

**MINUTES OF THE
SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY–EAST
BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2015**

The regular monthly Board Meeting of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (Authority or SLFPA-E) was held on Thursday, September 17, 2015, in the St. Bernard Parish Council Chambers, St. Bernard Parish Government Complex, 8201 West Judge Perez Drive, Chalmette, Louisiana, after due legal notice of the meeting was sent to each Board member and the news media and posted.

Mr. Hassinger called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. and led in the pledge of allegiance.

The roll was called by Mr. Tilly and a quorum was present:

PRESENT:

Lambert J. Hassinger, Jr., President
Stephen V. Estopinal, Vice President
Jefferson M. Angers, Treasurer
Wilton P. Tilly, III, Secretary
G. Paul Kemp
Richard A. Luettich, Jr.
Kelly J. McHugh
Louis E. Wittie
Tyrone C. Ben

ABSENT: None

OPENING COMMENTS:

Mr. Hassinger advised that one of the items on today's agenda concerns the SLFPA-E's Strategic Plan. A review of the plan revealed that several items are outdated or no longer applicable. Staff was requested to develop a frame work to update the plan. Robert Turner, SLFPA-E Regional Director, and Derek Boese, East Jefferson Levee District (EJLD) Executive Director, began work on the plan and circulated a memo to Board members earlier in the week on the plan. Insight and input will be solicited from Board members on items to be included in the plan.

Mr. Hassinger reported that he attended a round table discussion that took place last week during President Obama's visit on the state of flood protection in Southeast Louisiana. The discussion included changes made since Hurricane Katrina and future challenges. Participants included the heads of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) and various Federal agencies.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Mr. Estopinal requested that the agenda be amended to include a Presentation on the West Return Floodwall Land Side Runoff Improvements by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). A motion was offered by Mr. Angers, seconded by Mr. Estopinal and unanimously adopted by roll call vote, to adopt the agenda as amended.

**RESOLUTION NO. 09-17-15-01 –
APPROVAL OF AUGUST 27, 2015 BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

On the motion of Mr. Estopinal,
Seconded by Mr. Angers, 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 August 27, 2015.

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

YEAS: Mr. Angers, Mr. Ben, Mr. Estopinal, Mr. Kemp, Mr. Luettich,
Mr. McHugh, Mr. Tilly and Mr. Wittie

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

PRESENTATIONS:

Mr. Hassinger advised that a request was received to move the presentation on the Geology of the Coastal Wetlands after New Business. There was no objection.

1. West Return Floodwall Land Side Runoff Improvements – USACE:

Brett Herr, USACE Project Manager, provided an update on the West Return Floodwall Land Side Runoff Improvements issues. In 2014 and 2015 some short duration, high intensity rainfall events caused water to flow out of the drainage swale into some homes. The SLFPA-E requested that the USACE do some additional modeling to identify the issues and develop a plan to ensure that the problem does not reoccur.

Mr. Herr provided a brief overview of the project. The drainage system was designed in three separate segments each having its own drainage. In Segment 1, which is located at the southern end of the West Return Floodwall, rainfall that collects in the drainage pipe flows towards the Parish Line Pump Station and is discharged into the pump station inlet. The homes that experienced flooding are located towards the middle of Segment 2. Water from rainfall in Segment 2 flows into a swale. South of West Esplanade Avenue the water flows towards the north to a collector pipe. North of West Esplanade Avenue the water flows towards the south to the same collector pipe and is then funneled to Jefferson Parish Drainage Canal No. 17. In Segment 3, depending on the location of the rainfall, the water flows into the collector pipes and then either goes to the north or to the south where it is picked up by the main pipe at Vintage Drive and flows into Canal No. 17.

Mr. Herr explained that after the most recent flooding the USACE had additional modeling performed by the designer of record and required that the modeling be independently technically reviewed by another engineering firm. The modeling has been completed and a plan was developed to prevent future flooding problems. The recommended path forward was reviewed. The USACE will drive vinyl sheet piling in the top of the swale closest to the property line in the area between West Esplanade and the Parish Line Pump Station (the area where homes were flooded). The top of the vinyl sheet pile will have an elevation of -0.4-ft. The elevation will be consistent throughout the reach. The vinyl sheet pile will have an average stickup of one to two feet. The vinyl sheet pile will be capped with an aluminum cap for aesthetic and safety purposes. The vinyl sheet pile will significantly increase the storage capacity of the swale. In the past water backed up in the swale due to insufficient capacity in the drainage pipes and overflowed the swale. The USACE's authority allows a design for a 10-year rainfall event (about 9-inches of rainfall in a 24 hour period). The 24-hour storm event includes one hour and two hour storms. In this case, the USACE also looked at what would happen in a higher intensity rainfall event closer to the 100-year event. The model looked at a little over 13-inches of rainfall and the result was well within the top of the sheet pile. Therefore, any additional water that collects in the drainage swale will be held until it can be drained by the pipes and funneled into the Jefferson Parish drainage system.

