP PROJECTS – ENGINE UPGRADES AND SAFE ROOMS**

Mr. Cali reported that the safe rooms are under design. The scope of work for the pump station engine upgrades is in review and the Request for Qualifications should be advertised in early May. The LBBLD is a sub-applicant under St. Barnard Parish for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funding for these projects. The LBBLD is being allowed to bring on an advocate to look after the levee district's concerns during the design and construction phases of the projects.

On the motion of Mr. Luettich,
Seconded by Mr. Wittie, the following resolution was offered:

WHEREAS, the St. Bernard Parish Government (Parish) requested and received a grant for Federal assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) for mitigation against natural hazards and invited interested participants to voluntarily participate; and

WHEREAS, the Lake Borgne Basin Levee District (LBBLD) / Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (SLFPA-E) prepared and submitted an eligible HMGP application through the Parish to the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) for funding for the following projects:

- Design and Construction of Engine Upgrades at Pump Stations Nos. 1 and 4 in St. Bernard Parish
- Design and Construction of three safe rooms at Pump Stations 1, 7 and 8 in St. Bernard Parish

WHEREAS, the aforementioned applications were approved by FEMA and GOHSEP and the Parish's HMGP Grant has been amended to include said projects; and

WHEREAS, the LBBLD is charged with the task of providing a portion of the project and construction management services for these projects; and

WHEREAS, any costs incurred by the LBBLD for these services for the above mentioned projects are eligible for reimbursement under the HMGP.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority – East, as the governing authority for the LBBLD, authorizes the LBBLD

Executive Director to advertise and issue a Request for Proposals for project and construction management services to augment LBBLD staff in connection with the aforementioned projects.

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

YEAS: Mr. Barry, Mr. Estopinal, Mr. Luettich, Mr. Pineda and Mr. Wittie

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Barnes, Mr. Jackson and Mr. Kemp

RESOLUTION NO. 04-18-13-09 – AUTHORIZATION FOR LBBLD EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE OWNER CLAIM FORM WITH THE UNCLAIMED PROPERTY DIVISION OF THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

On the motion of Mr. Luettich,

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

WHEREAS, through its Unclaimed Property Division, the Louisiana Department of the Treasury is in receipt of individual policy benefits from State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company in the amount of \$25,000 payable to Lake Borgne Basin Levee District (LBBLD); and

WHEREAS, LBBLD is the rightful owner of said property, having property ID number of 3507768; and

WHEREAS, in order to recover said funds, LBBLD must execute and submit an Owner Claim Form.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority – East, as governing authority for LBBLD, authorizes the LBBLD Executive Director to execute said Owner Claim Form and any and all documents necessary to recover said funds.

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

YEAS: Mr. Barry, Mr. Estopinal, Mr. Luettich, Mr. Pineda and Mr. Wittie

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Barnes, Mr. Jackson and Mr. Kemp

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

1. Discussion of future litigation strategy.
2. Billie A. Breuille v. Board of Levee Commissioners of the Orleans Levee District of the State of Louisiana, 25th JDC, Parish of Plaquemines, No. 53-207, Division “A”.
3. Haspel & Davis Milling and Planting Company, Ltd., et al. v. Board of Levee Commissioners of the Orleans Levee District, Docket No. 31-357, 25th Judicial District Court for the Parish of Plaquemines, State of Louisiana.

A motion was offered by Mr. Estopinal, seconded by Mr. Wittie and unanimously adopted, for the Board to convene in Executive Session to discuss the items listed on the amended agenda. The Board convened in Executive Session at 12:02 p.m.

A motion was offered by Mr. Barry, seconded by Mr. Estopinal and unanimously adopted, for the Board to reconvene in regular session at 1:15 p.m.

RESOLUTION NO. 04-18-13-10 – LEGAL ACTION

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

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East authorizes action as recommended by Legal Counsel in Executive Session this date in the litigation entitled “Billie A. Breuille v. Board of Levee Commissioners of the Orleans Levee District of the State of Louisiana, 25th JDC, Parish of Plaquemines, No. 53-207, Division “A”.

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

YEAS: Mr. Barry, Mr. Estopinal, Mr. Luettich, Mr. Pineda and Mr. Wittie

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Barnes, Mr. Jackson and Mr. Kemp

The next regular monthly Board meeting will be held on May 16, 2013 and hosted by the Orleans Levee District.

There was no further business; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 1:17 p.m.

SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY - EAST

REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

April 18, 2013

HSDRRS Project Status Update

IHNC-02. According to the Corps, the project was “substantially complete” as of Dec. 21, 2012, and the final inspection is tentatively scheduled for April of 2013. There are still numerous outstanding punch list items.

