

**MINUTES OF THE
SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY – EAST
BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 2013**

The regular monthly Board Meeting of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority - East (Authority or SLFPA-E) was held on Thursday, August 15, 2013, in the Orleans Levee District Franklin Administrative Complex, 6920 Franklin Avenue, Meeting Room 221, New Orleans, 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 9:55 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
David P. Barnes, Jr. (left meeting at 4:10 p.m.)
G. Paul Kemp
Richard A. Luetlich, Jr.
Ricardo S. Pineda
Wilton P. Tilly, III

ABSENT:

None

OPENING COMMENTS:

Mr. Doody advised that he, Robert Turner, SLFPA-E Regional Director, and Nick Cali, Lake Borgne Basin Levee District (LBBLD) Executive Director, attended the Greater New Orleans, Inc., Water Plan Meeting on July 18th in St. Bernard Parish. Similar presentations were made, but with different polders, at meetings in New Orleans East and East Jefferson Parish.

Mr. Doody reported that the Permanent Canal Closures and Pumps (PCCP) Project kickoff meeting was held on July 30th. The PCCPs will be the last part of the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) to be constructed. The SLFPA-E has ensured that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is aware of the concerns of the neighborhoods (e.g., traffic, noise and post construction street repair) in the areas where the PCCPs are being constructed.

Mr. Doody advised that the SLFPA-E and levee districts are currently monitoring a low pressure system in the Gulf and a system that is being investigated in the Caribbean. The USACE will finalize the closure of the IHNC Surge Barrier Barge Gate this afternoon due to the system in the Gulf. Orleans Levee District (O.L.D.) personnel have been training for months on the structure and will be alongside USACE personnel

during the gate closure. O.L.D. personnel continue to work side-by-side with the USACE and receive the training needed in anticipation of the handover of the system at the end of the hurricane season. The two weather systems are a reminder that we are entering the most active part of the hurricane season. SLFPA-E staff will participate in conference calls related to the weather systems.

Mr. Barnes provided a brief status of the two tropical systems. The tropical storm in the extreme eastern part of the Atlantic is not currently a threat to this region. The second disturbance is in the northwestern part of the Caribbean and over the Yucatan Peninsula and is being investigated as an area of interest by the National Hurricane Center. Both weather systems will be monitored.

Mr. Doody explained that when he received advance notice from Col. Richard Hansen, USACE New Orleans District Commander, on the closure of the Barge Gate he was also informed that the closure of the gate would not trigger the Regulated Navigation Area (RNA). He commented that if the Barge Gate closure does not trigger the RNA, then it is unlikely that a 72 hour window would be provided for the U.S. Coast Guard to enact the RNA when a system enters the Gulf. This concern was expressed by the SLFPA-E to the USACE and Coast Guard on numerous occasions. The SLFPA-E is concerned about the USACE's Water Plan, which has not yet been completed. He reminded everyone of the need to have the USACE tasked with the operation of the IHNC Surge Barrier and Seabrook Complex structure gates because there are too many moving parts in the system to have responsibilities split between the Coast Guard, USACE, SLFPA-E and O.L.D. He noted the importance of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) bill and the language in the bill concerning this responsibility.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Mr. Barry offered a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Barnes, to adopt the agenda. Mr. Doody requested that the order of the presentations be changed so that the Demonstration of the GIS Property Management Application is received first. There was no objection. The Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

RESOLUTION NO. 08-15-13-01 - APPROVAL OF JULY 18, 2013 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

On the motion of Mr. Wittie,
Seconded by Mr. Barnes, 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 July 18, 2013.

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

YEAS: Mr. Barnes, Mr. Barry, Mr. Estopinal, Mr. Kemp, Mr. Luettich, Mr. Tilly,
Mr. Pineda and Mr. Wittie

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Demonstration of the GIS Property Management Application – GCR, Inc.

Mona Nosari, GCR, Inc. (GCR) Director, Real Estate and Planning, advised that GCR is providing an update on the GIS Property Management Application (the application). GCR has been working on the application for the SLFPA-E and the levee districts since early 2012. The purpose of the application is to map and bring together the land records and real estate holdings of the East Jefferson Levee District (EJLD), Lake Borgne Basin Levee District (LBBLD) and Orleans Levee District (O.L.D.). GCR has worked closely with representatives of each of the levee districts.

Steve Gourgues, GCR Project Manager, explained that GCR is in the third task order under an ID-IQ (Indefinite Delivery-Indefinite Quantity) contract with the SLFPA-E for the project. The first two task orders for the project (Task Orders 5 and 6) began the development of the GIS, brought in the initial data and developed the application including enhancements. The third task order (Task Order 7) developed the application a number of steps further and provided additional enhancements.

Mr. Gourgues reviewed the work under the third task order (Task Order 7):

Task 7.1 mapped 30 fee simple properties along the Mississippi River into the system for the O.L.D. and tied the documents received to the actual parcels of data.

Task 7.2 was a historical mapping effort and brought 201 properties along the Mississippi River from maps dating from 1907-1910 into the system and linked the associated data and maps to the parcels.

Task 7.3 included the following work:

Application enhancements:

- Notification Buffers for the MRL and HPL Systems
- Display of Expired/Active Temporary Work Area Easements
- Online Report Functionality

Additional task requests:

- OLD Recordation Search (Orleans Civil District Court & N.O. Notarial Archives)
- LBBLD & OLD Project Map Integration
- FEMA Flood Hazard Maps (Effective and Preliminary)
- Levee District Boundaries
- Demographic Tools
- Survey & Recordation Notification
- Enhanced Search Functionality

Mr. Gourgues provided a demonstration of the application and discussed some of the application's components. Notification buffers along the Mississippi River Levee are 300-ft and 1,500-ft. and the notification buffer along the Hurricane Protection System is 300-ft. on the protected side. Work area easements (temporary and expired) are

displayed on the GIS map with the ability to bring up the associated documentation. One of the enhancements provides the ability to display whether or not a survey is available and whether or not the easement is recorded. Electronic surveys were obtained from the surveyors on some of the properties and are available on-line. GCR is attempting to fill in the areas between surveyed projects through the various task orders. Project maps were obtained for the O.L.D. and LBBLD. The project maps were put into the system at the level of accuracy provided. Boundaries were plugged in using the coordinates provided. If coordinates were not provided, then estimations were made from the dimensions. The projects will be updated as information is obtained in the future. The demographic tool can be used to assist with notification efforts. The tool allows the selection of a district or draw area to obtain the census information for the area. The tool can also be used in association with the overlay of the FEMA Flood Hazard Maps to ascertain the demographics for a specified flood zone. The application is on-line and ready for use.

Ms. Nosari explained that at the last presentation the SLFPA-E requested that GCR include the identification of survey based data in the application. Whenever possible GCR brought in the actual surveys straight from AutoCAD and converted them to GIS. In instances where GCR did not have the metes and bounds to generate an official metes and bounds description, it brought in the drawing based on digitizing or scanning in the document. The "survey available" label is not used in cases where there is no stamped survey. Mr. Estopinal commented that many stamped surveys were done before the State plane coordinates became a useful tool in the location of boundaries. He asked whether this distinction is included in the application. Ms. Nosari responded that it is not included at this time. Mr. Estopinal pointed out the importance of knowing whether or not the locations are based upon geodetic positions and are geo-rectified and requested that this feature be included in the application. Mr. Gourgues responded that the feature can be added to the application.

Mr. Barry commented that the existence of the application should be communicated to emergency planners so that they will know that it is available. Ms. Nosari suggested that the SLFPA-E begin discussions with the Assessors' Offices relative to sharing data.

Mr. Gourgues reviewed the budget for Task Order 7:

Sub-Task 7.1

- Task Budget - \$19,440
- Remaining balance of \$459.79 as of July 31, 2013

Sub-Task 7.2

- Task Budget - \$24,595
- As of July 31, 2013 all monies have been used in this task

Sub-Task 7.3

- Task Budget - \$20,085
- As of July 31, 2013 all monies have been used in this task

Mr. Gourgues discussed Task Order 12 - Mapping Levee District Land Assets, Projects and Right-of-Way; Application Enhancements (\$67,550):

- Sub-Task 12.1 (Estimated Costs \$19,405) - LBBLD Files - 18 Property Files containing Resolutions of Appropriation & Acquisition. 18 LaPAC Files containing Resolutions with Supporting Documents including Plat Maps.
- Sub-Task 12.2 (Estimated Costs – \$16,090) - EJLD - 11 Projects to be added to Application. Includes electronic as-built and hard copy documents of donations, deeds, and maps.
- Sub-Task 12.3 (Estimated Costs \$20,580) – O.L.D. / GCR / US Army Corps of Engineers Files - 12 Projects / 106 tracts to be added to Application. Includes title documents, deeds, surveys, legals, plat maps, and just compensation letters.
- Sub-Task 12.4 (Estimated Costs \$11,475) - Continued Application Enhancement

Mr. Estopinal asked to meet with the GCR representatives at a later date to discuss USACE rights-of-ways. Ms. Nosari noted that the USACE does not always do surveys and sometimes creates tract plat maps and legal descriptions based on title documents when acquiring property. This demonstrates the importance of flagging actual surveys.