Mr. Herr advised that the USACE also looked at the rest of the drainage system. There is a short area to the north of West Esplanade Avenue where about six-inches of additional embankment is needed to provide additional capacity. He pointed out that the USACE proposes using vinyl sheet pile in the area south of West Esplanade Avenue instead of raising the embankment because there is insufficient area between the swale and the property line to raise the embankment to the height required. The USACE is currently in the process of finalizing its evaluation of the area between Vintage Drive and the Lakefront to determine whether there are areas where additional embankment is needed.

Mr. Herr explained that vinyl sheet pile has been used for many years. The sheet pile is coated; therefore, there are no longer any issues regarding its use relative to UV degradation over time or spraying of herbicides in close proximity.

Mr. Herr advised that there are still some on-going investigations to determine what caused the flooding and whether there was any negligence on the part of the contractor or the A/E firm that designed the drainage system. The State has also been asked to perform some modeling in order to look into the issues. He noted that the USACE's biggest concern at this time is a path forward to implement the recommendations so that the flooding will not reoccur.

Mr. Tilly asked whether sandbags are required until such time as the recommendations are implemented. Mr. Herr advised that information relative to the area of concern between West Esplanade Avenue and Vintage Drive was provided to the EJLD last week and EJLD crews placed sandbags in the area last Friday. The USACE is still addressing the area north of Vintage Drive.

Mr. Hassinger advised that about a week ago Mr. Herr and the designer of record met with several Board and staff members to discuss the problem and the issues raised at the last Board meeting. He thanked Mr. Herr for maintaining open communications regarding the issues. Mr. Herr advised that copies of the finalized plans will be provided to the SLFPA-E for review.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Beverly Crais inquired about her property, which is located in Segment 3. Mr. Herr advised that the USACE is still looking at whether there is a need to place additional embankment on the backside of the swale in several locations in Segment 3. The USACE is addressing the water bubbling out of the drop inlet in the rear of Ms. Crais' property by replacing a segment of pipe which is believed to have buckled and adding another drop inlet. Ms. Crais thanked the Board for its support and assistance. She stated that for 15 months she has been telling the USACE about the problem with the drain and that her property has experienced damage during this period. She stated that on August 29th she received a letter from the USACE denying liability and stating that there was no evidence of any neglect or omissions by the United States or its employees. The USACE also stated that it is only the general overseer of the contractors. The letter advised that she had six months to sue the USACE in an appropriate U.S. District Court. She asked the Board to assist the homeowners.

Dominick Impastato, III, Councilmember for District 5 of the City of Kenner, thanked the Board and the USACE on behalf of the citizens of District 5 for taking a proactive role in addressing the issue and the members of the SLFPA-E Board and staff for applying their knowledge and expertise to ensure that the issues are properly addressed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee: Mr. Angers reported that the Finance Committee met prior to the Board meeting and addressed the following items:

- Financial update by the Non-Flood Protection Asset Management Authority (NFPAMA) – This item was deferred to the October Committee meeting.
- Task order issued to URS Corp. for construction administration and inspection services on the Seawall Erosion Control Reach 2 Project – Gerry Gillen, Orleans Levee District (O.L.D.) Executive Director, discussed the need to increase the not-to-exceed amount of the task order.
- Hazard Mitigation Program Grant (HMPG) funding for the Violet Canal Floodwall Project – Mr. Turner reported on the favorable status HMPG funding.

Operations Committee: The Operations Committee did not meeting during the month of September.

Legal Committee: The Legal Committee did not meeting during the month of September.

CPRA: Nyka Scott, SLFPA-E Executive Counsel and CPRA Board Member, reported that she attended the CPRA meeting yesterday in Morgan City, LA. The CPRA Board discussed river diversion projects. CPRA staff will provide recommendations in October to the CPRA Board about specific diversions. The Port of Morgan City requested that the CPRA include an additional project in the Master Plan to determine whether some of the sediment coming from the Atchafalaya River Basin can be used in other parts of the State to assist with coastal restoration issues. She announced that there is one million dollars of grant funding match with the 2016 Conservation and Restoration Partnership Fund. CPRA is accepting proposals until October 21st for the grant funds. Non-profits, governmental organizations and public-private partnerships can apply for grant funding.

Coastal Advisory Committee: The Coastal Advisory Committee did not meet during the month of September. Mr. Kemp advised that he anticipated testing a new underground survey technology in mid-November.

REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Turner reviewed the highlights of the Regional Director's Report (copy appended to minutes). Additional comments were provided on the following items:

- Complex Structures:
 - Due to issues with the initial painting by the contractors, the Seabrook Complex and Caernarvon Gate will be repainted by the USACE after hurricane season.
 - The Barge Gate remains closed until repairs are made by the USACE. Work on the fairleads on the Barge Gate will begin after hurricane season.
 - An investigation is taking place on the minor damage discovered on the lifting mechanism of the bridge at the Vertical Lift Gate. The USACE has been contacted regarding this issue.
- Armoring – Work has commenced on the lakefront levees. The USACE is moving forward on a plan to address the weed issue.
- Levee lifts – Plans have been submitted for a 408 Permit for LPV 00.2. The USACE determined that an environmental assessment is needed. Work on the assessment is underway. An item on the Board agenda would allow the advertisement of bids for the levee lift project as soon as clearances are received from the USACE. Contracts are being finalized for engineering services for the other reaches to be lifted. The SLFPA-E is working with CPRA to better define the scopes of work for reaches in Orleans Parish.
- Training is taking place regarding levee inspections. Software primarily developed by the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-West (SLFPA-W) is being considered for use by the SLFPA-E. The SLFPA-W will allow the use of the software at no charge. Minor modifications may be required to the software. The software is currently being tested by the EJLD.
- The levee districts' Capital Outlay Requests must be approved by the Board in October. Applications must be filed prior to November 1st.

Update on SLFPA-E Strategic Plan:

Derek Boese, EJLD Executive Director, explained that he has been tasked to facilitate the updating of the SLFPA-E Strategic Plan. He reviewed the SLFPA-E Strategic Plan Timeline, which provides a path forward over the next several months. He advised that he met with Mr. Hassinger, Mr. Turner and Ms. Scott on the development of the path forward. The plan is anticipated to be finalized for approval at the January, 2016, Board meeting. Only minor changes are anticipated on the mission, vision and guiding principles. The major effort and focus will be on goals and objectives. Board members and staff were requested to begin thinking about items that they would like to see in the plan. The plan will provide a five-year projection.

EXECUTIVE COUNSEL REPORT:

Ms. Scott provided a report on the following items:

- Negotiations are underway with the three engineering firms selected for the levee lift projects: AECOM, HNTB and Linfield, Hunter and Junius.
- The construction contract with Barre McNeely Investments, Inc., for the buildout of office space for SLFPA-E staff at the Airport Terminal has been executed and construction will commence today.
- The Orleans Levee District Internal Auditor Position was filled as of September 7th.
- Dee Everett, SLFPA-E Human Resources Consultant, has completed the interview process at the Orleans Levee District. A report will be provided shortly.
- A meeting will take place with the Human Resource managers on Tuesday to receive input on the final draft of the Employee Manual. The manual is anticipated to be presented for approval at the next meeting.
- A draft of the Policies and Procedures Manual is anticipated to be completed by the end of the year.
- Two letters were sent to homeowners regarding permits for construction near a levee or floodwall. Requests were received in response for after-the-face permits. Letters will be issued to nine additional property owners regarding permitting issues.
- A determination has been made that the discharge tubes for the new pump station at the Louis Armstrong International Airport will go over the floodwall. A right-of-entry is being developed for the construction.
- All of the property needed for the construction of the flood protection at the Violet Canal has been purchased or almost purchased. A permanent servitude will be executed with the owner of the Soap Factory.
- The O.L.D. Internal Auditor's review of the Due From/Due To costs between the NFPAMA and the O.L.D. is almost complete. The Chair of the NPFAMA will be requested to discuss this issue with the Board.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Update on flooding along West Return Floodwall.

Mr. Estopinal advised that a meeting was held with representatives of the USACE on the proposed fix. The indication is that the solution is probably going to work. A copy of the USACE's calculations on the revised construction was received. A cursory review of the calculations indicates that it appears to be a workable solution. The USACE is still working on the northernmost segment. The information will be provided to the CPRA for review. He inquired about whether there is a need for the SLFPA-E to take a proactive stance and waive the +15-ft. zone requirement when the vinyl sheet pile is driven along the berm so that the rear yards of the properties are not encumbered. He pointed out the probable significant increase in levee district maintenance cost along the corridor after the sheet pile is driven.

Mr. Boese advised that the corridor between the property line and sheet pile will fluctuate from two to five feet. The EJLD will be responsible to maintain the corridor to the property line. Discussions have been held with USACE personnel regarding the maintenance issues. The USACE is investigating several solutions, including a geotextile grid and a concrete cloth application. He reported that last Thursday the USACE requested that the EJLD place additional sandbags in the areas of concern north of West Esplanade Avenue to Vintage Drive. On Friday EJLD crews were mobilized and placed approximately 750-ft. of sandbags one stack high in the requested areas.