The barge gate and ancillary structures are undergoing repairs and remediation. All of the 4,800 linear feet of uni-strut in the ballast tanks will be cleaned and rust-proofed. The windlass will be repositioned, and the wildcat (drum) has been ground down to allow the chain links to pass through it without twisting. Other steps will be taken to improve the operability and longevity of the windlasses. The work could take up to two months to complete.

A plan is being developed to install navigational hazard warning signs along the barrier wall. Site work involving turf establishment, erosion, touch-up coating and re-alignment of gears at Bayou Bienvenue is ongoing.

LPV-104.02b. The coated sheet pile for construction of the required seepage cut-off wall is being driven. The project is estimated to take 130 days to complete.

LPV-105.02. Final Inspection punch list items are being addressed by the contractor and US Army Corps of Engineers’ hired labor forces.

LPV-106. We have not yet received the Notice of Contract Completion, or NCC, on this project to date. The Corps has issued a new project number, LPV-106a, to address corner cracks in the concrete sheet pile cap caused by the lack of proper joint details. The project is estimated to be complete in September 2013.

LPV-109.02a. URS is preparing plans to raise 3,000 linear feet of levee at Highway 11 by about 2.5 feet. A Corps hired labor force is scheduled to start the work on April 15, 2013, using borrow material from the Bonnet Carre Spillway. URS is also preparing plans to repair problems resulting from subsidence of the floodgate at Highway 11.

The Corps has decided that the landward edge of the protected side berm on this project can serve as the required 15’ Vegetation Free Zone. However, the rock face built along the toe of the berm to accommodate the buried wick drain system must be kept “tree free.”

LPV-111 –The Corps has taken two geo-probe borings at the levee slide site to undergo tests to determine moisture content, atterberg limits, and shear strength. URS has prepared plans and specifications for the repair work and are determining whether other areas may be prone to slides. The repair work will be done by Corps hired labor forces.

LPV-149 – The 65% design submittal for the transition of HSDRRS floodwall to the Mississippi River levee has been reviewed by SLFPAE and comments have been submitted to the Corps. The 95% plans and specifications are due by April 19, 2013.

Outfall Canals. The 95% plans and specs for installation of more sheet piles along both the London Ave Canal and west side of the 17th St. Canal south of Veterans Highway have been reviewed and our comments submitted. The low water case in all three outfall canals is still being investigated.

Permanent Canal Closures and Pumps (PCCP). The Corps has affirmed its decision to award a contract to the joint venture PCCP Constructors for the construction of the Permanent Canal Closures and Pumps at the London Ave., Orleans Ave., and 17th Street outfall canals. The contract award has been modified from \$629,500,000 to \$614,755,700.

Water Control Plans (WCP). WCPs are being developed for the IHNC/GIWW corridor, Bayou Dupre Sector Gate, and Caernarvon Sector Gate. The IHNC/GIWW plan is being finalized and will be issued as an interim plan. It will contain criteria for closing Seabrook and Surge Barriers for storm events and will be coordinated with the Coast Guard-issued RNA for evacuation of marine vessels. SLFPA-E staff is reviewing and providing comment for this effort.

An international team made up of surge barrier owners and operators in the Netherlands, England and Italy is also reviewing the plans and providing input.

Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Manuals for standard levee system features. The review of the drafts HSDRRS O&M Manuals by our O&M Manual Workgroup continues. Volumes 1 and 2 of the Manual are generic and apply to the entire system. A separate Volume 3 will be developed for each project segment and will contain operation and maintenance information pertaining specifically to that segment. Volume 4s will be developed to address project specific environmental and permit issues.

To date we have reviewed and provided comment on drafts of Volume 1 and 2, and thirteen Volume 3's. Bi-monthly meetings are held with the Corps, CPRA and SLFPA-East representatives to discuss comments and status. We have worked closely with the Corps, SLFPA-West, and CPRA to establish a workable Volume 3 template.

Mississippi River & Tributaries (MR&T)

There are two ongoing MR&T projects. The Jefferson Heights project in Jefferson Parish is in 95% design review and will have its EA go out for public review by early April. The second project is the Carrollton levee raising project, up and down river at the Corps District office in Orleans Parish. It is 45% complete; encroachment removal is finished the upriver portion of the project and is scheduled to begin on the downriver portion near Audubon Park by early May.

Internal Affairs

Operation and Maintenance Requirements for Complex Structures. Our consultant, GEC, has prepared preliminary storm-related operational criteria based National Weather Service tidal, surge and weather predictions. Minimum staffing requirements for emergency operations of the various gated structures have been developed. Job descriptions for the required personnel have been provided to the OLD. A draft of their report was received on April 17, 2013.