Ms. Nosari advised that each of the levee districts contacts GCR when they wish to have additional information incorporated into the system. Mr. Turner explained that the SLFPA-E is attempting to obtain additional information from the State in order to capture everything that has been acquired by the State for the HSDRRS. The levee districts are also finding additional drawings and information. The additional information is put together in packages for task orders that are approved by the Board. Mr. Estopinal added that survey plats for subdivisions of record adjacent to levee district rights-of-ways should be reviewed in order to determine whether a right-of-way is designated on the plat.

2. FEMA Flood Mapping:

Mr. Doody advised that Michael Hecht, Director of Greater New Orleans, Inc. (GNO, Inc.) and Dwayne Bourgeois with the North Lafourche Levee District were requested to provide a presentation on FEMA Flood Mapping. He noted that Senators Landrieu and Vitter were able to get FEMA to pull back the flood maps. He pointed out that there should not be a problem within the HSDRRS with the FEMA Flood Maps. Mr. Hecht and Mr. Bourgeois will explain the impact to areas outside of the HSDRRS and the financial impacts.

Mr. Hecht explained that the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) was created by Congress in 1968. Close to six million homes throughout all 50 states participate in the NFIP. A majority of the participants are located in Texas and Florida. The program includes riverine and coastal flooding. He discussed three key Louisiana principles: 1) the program should be long-term sustainable, 2) the program should be actuarially responsible, and 3) the program must protect the homes and businesses that it was meant to protect. The three main problems with the NFIP are 1) the phase-out of grandfathering, 2) incomplete and inaccurate mapping and 3) questionable actuarial calculations.

Mr. Hecht discussed some of the major myths about the NFIP:

Myth: Only people who ignored building codes or have had repetitive loss will be hurt.

Reality: Individuals who have followed the law, maintained insurance and never flooded will be hurt.

The Biggert-Waters Act of 2012, which reauthorized the NFIP, phases out grandfathering. Therefore, individuals who built homes to the base flood elevation and are suddenly below that elevation due to the new Flood Maps will experience unaffordable rates. This situation would not occur with grandfathering.

Myth: Only rich people will be hurt; these are vacation homes.

Reality: Working class people will be hurt; these are primary residences and businesses.

The new FEMA maps do not take into account anything but 100-year accredited projects. The FEMA maps, which outline new base flood elevations, do not recognize protection offered by unaccredited levees or any other mitigation elements (e.g., pumps).

Myth: A phase-in of higher rates makes loss of grandfathering manageable.

Reality: When insurance goes from \$600 to \$29,000 per year, a 20% per year (\$5,700) phase-in is still unaffordable.

Examples of premium rate calculations that do not seem to make sense relative to risk or value were reviewed.

Mr. Hecht reviewed the cascade effect of unaffordable premium rates and the potential devastating impact:

- Properties become uninsurable
- Properties become unsaleable
- Property values go to zero
- Owners lose everything
- Banks lose mortgage portfolio
- Real estate market freezes
- Companies lose workers
- Local governments lose tax base
- Economies are destroyed
- *NFIP, itself, goes into "death spiral" as people leave the program*

Mr. Hecht stressed that this is not just a Louisiana problem, but a problem throughout the country. He discussed the three solutions that are being explored:

1. Legislative (Congress) - *Reinstate Grandfathering for properties that were built to code*
2. Regulatory (FEMA) - *Develop Holistic and Accurate Maps*
3. Regulatory (FEMA) - *Confirm accuracy of calculations*

Mr. Hecht advised that Senator Landrieu is putting through a one-year delay that has come out of the Senate Appropriations Committee and must be approved on the Senate floor. The Senate language is identical to the amendment passed by the House. The delay would provide time for an affordability study; however, it will not help the real estate markets.

Mr. Hecht explained that David Miller, FEMA Associate Administrator, Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration, was invited to tour some of the assets that are being ignored, such as levees and pumping stations. GNO, Inc. hosted a roundtable on August 8th that included ten parish presidents, the Louisiana Congressional Delegation, Mr. Miller and the team from FEMA. Local participants stressed that they would like to help fix this problem. The individuals who wrote the bill in the House (Biggert-Waters) indicated that they expected its impact to be difficult with increases up to 300 percent; however, they were subsequently advised that some increases would be 5,000 to 6,000 percent.

Mr. Hecht explained that FEMA was requested to respond to the following questions:

- How is the \$25B NFIP deficit calculated? *Over the last 30 years, \$6B more in premiums have been collected than have been paid out.* What accounts for the \$31B negative swing? What are the administrative costs?
- What portion of premiums actually goes towards coverage?
- What additional programs beyond flood insurance are funded by NFIP premiums?
- How many policyholders will be affected by drastic (greater than 500%) premium increases?
- When will actuarial table rates be released to the public?
- Was any money swept from FEMA accounts by the Federal government in years of surpluses, and if so, how much?
- 40% of federally backed mortgages that are required to have flood insurance do not. Why is this not enforced? Would the program be solvent if everyone who is required to purchase flood insurance actually purchases it?

Mr. Hecht stated that he hoped to have a response from FEMA within the next couple of weeks. He asked, until these basic questions about the structure and management of NFIP are answered, should innocent, tax-paying Americans be destroyed to support the program? Once these questions are answered, a solution can be sought to make the NFIP long-term sustainable without moral hazard. He advised that GNO, Inc. will be reporting back publicly on the answers and will be working with the Congressional delegation.

Mr. Bourgeois explained that in the case of Terrebonne and Lafourche Parishes, the preliminary Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRMs) were presented by FEMA for acceptance in 2008. There were severe errors in the maps and Terrebonne and Lafourche Parishes began the process of appeal in 2009. He became aware of a policy

(known as “without levees”) in the FEMA guidance for the flood insurance study that provides that if a levee is not accredited in accordance with 44CRF6510, it is taken out before the wave and still water elevation analysis is accomplished. FEMA received a letter in February, 2011, from a number of Congressmen stating that this policy needed to be changed. In March, 2011, FEMA indicated that it would change the policy and is now starting to apply the Levee Analysis Mapping Process (LAMP) to specifically address the “without levees” portion of the policy. He stated that he wants to ensure that other aspects that are wrong with the flood insurance study process (e.g., proper credit for large pumping system investments and railroad embankments) are addressed. LAMP is slowly being rolled out and 25 communities in the nation are being included in the rollout, five of which are from Louisiana. Mr. Bourgeois commented that they will be actively involved in the process of reevaluating the DFIRMs under the LAMP process.

Mr. Doody commented that the SLFPA-E is in the process of getting the non-federal levees in the system accredited. He pointed out that many levees exist that provide a lower level of protection and that the risks that the Federal government is underwriting should at least recognize the protection that is being provided by a lower level of protection. He asked, what can the SLFPA-E do to support this effort? Mr. Hecht responded that the SLFPA-E can provide technical expertise to assist with arriving at the right solution and political support once the right solution is identified.

3. Land Loss in Coastal Louisiana

Mr. Estopinal explained that the presentation will address how changes in the coastal topography are impacting the HSDRRS. The SLFPA-E is the governing authority for three active levee districts (East Jefferson Levee District, Orleans Levee District and Lake Borgne Basin Levee District) and two levee districts (St. Tammany Levee District and Tangipahoa Levee District) that have not instituted taxing and have not yet constructed levees. The three levee districts discussed today are the East Jefferson Levee District, Orleans Levee District and Lake Borgne Basin Levee District. About \$14 billion of work has been accomplished under the HSDRRS in the three levee districts under the SLFPA-E’s jurisdiction (EJLD, O.L.D. and LBBLD) and on the west bank. The SLFPA-E is about to receive the HSDRRS, which the USACE states is a 100-year system. The USACE has certified the HSDRRS to FEMA and FEMA is in the process of evaluating the certification. The SLFPA-E has done its own storm surge analysis and concurs that it is close to a 100-year system. It is the best protection that New Orleans has ever had; however, 100-year protection for a municipality the size of New Orleans is the lowest level of protection in the civilized world. New Orleans has one of the best protected areas along the Gulf Coast; however, he reiterated that 100-year protection is the worst protection for a city in the civilized world. The SLFPA-E is attempting to address how to bring the system to the 100-year level of protection, if it is not already there, and how to bring the system to a 500-year level of protection. It may be possible to attain a 500-year level of protection with proper armoring, good modeling of the coastal area and a good understanding of the changes that are coming.