RESOLUTION NO. 09-17-15-02 – APPROVAL OF LEGAL SERVICES INVOICES

On the motion of Mr. Angers,
Seconded by Mr. Ben, the following resolution was offered:

WHEREAS, the legal services 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 September 17, 2015", have been reviewed and approved by the appropriate levee district Executive Director, the SLFPA-E Regional Director and the SLFPA-E Executive Counsel, and provided to members of the Legal Committee.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the legal services invoices listed on the spreadsheet entitled "Legal Invoices Approved on September 17, 2015" are hereby approved.

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

YEAS: Mr. Angers, Mr. Ben, Mr. Estopinal, Mr. Kemp, Mr. Luettich,
Mr. McHugh, Mr. Tilly and Mr. Wittie

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

RESOLUTION NO. 09-17-15-03 – ADVERTISEMENT OF BIDS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF LPV 00.2 LEVEE LIFT

Mr. Turner explained that staff is requesting permission to advertise the LPV 00.2 Levee Lift Project once information and clearances are received regarding the 408 Permit and the environmental assessment. Indications are that there will not be any problems associated with the Coastal Use Permit.

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

WHEREAS, the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection-East (SLFPA-E) by Resolution No. 05-21-15-02 directed the Regional Director to proceed with the necessary analysis and design of levee lifts for the following levee segments prior to armoring by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: LPV 00.2, LPV 20.1, LPV 19.2, LPV 01.1, LPV 02.2, LPV-109, and LPV 111; and

WHEREAS, the SLFPA-E by Resolution No. 06-18-15-10 authorized the Regional Director to execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) for assistance with the geotechnical analysis associated with the levee lift design work; and

WHEREAS, the surveying and geotechnical analysis for the LPV 00.2 levee segment was completed and the geotechnical analysis reviewed by the USACE; and

WHEREAS, the SLFPA-E by Resolution No. 07-16-15-10 approved the amendment of the MOU between the CPRA and SLFPA-E to include preparation of plans and specifications for the LPV 00.2 levee segment in order to accelerate the completion of the plans and specifications for submittal to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for a 408 permit and so that the segment could be used as a template for completing the remaining segments; and

WHEREAS, the plans and specifications for the LPV 00.2 Levee Lift Project are 95% complete and the 408 Permit Request is under review by the US Army Corp of Engineers (USACE).

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East authorizes the advertisement for bids for the construction of the LPV 00.2 Levee Lift Project when the plans, specifications and bid documents are complete and the required 408 Permit from the USACE is expected to be granted prior to award of contract.

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

YEAS: Mr. Angers, Mr. Ben, Mr. Estopinal, Mr. Kemp, Mr. Luettich,
Mr. McHugh, Mr. Tilly and Mr. Wittie

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

RESOLUTION NO. 09-17-15-04 – AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD PURCHASE OF ONE 60-TON HYDRAULIC GOOSE NECK TRAILER

Mr. Gillen advised that two bids were received for the 60-ton hydraulic goose neck trailer. He requested that the bid be awarded to the lowest responsive bidder, Technology International, Inc., in the amount of \$72,866.00. The purchase of the trailer was approved in the FY 2015 Budget and bids were received in FY 2016; therefore, the funding is being transferred accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Angers,
Seconded by Mr. Tilly, the following resolution was offered:

WHEREAS, the Orleans Levee District (O.L.D.) advertised and received bids on September 16, 2015 for the purchase of one (1) one 60-Ton Hydraulic Goose Neck Trailer; and

WHEREAS, the gooseneck trailer was approved in the FY 2015 Equipment Budget and bids were received in FY 2016; and

WHEREAS, the bids have been reviewed, and the lowest responsive and responsible bid was submitted by Technology International, Inc. in the amount of \$72,866.00; and

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the FY 2016 Equipment Budget be amended in the amount of \$72,866.00 from the unused FY 2015 Equipment Budget.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the O.L.D. Executive Director is authorized to award the bid for the purchase of one (1) one 60-Ton Hydraulic Goose Neck Trailer in the amount of \$72,866.00 to Technology International, Inc.

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

YEAS: Mr. Angers, Mr. Ben, Mr. Estopinal, Mr. Kemp, Mr. Luettich,
Mr. McHugh, Mr. Tilly and Mr. Wittie

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

RESOLUTION NO. 09-17-15-05 - O.L.D.
SEAWALL EROSION CONTROL PAVING PROJECT REACH 2 CONSTRUCTION
ADMINISTRATION, TESTING AND RESIDENT INSPECTION

Mr. Gillen advised that the construction contract for the Seawall Erosion Control Paving Reach 2 Project was for a period of 90 days. The construction was delayed for an additional 90 day period. URS Corp. is requesting compensation in the amount of \$139,277.31 for the additional construction administration and inspection services. Additional information is required for review. The construction contractor will be responsible for some of the additional services. Approval is requested for Mr. Gillen and Ms. Scott to negotiate with the consultant and resolve the issue.