Complex Structure Training. Our personnel are participating in weekly training and “utilization” meetings with the Corps to become more familiar with the operation and maintenance requirements of the gated structures.

Non-Federal Levee Certification. BFM Inc. has been directed to conduct profile surveys on the non-federal levees in Orleans and Lake Borgne Basin levee districts. After preliminary survey work is complete, our consultant, Tetra-tech, will inspect the systems to determine the requirements for the next phase of the certification work. Their proposal for Phase One of the project is now being reviewed.

Quarterly Levee Inspections. First Quarter 2013 levee inspection reports have been completed and distributed. We have established a new system-wide review process in which executive directors of each levee district and their employees most involved in the inspection process meet with SLFPAE staff quarterly to review inspection reports. Primary emphasis is placed on identifying remedial concerns and tracking the progress of repairs. The meeting also provides a venue for our employees to share insights, ask questions and offer each other advice and assistance.

Our staff is evaluating several new methods for collecting inspection data and reporting the results. To date, we have met with SLFPA-W, CPRA, and the Corps to review what those organizations are using for inspections. We expect to have a recommendation on which system to use by the end of May 2013. A training session with the Corps emergency ops officials and operations personnel

was held on April 16; levee inspection tools (phones) for flood fighting were demonstrated to levee districts' and SLFPAE staff.

Corps Periodic Inspections (PI). The Corps consultant has completed baseline PIs for the LPV and OFC projects within the EJLD. The PIs of LPV projects in the Orleans Levee District are underway (those without NCCs). Levees, floodwalls, floodgates, pump stations, drainage structures, Seabrook and the Surge Barrier will all be inspected. PIs for Bayou Dupree and Caernarvon have been completed in LBBLD.

Emergency Preparedness. The river is near 7.5' at the Carrollton Gage and is predicted to crest around 10.5' during the first week of May, 2013.

Hurricane season officially starts on June 1, 2013, and early predictions are for an above-average year.

USCG IHNC/GIWW Corridor Inspection. The USCG will resume monthly inspections of the IHNC and GIWW by boat within the next 30 days. The inspections will confirm the number and type of vessels in the area to allow for proper planning and successful execution of evacuation of the corridor in advance of a tropical event.

2013 Emergency Operation Plan (EOP) Manuals. The levee districts will submit their updated 2013 EOP manuals to the Operations Committee on April 30, and the SLFPAE Board will be asked to approve them in May. Once approved, the manuals will be distributed to the State and other agencies by June 1.

A Task Order has been issued to Atkins Engineering to write a consolidated SLFPA-E Emergency Operations Plan using the National Incident Management System (NIMS) format.

Document Management. Based on the Levee Information Management System (LIMS) implementation plan prepared last year, our next step is development of a system that can manage the massive influx of information that is coming to us from the Corps. We have confirmed that CDBG funding can be used for this project, but it will require an amendment to the work plan. There is an item on today's agenda that will allow SLFPAE to advertise an RFP.

Gate Module. CPRA is currently updating components of the LIMS Emergency Operations System, often referred to as the LIMS Gate Module. Testing is expected to begin in May.

Mitigation. The Corps remains in the planning phase of mitigating for land losses caused by HSDRRS construction. It is currently estimated that the LPV work impacted more than 1,100 acres. The LPV mitigation budget stands at \$85

million, and target dates for the award of four mitigation contracts range from November 2013 through December of 2016. The first contracts will be for mitigation bank projects.

Armoring. Work continues on the 5,000-foot-long pilot project testing five brands of High Performance Turf Reinforced Mat in the field. Both sod and seed are being used, and additional testing with equipment is planned for the fall. It is now anticipated that contracts to install HPTRM on the LPV system will be awarded, at the earliest, between February and April of 2014.

Meetings and Items of Note:

SLFPA-E staff participated at a Town Hall Meeting last night, April 17, 2013, sponsored by New Orleans City Councilmember Susan G. Guidry.

The Governor's Oyster Advisory Committee will meet today, April 18, at 1:30 pm in the Homer Hitt Alumni Center at UNO.

The next meeting of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority is scheduled for May 15 at 9:30 am in Baton Rouge.

The next CWPPRA (Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection & Restoration Act) Task Force meeting is scheduled for June 4, 9:30 am – 2 pm in Lafayette at the Estuarine Fisheries and Habitat Center Conference Room 119, 646 Cajundome Blvd.

The Greater New Orleans Foundation, in partnership with the Urban Institute and others, is hosting *The Urban Water Series: Strategies that Work*. With three sessions in June and a third in July, the series in New Orleans is designed to give insight into innovative and affordable stormwater management practices used in other cities. At the series' end, the group will look at which of those practices could be adopted in New Orleans. For details and registration, visit <http://www.gnof.org/urbanwaterseries/>