Mr. Estopinal showed a slide of the region and the buffer zone. The buffer zone, which includes the Chandeleur Islands, Chandeleur Sound, Breton Sound, the Biloxi Marsh and other interior marshlands, Bayou Terre Boeufs, Bayou la Loutre and the landbridge

across Lake Catherine and Lake Pontchartrain, is undergoing extreme changes in topography. Topography is the measurement of the elevation of the land. Bathymetry is the measurement of the contours below the water. He stated that in Southeast Louisiana today's topography is tomorrow's bathymetry—there is that much vertical movement going on.

Mr. Estopinal pointed out that the land bridge across Lake Catherine and Lake Pontchartrain, which reduces some of the surge coming into Lake Pontchartrain, was the main avenue of failure for the Hurricane Isaac flooding. He noted that this was the first time in his memory that a storm surge traveled to Sorrento in Ascension Parish. This brought a realization to the Board that something is going on and begged the question, why is the storm surge getting into these areas? He stated that the Board thinks that this has a lot to do with the deterioration of the wetlands and with the changes in heights (vertical subsidence).

Mr. Estopinal explained that in the future the Board would like to obtain a better understanding of the bathymetry, as well as map the changes in the bathymetry, so that when it does its modeling it has a better idea of the actual predicted threat. The SLFPA-E is trying to get a handle on the vertical changes so that decisions can be made concerning features such as armoring. A 100-year storm will not place a 100-year surge against the system everywhere and the threat to a specific area depends on the storm path. Decisions will require continuing review and assessment. He pointed out that the SLFPA-E is not in the lawn mowing business. The SLFPA-E will be looking at the bathymetry, checking elevations, locating areas that need improvement and deciding how those areas can be improved. The SLFPA-E will need to be able to pay for some of this work. This is the reason that everyone is here.

Mr. Estopinal advised that the SLFPA-E instituted a law suit against the oil, gas and pipeline companies because it believes that some of the work that they have done has had an effect on how much water is placed against its levees. A slide developed to illustrate the first line of defense in flood protection was shown. The slide pictured the Gulf of Mexico, the barrier islands (Chandeleur and Breton Islands), the sounds in between (Chandeleur and Breton Sound), the marsh areas (e.g., Biloxi Marsh), the natural ridges (e.g., Bayous Terre Boeufs and la Loutre) and the highways that follow the bayous. The floodgates in the illustration no longer exist; however, there are some areas with reduced levee protection (e.g., the levee around Delacroix Island), which offer some reduction of flow. He stated that our first line of defense is essentially gone and very soon the Gulf of Mexico will be against the toe of our levees. The SLFPA-E will have to be able to deal with this situation by armoring the system, identifying changes in bathymetry and evaluating those changes. Some surface changes may not have much of an effect; however, other surface changes may have a compounded effect.

Mr. Estopinal continued with the lines of defense, which include levees and pumping stations. The SLFPA-E will need to seriously consider making recommendations on the elevation of buildings behind the levee protection system. There are things that can be done by the SLFPA-E and things that the public can do to lessen risks; however, he

stressed that the most important thing for the public to do is to evacuate when evacuation is mandated, recommended or even suggested by the governing authority.

Mr. Estopinal showed a slide depicting the Louisiana oil and gas infrastructure. The oil and gas industry has been a boon to Louisiana and the country. It is very important to maintain oil and gas development, revenue collection and refinement. However, oil and gas operations have had an adverse impact on the land surfaces of Louisiana. He stated that the SLFPA-E thinks that the oil and gas industry needs to step up and help with the things that must be done. Slides were shown with pictures of dredging operations in marshlands circa 1930's or 1940's and pictures of marshlands as they are today. He commented on the deteriorating marshlands and disappearing ridgelines. The topography of the marshland in the pictures has become void of tree lines and ridges and is on its way to becoming open water. The SLFPA-E will have to evaluate the impact when a storm surge comes over these deteriorated areas and comes against the flood protection levees.

Mr. Estopinal discussed a slide of a U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) quad sheet of Plaquemines and St. Bernard Parishes. Areas where land has been converted to open water (pink colorations on the photo) can be seen when the quad sheet is updated by photography. The ridgelines are no longer very effective. The subsidence of the ridges reduces the storm surge reduction capability and increases the impact on the Plaquemines levee, and to some degree the same situation is happening elsewhere and impacts the SLFPA-E's jurisdiction. The pictures in the slides are representative of how the topography is changing, how the topography is converting the bathymetry and how this situation places a greater load on the SLFPA-E's levees. The levee system as it is built today is as good as it is ever going to be, unless the SLFPA-E does some improvements and pays attention to what is happening with the world around us.

Mr. Estopinal commented that numerous studies have been done on Southeast Louisiana's land loss and numerous entities are documenting the land loss. The land loss in Southeast Louisiana has been significant; however, it pales in comparison to the land loss along the coast in the vicinity of Thibodaux and Morgan City. A table from one study estimates that 36 percent of the land loss can be attributed to oil and gas operations due to canals and other activities. He noted that he did not think that this estimate properly addressed land loss due to subsidence. Estimates of land loss attributed to oil and gas operations in other studies may be higher or lower. He stated that the issue is how much damage has been done to the SLFPA-E's protection system and how much will the SLFPA-E have to do to bring the system to a reasonable level of protection. The SLFPA-E's goal is 500-year protection, which will still be the worst in the civilized world. A slide listed numerous assessments done between 1971 and 2011 of the effect of oil and gas activities on Coastal Louisiana wetlands. All of the assessments document land loss and attribute some of the land loss to oil and gas activities.

Mr. Estopinal stated that the Louisiana State Master Plan is an excellent plan and that the SLFPA-E supports the Master Plan. There may be some political hurdles relative to some components of the Master Plan and adaptations may be required; however, he commented that he trusted the people who are doing the Master Plan. If money can be

obtained to implement the Master Plan, it will make a big difference for the SLFPA-E. The Master Plan recognizes that there has been a tremendous impact by oil and gas exploration activities in coastal Louisiana. He reiterated that the SLFPA-E thinks that the oil and gas industry needs to step up and help Louisiana fix some of the problems that resulted from their operations.

Mr. Estopinal commented on the land surrounding the City of New Orleans in 1930 and the tree lines and wood lines that existed at that time, but no longer exist. Slides were shown of a 2005 map that depicted the New Orleans Metropolitan area, the fading buffer zone and the advance of the Gulf of Mexico towards the New Orleans Metropolitan area's levees, and a map of Southeast Louisiana which projects the location of the water as a result of subsidence in 2100. In the 2100 projection the City of New Orleans essentially becomes an island. Global sea level rise is a very small portion of this projection. If global sea level rise stops today, the projection of the coastline would be the same because subsidence is taking place at a fairly rapid rate.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Sandy Rosenthal representing levees.org stated that she attended the Joint Senate-House Transportation Committee meeting held yesterday in Baton Rouge. She stated that she heard a lot of objections; however, as far as she was concerned none had merit except one possible objection, which was made by the Chair of the CPRA that the law suit could interfere with elements of the Master Plan. She asked whether there was any merit to the objection. Mr. Barry responded that he did not think so. If the SLFPA-E wins the law suit, it would provide money to fulfill the Master Plan. He stated that he did not believe that there is anything that the SLFPA-E would do that would be inconsistent with the Master Plan. In fact, by law the SLFPA-E could not do anything that is inconsistent with the Master Plan. Therefore, he did not think there is a problem.

Marisa Escudero commented on behalf of the Land Trust for Louisiana. She stated that the organization wanted to show its support for all of the work that the SLFPA-E has done in terms of land conservation, particularly, in the coastal wetland area.

Elizabeth Cook representing the Louisiana Ecosocialist Committee stated that it was about time that an entity has taken up for the people and for the wetlands that are the heritage of the State and that should belong to everyone. The oil and gas companies have treated the wetlands as though they were their private property and have done whatever they wanted, and the State and Federal governments have allowed them to do so. She commented that the public has a learning curve since many did not realize that the levee authorities have funding from the oil and gas industry. She stated that this should be divested because it produces a political conflict of interest. The authorities should be funded with public funds only and held directly accountable to the people. She stated that the decision by the Authority on the law suit was done in executive session behind the backs of the people, which is anti-democratic. She commented that she personally does not support executive sessions and that everything should be out in the open and in front of the public to view. She stated that the money should be spent on restoration. Louisiana has already lost much and the culture in South Louisiana is in danger. Many of the marine creatures and birds

suffered during the BP oil disaster. People have been sickened by the thousands in this State from the oil and gas industry, particularly with the use of Corexit during the BP disaster. She asked that at some point in the future that the Authority pass a resolution in opposition to the use of toxic Corexit. A study was done by LSU to show that the marshes are dying where they have been oiled or lightly oiled. There are oil compounds that are becoming more toxic in the marshes and it is believed this is because Corexit has interfered with the ability of microbes to break down the oil. She reiterated that executive sessions should be foregone and that any meetings regarding this law suit should be open to the public.