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

WHEREAS, bids were received for the construction of Reach 2 of the Lakeshore Drive Seawall Erosion Control Project and URS Corporation (“URS”) proposed to provide Construction Administration, Resident Inspection Services and Testing Services in a total amount of \$154,895.36; and

WHEREAS, URS subsequently performed the work provided for under the terms of the contract for \$154,895.36; and

WHEREAS, significantly more Requests for Information and site visits were required during the construction process than was anticipated in the original proposal; and

WHEREAS, URS has requested \$139,277.31 for additional services required for Construction Administration and Resident Inspection Services; and

WHEREAS, URS has only recently submitted documentation to support the additional amount requested; and

WHEREAS, Orleans Levee District (O.L.D.) personnel has not had adequate time to review and confirm all of the documentation submitted by URS, but should complete the review within the next two weeks; and

WHEREAS, O.L.D. seeks approval to amend the existing task order for an amount not to exceed \$294,172.67 so that this project can be closed out as soon as the additional documentation has been reviewed; and

WHEREAS, funds for these services are available from the approved FY 2016 Special Levee Improvement Fund Budget.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East authorizes the Executive Director for the Orleans Levee District to execute an amended task order to URS in an amount not to exceed \$294,172.67 for the aforementioned services.

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

YEAS: Mr. Angers, Mr. Ben, Mr. Estopinal, Mr. Kemp, Mr. Luettich,
Mr. McHugh, Mr. Tilly and Mr. Wittie

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

PRESENTATIONS:

1. “Geology of the Coastal Wetlands / S.E. LA” - Chris McLindon

Chris McLindon explained that he is a geologist who graduated from LSU in 1979 with a Bachelor’s Degree in Geology. He has been employed by the oil and gas industry since April of 1980, but has had a significant period of self-employment. He explained that the information in the presentation was compiled during the period of self-employment and that he is not representing anyone but himself at the meeting.

Mr. McLindon discussed an on-going research project at UNO on geological faults crossing Lake Pontchartrain and the New Orleans East Land Bridge that was initiated

by the New Orleans Geological Society (NOGS) of which he is a member. He stated that although he is not representing anyone, he would be making some representations on behalf of the NOGS by requesting a statement of support from the Board after the submittal of a proposal. The UNO project will incorporate oil and gas industry seismic data.

Mr. McLindon discussed subsidence rates in the area of Old Paris Road, Fort Proctor and the St. Bernard Delta. The methods to measure subsidence (historical tidal gauge data, geodetic leveling, GPS – CORS stations and InSAR Satellite Imagery) were reviewed. He pointed out that there are hot spots of subsidence and discussed the impact of faults and geological phenomena on subsidence. The use of tidal gauges to measure subsidence was discussed and examples presented.

Mr. McLindon discussed the first 3D survey performed in March of 2014 by the University of Texas for the purpose of coastal research. Twenty-eight faults were mapped in a 500-square mile area. Most of the faults extended to the surface. He pointed out that the remaining fault traces were mapped in a 2006 Master's thesis by Emily Barton and that it was determined that the faults have been moving for millions of years. The profile of the Empire Fault over the period 1941 to 2013 was viewed and the resulting land loss discussed. Several other areas of faulting, subsidence and land loss were discussed along with the mapping of subsidence areas.

Mr. McLindon advised that the NOGS's proposal is to map area faults using oil and gas industry seismic data. He discussed the risk of loading sediment on an active fault potentially increasing the rate of subsidence. The NOGS proposal will determine the hot spots of subsidence so that logical decisions can be reached.

Mr. Kemp commented on the role of subsidence and faulting in land loss; however, he suggested that some of the other scientific work on land loss be reviewed as other elements may also be impacting land loss.

Mr. McHugh requested that the NOGS report be made available on the SLFPAE website.

Mr. Estopinal commented on the potential impact of faults and subsidence on flood protection infrastructure and the need for intense vertical monitoring of stations especially along the IHNC Surge Barrier.

Mr. McLindon explained that the NOGS is developing a proposal for the industry to study its infrastructure in regards to subsidence and that it would like to work cooperatively with the SLFPA-E.

The next regular monthly Board Meeting will be held on October 15, 2015 and hosted by the EJLD.

