

The Board of Commissioners for the Pontchartrain Levee District met at its office on Monday, April 21, 2008, pursuant to due notice given to each member in due time, form and manner as follows:

April 18, 2008

Dear Sir:

You are hereby notified that the next Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Commissioners for the Pontchartrain Levee District will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, April 21, 2008 at the Lutchter Office, Lutchter, Louisiana.

Very truly yours,

Monica Salins,  
Executive Director

President Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. The following members were present: Messrs. Webb Harrelson, Steve Wilson, Mike Delaune, Chucky Tillis, Blaine Sheets, Jesse Bartley and Tony Cunningham. Absent were: Mrs. Geri Broussard Baloney and Robert "Poncho" Roussel.

Pontchartrain Levee District employees in attendance were: Messrs. Monica Salins-Executive Director, Kenny Steib – Levee Maintenance Superintendent, Dwight Poirrier – Legal Counsel and Susan M. Canatella - Secretary to the Board. Also in attendance were: Clinton Rouyea - External Accountant, Jimmy Smith - Maintenance Consultant and Joe Sevario – Executive Assistant to the Board. Special guests included: Jesse McClendon of Department of Transportation and Development, Mona Nosari of G.C.R. & Associates, Henry Picard, III of Burk-Kleinpeter, Carley Fleming and Lance LaPlace of Cali & LaPlace Engineers, O'Neil Malbrough and Les Waguespack of Shaw Group, Troy Jeanfreau of HNTB and LeVerne Brown, past commissioner.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

A motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of March 17, 2008 was offered by Mr. Harelson and seconded by Mr. Delaune and unanimously carried.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Finance Committee:** Mr. Jesse Bartley reported on the Finance meeting held on April 15, 2008. Mr. Tillis moved, seconded by Mr. Cunningham to approve the regular monthly invoices in the amount of \$30,113.45 as recommended by committee. The motion carried unanimously. Next, Mr. Cunningham moved, seconded by Mr. Sheets to recommend approval of invoices from G.C.R. & Associates in the amount of \$5,444.88 for the period of March 1, 2008 thru March 31, 2008 for Reaches 1B, 2A & 2B. This motion carried unanimously. Mr. Bartley then moved, seconded by Mr. Tillis to approve the invoice from Eustis Insurance Company in the amount of \$1,904.70 for the additional premium for the 2007 General Liability Audit as recommended by committee. This motion carried unanimously. Mr. Tillis moved to approve the expenses for the Annual Louisiana Emergency Preparedness Association Workshop held in Baton Rouge on June 2-5, 2008 as

recommended. This motion was seconded by Mr. Delaune and also carried unanimously. Mr. Bartley moved, seconded by Mr. Harelson to approve the reimbursement for Commissioner Baloney's expenses for the Grand Isle ALBL Conference in the amount of \$405.00 as recommended. This motion carried unanimously. Mr. Harelson moved, seconded by Mr. Sheets to approve forming a sub-committee to the Finance Committee which consist of Commissioner(s) Sheets, Delaune and Broussard Baloney as recommended by committee. This motion carried unanimously. At this time, Mr. Harelson moved to add two (2) items to the agenda regarding the Amite River Basin & Tributaries Project. This motion was seconded by Mr. Sheets and carried unanimously. Mr. Bartley then moved to proceed forward under Section 211, Design and Construction, of WRDA-96 on the Amite River & Tributaries Project. This motion was seconded by Mr. Harelson and carried unanimously. Mr. Bartley then moved to amend the budget for the fiscal year ending 08-09 to cover the fees necessary for USACE, not to exceed approximately \$300,000 and an additional \$700,000 for the PLD Consultant. This motion was seconded by Mr. Tillis and also carried unanimously. President Wilson then discussed the Capital Outlay request regarding said project. Following discussion, Mr. Bartley moved, seconded by Mr. Harelson to instruct Shaw Coastal to revisit the amount requested for the feasibility costs for said AR&T project and to adjust the submission request accordingly. This motion carried unanimously.

**Equipment Committee:** Mr. Webb Harelson reported on the meeting held on April 7, 2008. Mr. Bartley moved, seconded by Mr. Delaune to approve the purchase of two (2) additional 15 ft. Woods Rotary Mowers through State Contract in the amount of \$13,529.00 each as recommended by committee. This motion carried unanimously. Mr. Harelson then moved to approve the lowest quote from Bec's Hydraulic in the amount of \$800.00 for inspection and load testing of the PLD Maintenance Shop hoist. This motion was seconded by Mr. Sheets and carried unanimously. Next, Mr. Sheets moved to approve the swapping of a 7 ft. mower and that the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement for the Town of Sorrento reflects said change and authorizes President Wilson to sign amended agreement and execute said equipment exchange as recommended by committee. This motion was seconded by Mr. Delaune and also carried unanimously. Lastly, Mr. Harelson moved, seconded by Mr. Cunningham to approve to inform Civil Service about the over-time work due to high water situation and that submittal of this over-time are approved as recommended by committee. This motion carried unanimously.