Cynthia Sarthou, Executive Director of the Gulf Restoration Network, thanked the Board for filing the law suit. She stated that the Gulf Restoration Network has long advocated for the oil industry to pay its own way and has for a long time felt that the oil industry has not really stepped up to the plate. Southeast Louisiana is at risk partly as a result of the activities of the oil and gas industry, and those activities, contrary to what was heard yesterday, have not stopped. The Gulf Restoration Network is currently fighting a pipeline through the Atchafalaya Basin to Texas that will affect 2,000 acres of wetland. The State has not opposed the pipeline and has, in fact, supported the pipeline. The oil industry has not stepped up to the plate when asked to sufficiently mitigate and it is felt that they will only do what the law requires and nothing more. Therefore, the fight still goes on. She stated that every day the Gulf Restoration Network fights pipelines and other oil industry activities that destroy wetlands, sometimes, like in the case of the Atchafalaya Basin pipeline, more than the State can create in a year. This is a serious concern. The oil industry continues to resist the backfilling of canals. She stated that the Gulf Restoration Network works with the Park Service and recently it has been shown that the backfilling of canals have actually staunched the bleeding. It may not be the solution to comprehensive restoration, but, in fact, the science supports backfilling as an important way to create more wetlands and reestablish water flow. When the oil industry was asked to produce the science to support their position on not backfilling the canals, they have responded that they only rely on antidotal evidence and have not been able to produce one study to support their position. The Gulf Restoration Network feels that what the SLFPA-E is doing is very important and she reiterated their thanks to the Board for taking its position.

Monique Harden, co-director of a public interest law firm called Advocates for Environmental Human Rights, stated that the people of Louisiana—individuals, numerous communities, advocacy groups, scientists and other academics—have for decades been calling for precisely what the SLFPA-E is hoping to accomplish with the pending litigation—which is justice and equity for the communities by seeking repairs and/or compensation from wealthy oil, gas and pipeline companies for the wetland losses that these companies have many times admitted contributing towards. The Jindal administration argues among other things that the law suit conflicts with efforts such as getting the Federal government to pay more for the negative effects on the wetlands from leveeing the Mississippi River or contributing funding to Louisiana coastal restoration projects. This argument is completely and totally without merit. If Louisiana fails to seek redress from these wealthy companies that admit culpability for contributing to the devastation of its wetlands, communities and culture, there will rightfully be an outcry across the nation against the Federal government for helping those who won't

even help themselves. That outcry has already begun. She thanked the SLFPA-E for finally seeking accountability from the companies that have significantly contributed and continue to contribute to this critical situation. It has been a long time coming.

Darryl Malek-Wiley representing the Sierra Club thanked the Board for taking a historic action with the law suit. It has been a long time coming. He stated that he has worked on coastal wetland issues in Louisiana since 1985 and that the scientific studies have shown that the oil industry and their activities are a key part of the devastation of Louisiana's coastal wetlands. The Sierra Club is represented at the meeting to support the SLFPA-E's effort. He stated that the Sierra Club is part of a coalition that has come together and has put together a petition sending e-mails to Governor Jindal asking him to support the SLFPA-E's effort. He commented that he had hoped to obtain a thousand signatures on the petition; however, there are over 11,000 signatures in less than two weeks. The e-mails are not just from Louisiana, but from around the world because everyone understands the importance of Louisiana's wetlands, as well as the importance of holding the oil and gas industry accountable for the damages that they have caused to all of the citizens of Louisiana.

Mike Howells representing the Louisiana Ecosocialist commended the Board for its decision to bring the suit against the oil, gas and pipeline companies and the attempt to make them pay their fair share for the rebuilding of the wetland areas that have been destroyed in large part as a result of their activities. He stated that it is wonderful that at least one body in the State has the courage to stand up to what is obviously the most powerful political block in the State. He hoped that the suit is victorious and stated that the question is, if the SLFPA-E wins, what will it do with the money. He commented on the importance of ensuring that the money gets into the right hands. He recommended that if the suit is successful that a public works program be set up so that the people from the communities that have been devastated have an opportunity to rebuild their communities and perhaps obtain health insurance to overcome some of the illnesses that they have sustained as a result of the pollution of the environment.

Mr. Barry explained that there has been some criticism of the suit based on its impact on jobs in Louisiana. Obviously, the oil and gas industry is a huge employer. He pointed out that BP, who has been sued by the State of Louisiana, many coastal parishes and the SLFAP-E, is far from pulling out of Louisiana and is suing the Federal government to be allowed back into the Gulf. As long as the oil and gas is present, the oil and gas companies will be present and employing people. In addition, no one is talking about the jobs that would be created by the coastal restoration projects. He stated that he would think that the net economic impact in terms of jobs lost would be close to zero and jobs gained would be very significant. Therefore, if one is assessing whether or not they are in favor of the suit simply on the basis of cost-benefit, he would think Louisiana would be in the net-plus zone. Even if this is not the case, the short term benefit that a few extra jobs may create compared to the mid-term and long-term devastation of an entirely disappearing coastline should make it an easy decision.

Mr. Estopinal commented that a job is not a gift—it is a contract between an employer and an employee. The employee must produce and benefit the employer beyond what he is being paid. The people who work in the oil industry are paid for their efforts

because what they did for the oil companies produced a product and brought profitability to the company. The oil companies are not going to leave as long as Louisiana has oil and gas in the ground and they are not going to have the jobs go somewhere else as long as they have people in Louisiana willing to put in a hard day's work for a just day's pay.

Mr. Barnes commented that the results of this suit, whether in the courtroom or in some form of arbitration, will have a tremendous effect, especially if the suit has a positive outcome for the SLFPA-E. The results will effect perhaps a large area of the Mississippi Valley and other parts of the country, and to some extent other parts of the world, with regards to people, industries, municipalities, nations and states taking better care of the environment. He cited the example of the thousands of square miles of dead zone off the Louisiana coast which is largely caused by pollutants that come down the Mississippi River from various industries, individuals, farmlands, etc. While there is some effort to slow this situation, it has not been enough. If the SLFPA-E is successful it can be a beacon to the rest of the country, and to some extent the world, that things can get done.

Mr. Pineda stated that a recent newspaper op-ed about the recovery and rebirth of New Orleans written by the Governor painted a good picture for the future. The positive recovery experienced by New Orleans is partly due to improved flood protection. No business will come to New Orleans and invest in new buildings, new housing and new jobs unless they feel they are safe from floods. A strong levee-floodwall system, better building codes and the benefits of living marshes, wetlands and forests are needed in order to provide adequate flood protection so that businesses, industry and individuals make the decision to locate, live and work in this community. He stated that he is proud of the decisions that the Board has made to make everyone's life better and more just.

John Lopez representing the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation (LPBF) stated he wanted to emphasize some of the points made in the presentation. The multiple lines of defense approach was championed by the LPBF even before Hurricane Katrina. Since Hurricane Katrina there has been a huge effort by the levee boards, the State, engineers and many others to champion this approach. He stated that the levees might protect the communities; however, the coast protects the levees and Louisiana is losing its coast. The State has an ambitious plan to address coastal restoration, which is supported by the LPBF. The damage by the oil and gas industry is irrefutable. There are different categories of loss related to oil and gas operations; however, the result of the impact, whether direct, immediate or later indirect, is that wetlands are being converted to open water, which reduces the resistance that the coast provides against inward moving water. This allows water to come in faster and higher, affecting levees and flood protection. There are clear links between the coast and flood protection and between oil and gas canals and the degradation of Louisiana's coast. There are many different ways to allocate the effect and contribution of oil and gas activity to the loss, but there is no question that there is some measure. He commented that it is a very courageous action that the Board has taken. He stated that as a scientist he cannot comment on the legality of the action; however, it sounds like there are issues that need to be explored. He hoped that the result will be the intent of the Board and the State, which is basically to accelerate coastal restoration as quickly as possible; otherwise we

will see the island of New Orleans in the future. The LPBF has many technical resources and Dr. Lopez stated he has reached out to the SLFPA-E and offered any technical knowledge that may assist in this discussion one way or the other.