There was no further business; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY – EAST

REGIONAL DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Sept. 17, 2015

HSDRRS Project Status Update

IHNC-01 – Seabrook Complex The US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has sent out right-of-entry requests for both the repainting of Vertical Lift Gates and the spot painting of gate leafs at the Seabrook Complex. All work will be done after the 2015 Hurricane Season.

In response to a distress report filed by the Orleans Levee District in early December, the Corps conducted a structural analysis of the damaged bearing pad beneath the eastern Vertical Lift Gate (VLG). The analysis showed that the damage is causing no problem; however, the Corps provided a repair method if the Non-Federal Sponsor wants to replace the pad. Recent dive inspections indicate that other pads are also missing, and the Corps is considering replacing them when the Vertical Lift Gates are removed and repainted.

IHNC-02 – Lake Borgne Surge Barrier The Corps has repaired and reinstalled three current velocity meters at the Surge Barrier, and the data is now available via a USACE website.

The Corps has decided to replace the frozen flood side and protected side fairleads on the Bypass Gate (barge gate) with stainless steel fixtures. The work will not be completed until after the 2015 hurricane season.

To avoid problems with the windlass chain during monthly exercises, the Corps asked that the barge gate be closed until the new fixtures are ready to install in about three months. As a result, the barge gate was closed on July 1 and will remain closed until the Corps completes the required work.

LPV-03.2b.1- Landside Runoff Rainfall runoff flooded several homes along the West Return Canal Floodwall in May 2015. The Corps is investigating solutions and the results of new modeling performed as a result of the flooding. Proposals for re-routing the runoff using vinyl sheet piling are expected this week by the Corps to address the areas that flooded. SLFPA-E was this week provided the additional information requested from the Corps and is in the process of reviewing it and conferring with Corps engineers on the best permanent solution. In order to provide interim protection, the East Jefferson Levee District (EJLD) has placed sandbags at locations designated by the Corps. The 700 feet of sandbags were placed on Sept. 11 and will remain in place until a final solution is installed. A second area north of Vintage is also being considered.

LPV-145A – Bayou Bienvenue All bridge deck panels have been placed on the approach ramps. Electrical and mechanical equipment is currently being installed at the site and should be energized by the end of this month. The bridge is scheduled for completion late this year.

LPV-149 – Caernarvon Structure The Corps will issue a contract for repainting the Sector Gate leafs to address peeling paint problems discovered after the NCC was issued. In order to repaint, the structure must be dewatered, which will temporarily impact navigation. The work will be done after the 2015 hurricane season. The Orleans Levee District (OLD) has granted the Corps a right of entry to perform the work.

LPV-150 Jib Crane Pad The Corps has finalized plans to refurbish both of the jib cranes and building parking pads at Bayou Dupre. The cranes will be removed from the structure and sent to a shop by the end of the month. Vegetation removal for LPV 145 segment is now complete but continues on the LPV 146 and 148.02 segments. All vegetative work is being done as part of this project.

OFC-07 London Avenue and 17th Street Remediation We received the NCC dated March 31, 2015. The contractor remains responsible for establishing turf and cutting the grass, but turf-related issues remain. SLFPA-E continues to work with the Corps to make sure all turf issues are resolved.

OFC-08 17th Street Canal Bank Stabilization The NCC was issued on April 27, 2015. The contractor has now established turf, and SLFPA-E is monitoring its progress.

Permanent Canal Closures and Pumps (PCCP) An update status for the three pump stations from the CPRA was sent to all Commissioners on Sept. 11. The new structures are still scheduled for commissioning in May 2017, with decommissioning of the temporary structures possible within the following two years. Please check the New Orleans District web site at www.mvn.usace.army.mil/missions/hsdrrs/pccp.aspx for details and regular updates on this last, major HSDRRS perimeter project.

Armoring Work is underway on the Orleans lakefront levees (ARM-02), the airport levee in the East Jefferson Levee District (ARM-03) and the New Orleans East Levee (ARM-04). A detailed status update on all Corps armoring projects was sent to Commissioners on Sept. 14.

Meanwhile, SLFPA-E, the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-West and the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) pushes ahead with plans to raise some levees, at local cost, before they are armored. The intent is to save millions of dollars in future armoring replacement costs by raising the lowest levees now in advance of armoring in order to extend the life of armored levees.

The consultant HNTB was authorized under its existing contract with CPRA to prepare plans and specifications for the levee lift of LPV 00.2 in EJLD. The 95% plan submittal was received in our office on Aug. 24 and is under review. Once approved, the drawings will be submitted to the Corps as part of the project's 408 permit application. A resolution is included on today's meeting agenda for the bidding of this project.

Twenty proposals were received and evaluated in response to a Request for Qualifications for design of additional levee lifts in EJLD and OLD. Three firms were selected to do the work, and contracts are being finalized.