**Security/Safety Committee:** Mr. Blaine Sheets reported on the security meeting held April 17, 2008. The only item to report on was the repairs for the bridge at Elbow Bayou pending the cost of material and landowner approval. Board Attorney Dwight Poirrier also reported that he had spoken with the manager of said property, Mr. Pete Hymel, and that an agreement to move forward with the repairs and authorization/execution of the Servitude Agreement had been reached but was being reviewed by the landowner's attorney. Brief discussion was had. Mr. Harelson then moved to authorize the execution of said Servitude Agreement with the landowner once finalized and for PLD maintenance crew to perform said bridge repairs as recommended by committee. This motion was seconded by Mr. Tillis and carried unanimously. Mr. Tillis then moved, seconded by Mr. Delaune to approve the lowest quote from Pupera's Lumber Company in the amount of \$6,372.00 for the cost of said materials to the bridge at Elbow Bayou. This motion carried unanimously.

**Personnel Committee:** Mr. Tony Cunningham reported on the Personnel meeting which was held on April 17, 2008. Mr. Sheets moved to approve the merit increases for May, 2008 as recommended by committee for eligible employees: #199123, #184397, #184393, and #185678. This motion was seconded by Mr. Delaune and carried unanimously.

**Building Committee:** Mr. Mike Delaune reported on the Building meeting which was held on April 17, 2008. Mr. Steib reported that he had inspected the repairs and they were going well and the siding should be completed in a couple of days.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

A report on the Hurricane Protection Levee Project was presented by Mona Nosari.

## **LETTERS OF NO OBJECTION**

The following requests were presented to the Board for action:

At this time, Mr. Cunningham moved to add a request for a letter of No Objection to the agenda which was submitted by Merlin Oil for a right of entry to include access at the location from Ormond to the Cross Bayou Structure ramp. The motion to add said request was seconded by Mr. Sheets and carried unanimously. Mr. Cunningham moved, seconded by Mr. Delaune to grant a “NO OBJECTION” to this request to utilize the Ormond Boulevard Bridge entrance and travel to the east along PLD right of way to the ramp over the hurricane protection levee just before the Cross Bayou Drainage Structure. All provisions from the original letter dated February 19, 2008 and original letters of no objections still remain in place. Please adhere to all those provisions concerning permission to conduct seismic surveys in TPS. 11 through 14.S, and RS. 7 through 9 E and 19 through 20 E. The motion carried unanimously.

**Pipeline Technologies VI, LLC** – request of February 29, 2008 concerning permission to install 110,900 linear feet of one 8-inch benzene pipeline and to directionally drill the pipeline, levee stations drill ten (10) soil borings, levee station 3042+00, at Darrow, LA, Ascension Parish. Mr. 5006 and 1602+50 in Iberville Parish. Mr. Harelson stated that levee station 1601+50 is on the West Bank and questioned any work being performed during the high water situation. The Executive Director explained that PLD will hold any letters of no objection until Carrollton gage is below 11 ft. Mr. Harelson moved, seconded by Mr. Sheets to grant a “NO OBJECTION” to this request as per letters of no objection from the Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District dated January 10, 2008, 2008 and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development dated March 20, 2008. The motion carried unanimously.

## **RIGHTS OF ENTRY**

At this time, Mr. Cunningham moved, seconded by Mr. Sheets to add a request for a Right of Entry to the Agenda from the Corps of Engineers. This motion carried unanimously.

**Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District** – request of March 17, 2008, revised March 21, 2008, April 7, 2008 and April 21, 2008 from Linda C. LaBure to the Pontchartrain Levee District for right-of-entry for a period of one year to perform surveys, soil borings, environmental and cultural resources investigations, and hazardous, toxic and radioactive wastes (HTRW) assessments and to carry out other exploratory work as may be necessary to complete investigations being made of said lands by the Government in connection with the Lake Pontchartrain, Louisiana and Vicinity, Hurricane Protection Project, North of Airline Highway, revised drawing 1-4, 6 and 7 dated April 3, 2008 and revised drawing 5 (I-310 Floodwall) dated April 21, 2008. Mr. Cunningham moved, seconded by Mr. Sheets to grant said right of entry as requested. The motion carried unanimously.

## **PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

President Wilson reminded members about the upcoming annual Association of Levee Boards workshop being held in Baton Rouge on May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008 and encouraged members to attend. Members were asked to notify the Board Secretary as to their attendance.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Under old business, member discussed the organizational chart. Mr. Sheets discussed the changes requested and members reviewed said chart. Following discussion, Mr. Sheets moved to amend organization chart to reflect slot #17 be directly under slot #16 and over other employees in the absence of the director and that said amended chart be submitted to Civil Service as soon as possible. This motion to approve said amendment to Organization Chart was seconded by Mr. Tillis and unanimously carried.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Bartley addressed the Board relative to an insurance matter concerning deductibles regarding coverage for windshield repairs. President Wilson opened discussion regarding a proposal from Cali & LaPlace Engineers regarding the LaBranche Wetlands. This matter will be discussed at the Finance Meeting next month. Prior to meeting, Mr. LaPlace will provide members with the proposal with associated cost in order to consider said work.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At this time, Mr. Sheets moved, seconded by Mr. Delaune to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously and President Wilson declared the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

/s/ Susan M. Canatella

**Susan M. Canatella, Secretary**

/s/ Steve Wilson

**Steve Wilson, President**