Mr. Barry commented that the contract for legal services was approved by the Attorney General's Office. He explained that the Board has been asked to reconsider whether or not it did the right thing. An item has been placed on the Board agenda relative to the reconsideration of the decision and will be considered after the Executive Session during which Garrett Graves, the Governor's Executive Assistant for Coastal Activities and CPRA Chair, may raise some new issues relative to the litigation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee: Mr. Estopinal advised that the Finance Committee did not meet during the month of August; therefore, there is no report.

Operations Committee: Mr. Wittie advised that the Operations Committee did not meeting during the month of August; therefore, there is no report.

Legal Committee: Mr. Barry reported that the Legal Committee did not meet during the month of August; however, there was a fair amount of activity on the legal front which will be discussed later.

CPRA/Governmental Affairs: Mr. Barry advised that the CPRA meeting will be held next week.

Coastal Advisory Committee: Mr. Kemp advised that the Coastal Advisory Committee did not meeting during the month of August; therefore, there is no report.

REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

The Regional Director's Report (copy appended to minutes) was distributed. Mr. Turner reported that the IHNC Surge Barrier Sector and Barge Gates, the Seabrook Complex Gate and the other sector gates in the protection system are operational. He stated that he was just informed that the divers are close to finishing their inspection at the Barge Gate and that the Gate will be swung into place and the closure completed this afternoon. The operation to close the Barge Gate is usually done 96 hours in advance of any possible impact to the area. The Barge Gate is a bypass gate and closure of the gate does not disrupt marine traffic in the GIWW since traffic can still move through the Sector Gate. He noted that the system is in good condition and that there are no issues. The levee districts are being requested to confirm the status of floodgates for the Levee Information Management System (LIMS) Floodgate Module. Internal discussions will take place between the staffs of the SLFPA-E and the levee districts relative to potential weekend activities should predicted tides necessitate the closure of certain floodgates.

Mr. Turner reported that the SLFPA-E will hold a seminar on August 19th with area emergency managers to demonstrate some of the newer available features in the LIMS

Floodgate Module that will enable the emergency managers to check the status of floodgates.

Mr. Turner advised that a Hurricane Surge Analysis Workshop hosted by the SLFPA-E and the USACE will be held this afternoon and tomorrow. The workshop will deal with surge analysis and surge predictions. Experts on storm surge modeling will participate in the workshop.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

1. Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East, et al, v. Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, LCC, et al, Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans No. 13-6911
2. General Liability Claim Settlement Offer by FARA - Third Party Administrator - Bernice Kindred v. Tetra Tech and Orleans Levee District, et al, CDC. No. 2011-02296
3. Haspel & Davis Milling and Planting Co., Ltd., Jean Mayer Connell, Joseph Jean Torre, Sr., Bohemia Planting Co., Inc., Leonie Davis Rothschild and Arthur Q. Davis, for Themselves and on Behalf of all Others Similarly Situated vs. Board of Commissioners of the Orleans Levee District, 25th Judicial Court, Parish of Plaquemines, No. 31-357, Div. A.

A motion was offered by Mr. Barnes and seconded by Mr. Luettich for the Board to convene in Executive Session to discuss the items listed on the agenda.

Mr. Barry stated that there were several things he wanted to point out before the Board convened in Executive Session. There are several items on the agenda under Executive Session and some of the business is related to the suit filed against the oil and gas companies and some is not related to the suit. The conversation that the Board will have with Mr. Graves in Executive Session on the law suit was requested by Mr. Graves. The Board would prefer a public session. There will be a public session after the Executive Session to discuss the motion on the Board agenda relative to the law suit. Mr. Graves has been given the opportunity to join in this discussion. He commented that Mr. Graves made a statement at the Joint Senate-House Transportation Committee meeting held yesterday that when he attended the Executive Session during the SLFPA-E Board meeting on January 17th that the Board voted during the Executive Session. He stated that Mr. Graves misremembered the fact. He explained that it is against the law for the Board to vote on anything in Executive Session. The Board has never voted on anything in Executive Session. The Board has a counsel who provides advice on what can be done in Executive Session and in almost every meeting there is an Assistant Attorney General who provides advice to the Board on what can and cannot be discussed in Executive Session. He stated that he is a former journalist and very sensitive to the idea of freedom of information and that his wife wrote the guide to the Federal Freedom of Information Act for the House of Representatives. He reiterated that the Board did not vote or conduct a poll in Executive Session. He called upon Robert Lacour, SLFPA-E General Counsel, to confirm that the Board did not vote or informally conduct a poll in Executive Session.

Mr. Lacour confirmed that the Board did not vote or conduct a poll in Executive Session. Mr. Barry commented that Assistant Attorney General Beau Jones is not in attendance at the meeting today; however, he would be available as a fact witness as to whether or not the Board voted in Executive Session. He stated that the Board is in an awkward situation about to enter into an Executive Session with a representative of the Governor who told a joint legislative committee yesterday that it voted in Executive when it did not vote in Executive Session. He pointed out that the Board is not allowed to discuss anything that happens in Executive Session outside of the Session and that such an outside discussion would be a violation of the law. He stated that he is discussing this matter now because it did not happen. If it had happened, it would be a violation of the law to discuss it at this time. He noted, however, that this restriction would not apply to Mr. Graves, as a guest of the Executive Session.

The Board voted unanimously in favor of convening in Executive Session. The Board convened in Executive Session at 12:10 p.m.

A motion was offered by Mr. Wittie, seconded by Mr. Tilly and unanimously adopted, for the Board to reconvene in Regular Session. The Board reconvened in regular session at 4:10 p.m.

Mr. Doody advised that the Board had some business from the Executive Session on which it must vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 08-15-13-02 – HASPEL & DAVIS, ET AL V. O.L.D.

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

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East follow the direction of counsel in the case of “Haspel & Davis Milling and Planting Co., Ltd., Jean Mayer Connell, Joseph Jean Torre, Sr., Bohemia Planting Co., Inc., Leonie Davis Rothschild and Arthur Q. Davis, for Themselves and on Behalf of all Others Similarly Situated vs. Board of Commissioners of the Orleans Levee District, 25th Judicial Court, Parish of Plaquemines, No. 31-357, Div. A.”

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

RESOLUTION NO. 08-15-13-03 – KINDRED V. TETRA TECH AND O.L.D.

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

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East follow the direction of counsel in the case of “Bernice Kindred v. Tetra Tech and Orleans Levee District, et al, CDC. No. 2011-02296.”

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

YEAS: Mr. Barry, Mr. Estopinal, Mr. Kemp, Mr. Tilly, Mr. Pineda and Mr. Wittie

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Barnes and Mr. Luettich

A motion was offered by Mr. Pineda, seconded by Mr. Kemp and unanimously adopted by roll call vote, to add a motion to the agenda relative to the case of “Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East, et al, v. Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, LCC, et al, Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans No. 13-6911”. The new item was made Item XII.A.2 with the previous Items XII.A2 and 3 to follow.

RESOLUTION NO. 08-15-13-04 - AFFIRMATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 06-06-13-04, AND RATIFICATION OF DECISION TO FILE, AND TO CONTINUE PROSECUTION OF, PENDING LAWSUIT

Mr. Doody stated that he was recusing himself from the vote on this item due to a potential for a conflict with his law firm.

Mr. Barry stated that the SLFPA-E Board is an independent board and that the members should answer to their own consciences and make their own decisions. The Board was established by a constitutional amendment with 81 percent of the vote. The SLFPA-E Board is unique because of the selection process. A nominating committee, which consists of the deans of engineering schools in the State and several scientific societies and good government groups, advance nominees to the Governor. The Governor chooses one of the nominees and the Senate confirms the nomination. The Board was designed to have real flood expertise on the Authority. The SLFPA-West is similarly designed. He stated that he is proud to serve on this Authority. The Board includes coastal scientists, a meteorologist and numerous engineers, some of which have written text books and taught college courses. At least half, if not more, of the Board members have been selected to participate in national scientific organizations and have won national scientific awards. In the Board's collective scientific and policy judgment it earlier hired a law firm to pursue a law suit against 97 oil, gas and pipeline companies. The decision was considered for months. The Board expected and received considerable blowback. Many people have requested that the Board reconsider its decision; therefore, an item has been placed on the agenda so that the Board can reconsider its decision. He commented that the Board takes this task very seriously and very personally. Two Board members lost everything they had during Hurricane Katrina and everyone on the Board knows someone who lost everything they had during Hurricane Katrina. Many of the Board members know people who were killed in Hurricane Katrina. The Board filed suit because it does not want other people to die in a hurricane like Katrina. The Board wants to minimize that risk as much as possible. This is what the Board was designed to do. The people who created the SLFPA-E wanted to insulate the Board from political pressure and did so by making it

and the West Authority unique in that Board members do not serve at the pleasure of the Governor. Board members cannot be removed except for cause.