SBPS-07 – Repairs to LBBLD Pump Stations #2 and # 3 The major work at Pump Station #3 is complete. Work is beginning on Pump Station # 2, where the old discharge pipes have been removed and a temporary restraining structure (TRS) is under construction.

Mississippi River Projects

Jefferson Heights A Corps contractor continues raising segments of the Mississippi River Levee in East Jefferson by about two feet. Work began at the Orleans Parish end and is moving toward Kenner. The first 4.2 miles is almost complete; punch list items are being addressed, and two ramps are being redesigned.

The second phase of construction is underway along 4.5 miles of levee between Orchard Road in River Ridge, west to the Jefferson-St. Charles line. This second segment of work is scheduled for completion during the first part of 2016; this year's high river slowed work for a while.

Carrollton Project All levee enlargement work in Orleans Parish is complete, but several issues raised by the OLD during a final inspection last summer are still not resolved with the Corps. A second "final" inspection was held on Sept. 2, 2015, and punch list items are being developed. The OLD continues to cut grass on the levees.

Internal Affairs

Surge Analysis Update We continue to discuss internally and with others in the coastal science community the best path forward to accomplish a Hurricane Surge Analysis update over the next several years. The newly formed Maurepas-Pontchartrain Surge Consortium is also showing significant interest in the surge update, and we are meeting with the group monthly.

Non-Federal Levee Certification Our certification report for the Maxent Levee was resubmitted to FEMA in February, and the levee was accredited by FEMA on April 6, 2015. This levee should soon be approved for inclusion in the Corps' Rehabilitation and Inspection (RIP) program under Public Law 84-99.

The results of geotechnical investigations of the Forty Arpent Levee indicate no substantial levee stability issues remain.

Plans and specifications for both phases of the levee realignment near the Violet Canal are complete. Our consultants are nearly finished with real estate acquisitions for the new levee footprint.

LBBLD personnel have begun construction of the Phase I work (soap factory). The urgency of this project has been explained to government officials with the City of New Orleans and St. Bernard Parish. The Phase I (soap factory) Coastal Use Permit (CUP) was approved by the parish on April 7, 2015, and the Phase II (shrimp factory) CUP was approved in July.

Training In their earlier report on automated asset management software alternatives, one of the recommendations from Moffat & Nichols was to develop reporting forms that utilize software currently used by OLD. In response, a modeling exercise was held last month and a list of possible program upgrades prepared and submitted to the software firm. In response, Moffatt & Nichols (M&N) submitted a final report that recommends developing new, customized software rather than using existing OLD software. The OLD's existing software firm has responded to our questions regarding specializing the program. A meeting was held Sept. 14, 2015 with OLD and LBBLD and M&N to decide our path forward.

Emergency Preparedness The River is now around elevation 3.0', and the National Weather Service predicts it will drop below 3' by the end of September. After Action Reviews of the high river event have been issued by all three levee district, with no major issues reported.

Complex Structures On Aug. 17, 2015, a shrimp boat struck the roadway bridge across Bayou Bienvenue. The bridge has been inspected and no significant structural damage was detected. The lift gate was not impacted and remains fully operational. During the inspection, two of the screw jacks were found to be out of alignment, preventing the lifting of the bridge. It is not clear at this time whether the strike caused the problems with the screw jacks. The lift gate has been partially closed to prevent marine traffic from entering the structure until the bridge can be raised. On Aug. 21, Boh Brothers Construction was hired to make the necessary repairs. During Boh's inspection, wear and tear to gears and bearings on the northern two shafts were noted, and those are being refurbished.

Tidal Gage Network The Corps has submitted to SLFPA-E three right-of-entry requests for hardened tide gage station sites at Delacroix, Breakwater Park and Chef Menteur, one in each of our levee districts. The CPRA is preparing the Authorization for Entry documents and checking property ownerships; we are awaiting project plans and specifications.

Periodic Inspection Reports Representatives of SLFPA-E and its three levee districts met with the Corps in December to review the previous USACE Periodic Inspections (PI). The PI's are performed to verify continued and appropriate operation and maintenance, to evaluate the stability of structures and to compare constructed criteria to current criteria. The first PIs were conducted between February 2010 and January 2014 on all MR&T and HSDRRS projects. The executive directors of our levee districts reviewed their individual portions of the overall PI, and each prepared a list of items that needs to be addressed. A follow-up meeting was held with the Corps and CPRA in February to review responses to the PI, and the resolution process continues.

All unacceptable PI items have been field verified and photographed. A list and course of action for all remaining unacceptable items is being finalized. This work is ongoing, and a meeting was recently held with the CPRA to begin formulation of responses to the Corps.