Mr. Barry explained that no one who has criticized the Board has criticized the substance of the law suit. The Board has never said that oil, gas and pipeline companies are solely responsible for the loss of nearly 2,000 square miles of Louisiana. If anything, he explained, he has been one of the leaders in the State in speaking about the multiple causes of loss and, in particular, injected the idea of the dams upriver on the Missouri River into the debate. Levees, navigation interests and the dams upriver are major contributors to land loss. The fact that there are multiple causes, however, does not mean that an entity that is responsible for part of the loss should not be held responsible for that part. He stated that one truth is that every scientist agrees that the industry has done extraordinary damage to Louisiana and the coast. The USGS study that included industry scientists concluded 36 percent of the statewide land loss was oil and gas related. There are other studies that put the percentage higher and a few that put the percentage lower; however, without exception every legitimate scientific study has reached the same conclusion. A second truth is that the industry operates under permits that require them to minimize damage and repair the damage when they are done. The Board believes that the industry has generally failed to live up to the permits and their requirements. A third truth is that in Louisiana law there is something called a servitude of drain, which goes back to the Romans and is part of civil law tradition. A servitude of drain prohibits someone from passing water from their property onto someone else's property. The surge in our area has increased because of the destruction of coastal lands. The placement of more water on levee violates Louisiana statutes and a tradition of civil law going back a thousand years.

Mr. Barry stated that a fourth truth is that all of the members of the Board have wondered how they can meet their responsibilities. The Board members do not see their jobs as simply operating and maintaining a levee system built by the USACE and handed to the SLFPA-E. The Board sees its job as protecting peoples' lives and property. This requires the Board to look beyond basic operations and maintenance. The Board recently conducted a study of the land bridge extending into Lake Pontchartrain from New Orleans East. If that piece of land disappears, the ocean will roar into the lake and threaten everyone around it. The study concluded that major reinforcement of the land bridge could cost over one billion dollars—money that the SLFPA-E does not have. There may be better and cheaper ways to do the reinforcement; however, it will still be extremely expensive.

Mr. Barry explained that someone in the past couple of weeks criticized the Board saying that there is a Master Plan—let's give it a chance. He stated that everyone on the Board agrees with that statement—let's give it a chance. He stated that nothing that the Board does is at variance with the Master Plan. The Board wants to carry out the Master Plan; however, the plan has no funding. He reiterated that nothing that the Board is doing is inconsistent with the Master Plan. If the Board wins the suit, it will allow the SLFPA-E to fulfill the Master Plan. The Board's action involves its area only and it is not acting for the State or any other parish or levee board. Each of these entities must look at their own situation and their own relationships with industry and decide for themselves what course to take. The Board believes that for its jurisdiction it

has an absolute duty to pursue this case. If the Board does not pursue the case, it sees no way to get the money needed to protect the public. He stated that he did not believe that the Board is acting as a rogue board. Mr. Barry stated that in the past he has demonstrated on numerous occasions that he behaves as a team player and that he believes in acting as a team. He gave an example of an occasion where a friend who was a Congressman arranged a private meeting with Mr. Barry and four or five of his colleagues on the House Appropriations Committee, and Mr. Barry invited Mr. Graves to join him so that the State's interests would be represented. On another occasion, he had an appointment in the White House and he invited Plaquemines Parish to send a representative to attend so that their concerns could be expressed at a senior level. He stated that the fact is that the members of the Board must answer ultimately to their own judgment and their own consciences. He stated that Mr. Graves was informed initially of the Board's plans in December, 2012, and subsequently. The Board's case is based on the fact that it is forced to maintain and possibly build more elaborate flood protection defenses because of land loss than it would otherwise have to build. The Board will have to consider enormously expensive projects to protect the public in the future.

Mr. Barry explained that the first step in the process of finding an attorney was when he spoke with some highly respected legal experts about what was contemplated and he was informed that the SLFPA-E had a case. The legal experts were academics and not people who would be hired. He stated that he considered attempting to find an attorney to do the work pro bono; however, this case is far too big and far too complex for anyone to do it pro bono. According to the press, the MRGO litigation cost \$14 million. This case is bigger and more complicated than the MRGO litigation. He stated he then sought recommendations for attorneys from nationally known experts in the field and was given several names and on the top of the list was Gladstone Jones. He stated that he called Mr. Jones and the result is where the Board is today. The Board is confident that it has the authority to sue and welcomes a court challenge. A contingency fee is being used. Gladstone Jones' law firm has engaged two other law firms to work with him and may hire other attorneys as well. The law firm will spend millions of dollars on this case; however, they do not get one penny if they lose. The Board is supposedly insulated from political pressure. However, anticipating political pressure a provision was placed in the contract, which is not unusual, that if the Board voluntarily withdraws the case or if a third party intervenes to stop the case that reasonable legal fees and expenses will then be payable to the Board's attorneys. He commented that this is probably the only way to have someone take on a case of this magnitude and put out the necessary resources. The Attorney General of the State of Louisiana agreed that under the circumstances "the fee to be paid to counsel by the Board is reasonable."

Mr. Barry urged the members of the Board to reaffirm the law suit. He reiterated that no one substantively has disagreed with the suit. There have been procedural complaints that the Board does not have standing; however, he stated he would love to have the Board's standing challenged in court and obtain a declaratory judgment. As yet, there has been no challenge.

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

WHEREAS, Resolution 06-06-13-04 authorized the President or Vice President of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority – East (SLFPA-E) to engage Jones, Swanson, Huddell & Garrison, LLC, on behalf of itself and the levee districts within its jurisdictions, regarding claims for damages due to land loss and erosion, for the benefit of and on behalf of the residents within its jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to La. R.S. 42:263 the Attorney General of the State of Louisiana approved the employment of Jones, Swanson, Huddell & Garrison, LLC and the fee arrangement set forth in Resolution 06-06-13-04; and

WHEREAS, per the Contingency Fee Agreement and Authority to Represent executed July 17, 2013, the Vice President did engage Jones, Swanson, Huddell & Garrison, LLC pursuant to the mandate of Resolution 06-06-13-04; and

WHEREAS, in keeping with that engagement, on July 24, 2013, a lawsuit was filed in the Civil District Court for Orleans Parish, bearing Case No. 13-6911, naming as plaintiffs the Board of Commissioners of the Southeast Flood Protection Authority – East, Individually and as the Board Governing the Orleans Levee District, the Lake Borgne Basin Levee District, and the East Jefferson Levee District, and naming as defendants Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, LLC, *et al.*

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the SLFPA-E affirms Resolution No. 06-06-13-04, and the engagement of Jones, Swanson, Huddell & Garrison, LLC pursuant to Resolution No. 06-06-13-04; and ratifies the filing of the lawsuit.

BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED, that SLFPA-E authorizes the continued prosecution of that lawsuit.

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

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Barnes

RECUSED: Mr. Doody

RESOLUTION NO. 08-15-13-05 – SLFPA-E, ET AL V. TENNESSEE GAS PIPELINE COMPANY, LLC, ET AL

Mr. Pineda offered a motion to consider a forty-five (45) day pause in the substantive portion of the case of “Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East, et al, v. Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, LCC, et al, Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans No. 13-6911”, and that in the interim the SLFPA-E request that the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) set up a task force to examine and review all ramifications of the law suit. Mr. Barry seconded the motion.

Mr. Kemp commented that there has been some constructive discussion and that the Board would like to see those discussions continue. This is one reason the motion has been placed on the table for consideration. Commissioners will vote as they see fit; however, this is to offer an indication that the Board is interested in further discussions

for a resolution of a more holistic response to the damage that everyone agrees is out there and is not being addressed. He clarified that in using the word holistic he is referring to statewide and to considering all of the other policy initiatives that are on-going with the State and Federal governments.

Mr. Luettich asked for a clarification relative to the word “consider” in the motion. Mr. Barry explained that the Board thinks that the law suit should proceed. He stated that his interest is flood protection. He stated that the reason he is interested in pursuing the suit is because he loves New Orleans and he wants it to survive, and that he feels the same way about the rest of Louisiana’s coast. When asked if he would consider withdrawing the suit, he responded, of course, he would consider withdrawing it the instant someone demonstrates to him that there is a better path to provide flood protection for Louisiana than the path currently being followed, and if this was proved to him, he would withdraw the suit. The Board’s goal is not political. He stated that if there is any possibility of working with the State on a larger solution, then he would be eager to embrace that possibility. There is a possibility and the Board would be remiss if it did not pursue that possibility. If it is decided with subsequent conversations with Mr. Graves or with other people that there may be some real progress made elsewhere, then the Board would be more than happy to put a pause on some of the substantive processes of the law suit while the procedural issues, such as the Board’s standing, continue to be pursued. Therefore, if it looks as though progress can be made on a larger path for the State, then it is something that must be pursued. He stated that he thinks that Governor Jindal has been a good governor for the coast and that he can be a great and historic governor for the coast if he can bring the industry together and work out a positive solution where the industry gets something, such as protections that he would be happy to support, in return for a serious major contribution for fixing the problem. The substantive processes that could be placed on pause would have to be defined with the attorneys.

Mr. Luettich commented that the law suit is a means to accomplish an objective, which is the protection of the coast. It is a means to an end and the issue is to get to that end. He asked whether the resolution is essentially saying that the SLFPA-E is going to work with the Governor’s Office over the next 45 days to look for an alternative pathway. Mr. Barry clarified that the SLFPA-E is going to attempt to work with the Governor’s Office, depending on the proposals that come from the Governor’s Office, and other levee boards and parishes that are exposed to the same problems. Whether something substantive can be stood-up in this short period of time and whether there are some real conversations that make some real progress in that time remains to be seen.

Mr. Luettich stated that to the extent that the SLFPA-E works hard with the Governor’s Office and other levee boards and appropriate groups within the State is terrific. However, it is important that this does not come across as a statement that there is less resolution on the part of the Board to pursue whatever significant means that need to be pursued to accomplish this end. Mr. Tilly added that the motion demonstrates the Board’s willingness to work with other levee boards and organizations in the State to try to meet a mutual goal.

Mr. Pineda requested a clarification on when the 45 day pause would begin. Mr. Barry explained that as Chair of the Legal Committee the task of running this part of the operation would devolve to him. He stated that when it appears to him that there is real progress in setting up the task force and some near term meetings are scheduled and a serious intent and good will are demonstrated in terms of trying to address the real problems, then he is all for pursuing it 100 percent. However, if it seems as though it is no more than a delaying tactic, then he would recommend against instituting a pause. He stated that he was serious about trying to obtain a solution. He further clarified that the resolution before the Board uses the word "consider"; therefore, at some point after the resolution is passed a decision will need to be made as to whether or not the pause will be instituted. As Chair of the Legal Committee the determination of whether or not to actually pause devolves to Mr. Barry. He noted that there is a CPRA meeting at which he will see Mr. Graves and he guaranteed that they will be talking prior to the CPRA meeting. He hoped that some real progress can be made. He added that if the pause is going to be implemented, it will probably be implemented within a couple of weeks. Mr. Luettich commented that the Board will be meeting in another month and that it can take further appropriate action at that time.

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 (SLFPA-E) consider a forty-five (45) day pause in the substantive portion of the case of "Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East, et al, v. Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, LCC, et al, Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans No. 13-6911", and in the interim the SLFPA-E request that the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) set up a task force to examine and review all ramifications of the law suit.

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

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Barnes

RECUSED: Mr. Doody

RESOLUTION NO. 08-15-13-06 - APPROVAL OF LEGAL INVOICES

On the motion of Mr. Barry,
Seconded by Mr. Wittie, 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 August 15, 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 August 15, 2013" are hereby approved.

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

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Barnes

**RESOLUTION NO. 08-15-13-07 –
APPROVAL OF TASK ORDER NO. 12 WITH GCR & ASSOCIATES, INC.**

On the motion of Mr. Wittie,

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

WHEREAS, the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (SLFPA-E) entered into an Indefinite Delivery-Indefinite Quantity (ID-IQ) Contract with GCR & Associates, Inc. (GCR) (ID-IQ Contract No. 01-01) to provide services related to Lands, Easements, Rights-of-Way, Relocations and Disposal Sites (LERRDs); and

WHEREAS, GCR was tasked by the SLFPA-E (Task Orders Nos. 05, 06 and 07) to provide services for the Mapping of Levee Rights-of-Way for the SLFPA-E and the levee districts under its jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, Task Order No. 12 has been negotiated with GCR for Mapping Levee District Land Assets, Projects and Rights-of-Ways and Application Enhancements with a not-to-exceed amount of \$67,550.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East approves Task Order No. 12 with GCR & Associates, Inc., and authorizes the SLFPA-E Regional Director to execute said Task Order and 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. Kemp, Mr. Luettich, Mr. Tilly, Mr. Pineda and Mr. Wittie

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Barnes

**RESOLUTION NO. 08-15-13-08 - SELECTION OF FIRM TO PROVIDE PROJECT
AND CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES TO AUGMENT LBBLD STAFF IN
CONNECTION WITH HMGP PROJECTS – ENGINE UPGRADES AND SAFE ROOMS**

Nick Cali, LBBLD Executive Director, explained that the contracted services would augment the LBBLD staff and provide project and construction management services

for the design and construction of the pump station engine upgrades and safe rooms. Funding for these services is reimbursable through a FEMA Hazard Mitigation Program Grant. Six proposals were received. The selection team consisted of LBBLD and St. Bernard Parish personnel. Vali Cooper was selected from a very strong field of applicants.

On the motion of Mr. Wittie,
Seconded by Mr. Estopinal, 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 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 Nos. 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;

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

WHEREAS, the Lake Borgne Basin Levee District (LBBLD) is in need of Project Management and Construction Management professional services to augment its staff in connection with the aforementioned projects ; and

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

WHEREAS, SLFPA-E Resolution No. 04-18-13-08 approved the advertisement and issuance of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the aforementioned professional services; and

WHEREAS, six proposals were received and reviewed by the selection team; and

WHEREAS, the six firms were competitively rated by the selection team; and

WHEREAS, the selection team has recommended the selection of Vali Cooper International, LLC (VCI) to provide the services.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (SLFPA-E) approves the selection of VCI to provide project and construction management services to augment LBBLD staff in connection with the aforementioned projects.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the LBBLD Executive Director is hereby authorized to negotiate and execute a contract with VCI for the above referenced professional services.

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

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Barnes

The next regular monthly Board meeting will be held on September 19, 2013, and hosted by the LBBLD.

There was no further business; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY - EAST
REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

August 15, 2013

HSDRRS Project Status Update

IHNC-01 – Seabrook Complex All gates are operational. The Corps will change out a hydraulic ram on the easternmost lift gate tower to address problems detected with the lift gate dogging device. The most recent Corps schedule indicates that the Notification of Contractor Completion (NCC) will be issued in December, 2013.

Orleans Levee District personnel meet with Corps employees on the Seabrook Structure every Friday morning. Our employees observe maintenance operations and gate operations.

IHNC-02 - Lake Borgne Surge Barrier Complex All navigational floodgates gates are operational. Miscellaneous work continues on the various components that make up the surge barrier and gate structures. Final Operation and Maintenance Manuals are still under development. The most recent Corps schedule indicates that the NCC will be issued in December, 2013.

Orleans Levee District personnel practiced operating the barge gate on June 24, July 8, July 22, Aug. 5, and Aug. 12, 2013. Weekly utilization meetings with the Corps are held on Thursday mornings to review activities and lessons learned.

Water Control Plans (WCP) The review process for the proposed Water Control Plan for the IHNC/GIWW Corridor is ongoing. Interim standing instructions are currently in place for all navigational gates.

LPV-17.2 – Causeway Bridge and floodwall The NCC was issued on July 23, 2013. Turf establishment continues; bearing pads on the bridge need to be repaired and are on order.

LPV-104.02b - Seepage Cutoff Orleans Lakefront The contractor has completed driving sheet piles for the seepage cut-off wall and finished the berm. Grass is being established. The contractor will relocate the existing fence on the protected side of the levee and remove all unwanted vegetation and obstructions with fifteen feet of the land side toe.

LPV-106 - Citrus Lakefront Levee Crack Repair The NCC for this project was issued on July 25, 2013.

LPV-109.02a - Levee Enlargement for South Point to CXS Railroad and US11 and US 90 Floodgates Approximately 3,000 linear feet of levee must be raised about 2.5 feet to account for post-construction settlement; more than half of that has already been raised and seeded, and the remainder is under construction.

The Corps' A/E Consultant is preparing plans to repair problems resulting from unanticipated settlement of the floodgate at Highway 11. Temporary repairs to the emergency by-pass road will begin within the next week.

A section of slope paving near the CSX Railroad Floodgate has settled significantly, and four panels will be replaced.

LPV-111 - CSX RR to Michoud Canal A surface slide that occurred several months ago in a small section of the levee's protected side slope has been excavated, repaired and seeded. URS is investigating to determine if other areas may be prone to similar slides.

Gaps in slope paving joints caused by levee embankment settlement near the CSX Railroad Floodgate are being filled with asphalt.

LPV-149 - Caernarvon Canal Floodwall and Sector Gate The Corps has completed electrical repairs at the Caernarvon Sector Gate. The projects are scheduled for NCC at the end of August 2013.