Risk Assessment The Risk Assessment Project was awarded to Tetra Tech Inc. The scope of work includes a Probabilistic Performance Analysis for the Lake Borgne Surge Barrier, the Seabrook Complex and gates, and Sector Gates at Bayou St. John, Bayou Bienvenue, Bayou Dupre and Caernarvon. The analysis will identify and address the possible risk of failure or breakdown of any mechanical system within these structures that could cause flooding in parts of Orleans, Jefferson and St. Bernard parishes. The results of this work will help to inform Operation and Maintenance Plans for the structures. The preliminary kick-off meeting with the Districts was held Sept. 9, and information for Tetra Tech is being collected.

Semi Annual Report A debriefing regarding the April 2015 Semi-Annual Report (SAR) was conducted by the Corps. Recommendations for improvements proposed for the next SAR submittal were discussed and agreed to by all parties. The next SAR is due from SLFPA-E to the CPRA on Oct. 15, 2015.

Capital Outlay Program Requests for 2016 All three levee districts will prepare their requests in early October for submission to the Board for approval on Oct.15; they must be submitted to the State by Nov. 1.

Meetings and Items of Note:

The Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board will meet Oct. 21st at 9:30 a.m. at the State Capital, House Committee Room 5.

The Governor's Advisory Commission is scheduled to meet Oct.8 at 11 a.m. in the Port Fouchon Operations Center.

New Contracts:

Tetra Tech, Inc. – Risk Assessment Engineering Services – Phase 1- not to exceed \$240,000. (CDBG Grant)

Levee District Construction Projects:

| Project | District | Status | Comments |
|---|-----------------|---------------|--|
| IHNC St. Claude Bridge Drainage | OLD | 60% complete | |
| Floodgate & Floodwall Repairs | OLD | Complete | Final Change order approval. |
| Seawall Steps Erosion Reach 4&5 | OLD | 99% complete | Final Punch List items remaining. |
| Seawall Steps Erosion Reach 2B | OLD | 95% complete | |
| Lakefront Levee Slope Drainage Reach 4 | OLD | Complete | |
| MRT Aluminum Stop Logs | OLD | 10% complete | Long-lead items ordered; Notice to Proceed (NTP) issued late 3Q 2015 |
| Citrus Lakefront Levee Slope Paving | OLD | 10% complete | |
| Seawall Steps Erosion Phase 1 (Reach 1A/3B) | OLD | 2% complete | |
| New Orleans Lakefront Airport SLFPAE Build Out | OLD | 0% complete | NTP issued Sept. 17, 21015 |

Levee District Project Designs and Studies

| Project | District | Comments |
|---|-----------------|---|
| Outfall Canals Erosion | OLD | Study complete; design 90% complete; Corps requested stability and hydraulic analysis by CH2M |
| Lakefront Seawall Area Reach , 4&5 | OLD | Design complete; construction administration 99% |
| Lakefront Seawall Area Reach 2B | OLD | Design complete; construction administration 90% complete |
| Floodgate Seal Repairs | OLD | Design complete; construction administration complete |
| IHNC St. Claude Bridge Drainage | OLD | Design complete; construction administration 60% |
| Lakefront Levee Slope Drainage Reach 4&5 | OLD | Survey complete; design complete; construction administration 99% |
| Citrus Lakefront Levee Slope Paving at Intersections | OLD | Survey complete; design complete; construction administration and inspection 10% complete |
| Bayou St. John Adaptive Water Management Plan | OLD | Plan complete |
| Citrus Lakefront Levee Railroad Drainage Study | OLD | Investigation complete; design 80% complete |
| Lakefront Seawall Area Phase 1 | OLD | Construction, administration and inspection 2% complete |

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| MRT Aluminum Stop Logs | OLD | Construction, administration inspection 10% complete |
| Bayou Bienvenue/Bayou St. John O&M Manuals | OLD | BSJSG 90% complete; draft report is in |
| Police Administration Building | OLD | Site Study complete, pending Board authorization 70% |
| MRT Floodgate Painting | OLD | Design complete |
| Phase 1 for engine upgrades at Pump Stations | LBBLD | Phase 2 funding is approved, awaiting EPA determination on tier rating; prepared to advertise |
| Phase 1 for Safe Room Design HMGP approved by FEMA | LBBLD | Advertising through SBPG in August |
| Pump Station #6 pump repair and hangers at P.S. #7 | LBBLD | P&S complete; preparing to advertise |
| Pump Station #6 Erosion Repair | LBBLD | P&S complete; preparing to advertise |
| Safe house & Consolidated Facility | EJLD | EJLD Safe House Value Engineering (VE) team report submitted to EJLD/SLFPAE and is under review currently; 90% Plans still under review. |