LPV SBP 70C 149A - Floodwall Tie-in to MRL The construction contract award for this project is scheduled for September 2013.

Outfall Canals The 95% plans and specs for installation of more sheet pile along the London Ave Canal and west side of the 17th St. Canal have been reviewed and our comments submitted (OFC-07). The low water case in all three outfall canals is still being investigated. On behalf of SLFPA-E, Halcrow continues to review the Corps' engineering, design and analyses of the outfall canal levees and floodwalls. Canal bank protection to ensure slope stability on the west side of the 17th Street Canal is in design (OFC-08).

Permanent Canal Closures and Pumps (PCCP) A partnering conference was held on July 30, 2013, and SLFPAE, OLD, EJLD and CPRA representatives attended. The contractor has begun to mobilize on site and construction is scheduled to start in November, 2013. A status team meeting was held by the CPRA on July 11, 2013.

Armoring Members of our staff, SLFPA-W and CPRA have reviewed the Levee Armoring Research and Recommendations Report (LARRR) and the Project Description Document (PDD) authored by USACE Task Force Hope. The non-federal sponsor team provided more than 200 technical comments. At our

request, the Corps provided our comments to their internal Agency Technical Review panel and the Risk Management Center for consideration. We also requested the Corps delay approval of the Project Description Document (PDD) until issues related to the LARRR are thoroughly vetted and resolved and the Armoring Pilot Projects have been completed. This request was denied. SLFPAE, however, submitted its PDD comments per the schedule.

Mississippi River & Tributaries (MR&T) There are two ongoing MR&T levee-raising projects on the east bank. The Jefferson Heights project is scheduled for construction contract award on Sept. 23, 2013, and is expected to take 785 days to complete. The Right of Entry is expected from EJLD by month's end.

Construction of the Carrollton levee-raising project is 57% complete. The northern half has been raised and it is now being seeded and slope pavement is being installed. The last of the required fill is being placed on the southern reach near Audubon Zoo. The project is scheduled for completion this November, 2013.

SBPS-07 – Repairs to LBBLD Pump Stations #2 and #3 The USACE held a review of the 95% Geotechnical Soil Report on July 9, 2013; the 50% plans and specifications submittal is due July 31, 2013, and the schedule shows construction contract award in January 2014.

Internal Affairs

Non-Federal Levee Certification Centerline elevation surveys and on-site inspections of the non-federal levees under OLD and LBBLD jurisdiction have been completed by Tetra Tech. Low areas and vegetation issues are being addressed by the local levee districts. Structural issues will require further investigation. A draft of the final report on Phase 1 was submitted by Tetra Tech, and is in review by the SLFPAE staff along with LBBLD and OLD.

A July 30, 2013, meeting was held with the City of New Orleans to discuss the importance of this ongoing work and potential impacts to New Orleans East and the Lower Ninth Ward if the levees are not certified.

Complex Structure Training Our personnel are training weekly to become more familiar with operation and maintenance of the complex gated HSDRRS structures.

Emergency Preparedness The river crested at 14.4'± on May 29, 2013, at the Carrollton Gage. There was a second crest of 10.6' on July 22, 2013. Since then the river stage has rapidly receded to near 4.0'. The river is predicted to continue fall to 3.0' by the end of the Aug. 2013.

We are monitoring an area of disturbed weather in the northwestern Caribbean that could develop into a tropical cyclone and enter the southern Gulf of Mexico in the next few days. We have established open lines of communications with the Corps and weather service, and sent out text and email alerts to maritime interests using our alert system.

USCG IHNC/GIWW Corridor Inspection The United State Coast Guard will continue monthly inspections of the IHNC and GIWW, by boat, during the 2013 hurricane season. Representatives from SLFPA-E, the Port of New Orleans, and Corps participate in the inspections. The next tour is scheduled for Aug. 21, 2013. The purpose is to foster cooperation and networking between the various stakeholders and to confirm the number and type of vessels in the area to support the proper planning and successful execution of evacuation of the IHNC corridor in advance of a tropical event.

Floodgate Status Module CPRA has updated the Levee Information Management System Floodgate Module, and it has been tested. On Aug. 19, 2013, we will host a meeting with Emergency Operations Center personnel from the local parish and city agencies open new avenues of communication. A demonstration of the web-based tool that shows near real time floodgate status will be presented during the 1:30 pm workshop in the Board Room at Orleans Levee District.

NEW CONTRACTS

Professional Services Agreement with VCI, LLC, dated July 1, 2013, for various tasks as directed by the Regional Director – Not to exceed \$40,000.

Levee District Construction Projects:

Project	District	Status	Comments
Franklin Administration Building Refurbishment	OLD	99% complete	Substantial completion was issued on Aug. 6, 2013.
Bayou Bienvenue Maintenance Cycle	OLD	99% complete	The structure is open for navigation.
Bayou St. John Waterfall Demolition Project	OLD	100% complete	
Bayou St. John Sandbar Removal	OLD	50% complete	NTP issued April 29, 2013. Marsh creation added
Seawall Steps Erosion – Phase 1B	OLD	10% complete	Issued Notice to Proceed on Feb. 27, 2013; investigating power outage to lights.
Franklin Warehouse Steel Silo Demolition	OLD	27 % complete	Issued Notice to Proceed on June 24, 2013.
Franklin Warehouse Safehouse Remediation	OLD	0% Complete	Contract signed; starting Aug. 12.
OLD Franklin Facility Parking Lot Improvements Landscaping Plan	OLD	0%	Open Bids Oct. 8, 2013 and to Board for approval on Oct. 17, 2013.
Fence repair on Canal/Levees	LBBLD	0% complete	Bids opened July 24, 2013; award pending verification of all bids.
Administration Building Hurricane Isaac Repairs	EJLD	100% complete	Completed exterior and 2 offices;now working on foyer & board room.

Levee District Project Designs and Studies

Project	District	Comments
Outfall Canal Bank Stabilization Monitoring (Gerwick)	OLD	Final report complete.
Citrus Lakefront Railroad Drain Pipe Crossings (BKI)	OLD	Planning for an exploratory cleaning and condition assessment of drain lines, 95% complete
Franklin Front Parking Facility	OLD	Design 50% complete
Lakefront Seawall Area Reach , 4&5	OLD	Reach 4&5 Design @ 70% complete
Floodgate Seal Repairs	OLD	Design 50% complete
IHNC Florida Bridge Floodwall Replacement	OLD	Design 5% complete
Phase 1 for the engine upgrades at Pump Stations 1&4 HMGP approved by FEMA	LBBLD	Submittals received July 9; selection committee to meet and determine short list.
Phase 1 for Safe Room Design HMGP approved by FEMA	LBBLD	P&S to be completed by end of 2013 Hurricane Season; on schedule.
Pump Station #6 pump repair and hangers at P.S. #7	LBBLD	P&S at 100% Advertise when erosion control project is complete.
Pump Station #6 Erosion Repair	LBBLD	P&S at 100%- Advertise in Aug. 2013.
Floodgate #9 renovation	LBBLD	P&S at 100% Advertise goal Aug. 30; must wait for NTP until after hurricane season.
Safehouse & Consolidated Facility	EJLD	The councils of the City of Kenner and Jefferson Parish have approved the sales of both the Kenner City Streets and the Food Bank Property at their July meetings.
PM Support to LBBLD Staff for HMGP Projects	LBBLD	RFPs received July 29; selection pending

Meetings and Items of Note:

A meeting on the “New Orleans Water Plan - St. Bernard Parish and the Lower Ninth Ward” was hosted by GNO, Inc. and Waggonner & Ball at the Nunez Community College Auditorium. on July 18th.. They previewed potential opportunities that have been identified for St. Bernard Parish and the Lower Ninth Ward. A similar meeting was held for Orleans Parish on July 22nd and one for Jefferson Parish was held on Aug. 13th.

The next meeting of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority is scheduled for Aug. 21st at 9:30 am at the Terrebonne Civic Center, Houma, Louisiana .

The Governor’s Oyster Advisory Committee will meet Aug. 22, at 1:30 pm at the Homer Hitt Alumni Center in New Orleans.

Four upcoming public meetings will provide owners of about 55,000 parcels of property in Jefferson Parish the chance to discuss how preliminary FEMA rate maps are expected to impact existing flood risk designations and the future cost of flood insurance. Although most will shed their high-risk designations, about 5,000 parcels are being moved into flood zones with higher flood insurance premiums. In East Jefferson, the 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. open houses take place Aug. 21 at 8301 W. Metairie Ave, Metairie 70003, and Aug. 29 at 10301 S. Park, River Ridge, 70123. For more info, visit JeffParish.net.