

The Board of Commissioners for the Pontchartrain Levee District met at its office on Monday, March 23, 2015, pursuant to due notice given to each member in due time, form and manner as follows:

March 20, 2015

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, March 23, 2015 at the Lutchet Office, Lutchet, Louisiana.

Very truly yours,

Monica Salins,  
Executive Director

President Steve Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:24 p.m. The following members were present: Messrs. Steve Wilson, Marty J. Poche, L.C. Irvin, Jerry Savoy, Pat Bell, Sr., Ricky Bosco, Percy Hebert, Jr., Henry Baptiste\* and Allen J. St. Pierre, Sr.. Mr. Baptiste was absent at roll call.

Pontchartrain Levee District employees in attendance were: Messrs. Monica Salins – Executive Director, Dean Smith – Police Captain, Kenneth Steib, Sr. – Levee Board Operations Superintendent and Susan M. Sheets - Secretary to the Board. Also in attendance was: Dwight Poirrier – PLD Legal Counsel, Clinton Rouyea – External Accountant and Joe Sevario – Executive Assistant to the Board. Special guest included: A.J. Domangue of G.C.R. & Associates, Nathan Junius and Steve Braquet of Linfield, Hunter & Junius, Jake Lambert of G.S.A. & Associates, Chris Williams of Moffatt & Nichol, John Troutman of CPRA, Hamid Alizedah of CB&I, Henry Picard, III of BKI, Jack Morgan of Evans-Graves Engineers, Al Naomi and Mike Patorno of AECOM, Steve Cali of Cali and Laplace Engineers, Eric Poche of SJB Group and St. Charles Parish President V.J. St. Pierre and St. Charles Parish representatives Holly Fonseca, Sam Scholle and Buddy Boe.

A motion to approve the minutes of the minutes of the regular board meeting of February 23, 2015 was offered by Mr. St. Pierre, seconded by Mr. Bosco and carried unanimously.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Security/Safety Committee:** Mr. L.C. Irvin reported on the security meeting held on March 10, 2015. There were no action items to report.

**Equipment Committee:** Mr. Allen St. Pierre reported on the meeting held on March 10, 2015. There were no action items to report.

**Finance Committee:** President Wilson reported on the Finance meeting held on March 12, 2015. Mr. Irvin moved to approve the regular monthly invoices in the amount of \$43,345.60 as recommended by committee. This motion was seconded by Mr. Bosco and carried unanimously. Mr. Savoy moved, seconded by Mr. Bell to approve the invoices from G.C.R. and Associates in the amount of \$38,632.35 for the month of February 1, 2015 through February 28, 2015 as recommended by committee. This motion carried unanimously. Mr. Poche moved, seconded by Mr. Bosco to approve the invoice from Linfield, Hunter & Junius in the amount of \$400.00 for the transfer/extension request of the original Cheval Subdivision LONO Review as recommended by

committee. This motion carried unanimously. **\*At 6:31 p.m., Mr. Baptiste arrived and took his seat at the table.**

**Personnel Committee:** Mr. Marty Poche reported on the Personnel meeting which was held on March 12, 2015. There were no action items to report.

At this time, President Wilson requested a motion to deviate from the agenda order and take up the St. Charles Parish presentation regarding the proposal millage. Mr. Bell moved, seconded by Mr. Irvin to deviate and take up St. Charles Parish proposed millage presentation. The motion to deviate carried unanimously. President St. Pierre gave a brief overview and called on Mr. Buddy Boe who presented written copies of the slide show presentation he led. Following presentation, discussion was had. After discussions, Mr. Bosco made a motion to support St. Charles Parish in levee and flood protection funding to properly construct, finance and maintain a comprehensive levee and flood protection system in St. Charles Parish. This motion to support efforts was seconded by Mr. Irvin and carried unanimously. Members thanked the St. Charles officials and staff for their efforts. Mr. Poche then moved, seconded by Mr. Bell to return to the regular agenda order. This motion carried unanimously.

#### **STAFF REPORTS**

Executive Director's report was in packet.

Written reports were given for each of the following projects by the respective engineer and/or representative:

- a) West Shore-Lake Pontchartrain Hurricane Protection Project
- b) St. Charles Urban/Walker/Almedia Pump Station
- c) Laurel Ridge Levee/Bayou Conway –Panama Canal/Frog-Alligator Bayou DRAFT Comprehensive Plan
- d) St. Charles Hurricane Protection Levee
- e) LaBranche Shoreline Protection
- f) PLD EOC/Headquarter Progress

#### **RIGHTS OF ENTRY**

None.

#### **PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

President Wilson briefly discussed a letter from Board Attorney for the April 6, 2015 East Ascension Gravity Drainage District Meeting for PLD to present and report on the current projects in Ascension Parish. Mr. Lambert discussed the comments posted on social media and gave update relative to this issue. Discussion was had.

The second item was the St. Charles Presentation regarding proposed millage to be presented on their May 2<sup>nd</sup> ballot. This matter was taken up previously.

## OLD BUSINESS

None

## NEW BUSINESS

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Baptiste and seconded by Mr. Bell:

**WHEREAS**, the Legislature of the State of Louisiana has requested all state governing boards, agencies political subdivisions to adopt a budget for each fiscal year, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners for the Pontchartrain Levee District, in order to be in compliance with Acts 1985, No. 785, effective July 22, 1985 (LA R.S. 38:318) and to honor the request and intent of the Legislature, and;

**WHEREAS**, the major mission of said district is to maintain the east bank Mississippi River levee system as defined in LA R.S. 38:291 (L), to insure the levee integrity and capability, to safely understand river stages and hurricane tidal surges, and;

**WHEREAS**, said District's additional purpose is to construct or support construction by others of new or enhanced levels of protection, to anticipate weaknesses in the levee system in order to avoid flooding caused by high river stages or hurricane tidal surges, and;

**WHEREAS**, careful consideration has been given to the assets and liabilities of the Pontchartrain Levee District, and;

**WHEREAS**, considering taxing revenues and other income and reviewing the anticipated expenditures of said District,

**NOW, THEREFORE**, with the recommendations of the Administrative Staff of the Pontchartrain Levee District, the following budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016 be adopted:

**SEE ADDENDUM "A"**

Anyone having any objection to the foregoing budget should contact the Board Office in Litcher, Louisiana and a public hearing will be scheduled.

The resolution to adopt the budget carried unanimously and is therefore adopted.

The next agenda item was discussion relative to inventory tax request by St. James Parish. St. James Parish officials made a request and submitted letter of support soliciting signature by PLD requesting the PLD President sign and join the St. James Tax Authorities in seeking other means to raise revenues for the State budget deficit. Discussion was had relative to lobbying and the legality for participating in said request. Following discussion and Board Attorney's advice, Mr. Bosco moved, seconded by Mr. Irvin to table this request. This motion to table carried unanimously.

The next agenda item was discussion regarding the contract relative to uniforms for the maintenance department. Ms. Salins addressed the Board and stated that due to issues with present provider and costs associated with said services, it was in the best interest to consider switching the uniform provider to G & K. Ms. Savoy questioned the problem with current

provider. Ms. Salins advised that the new provider would be \$8,200.00 less per year and would provide new uniforms rather than swapping them out. Following brief discussion, Mr. Irvin moved, seconded by Mr. Bell to approve and move forward with contract with new provider, G & K for the uniforms service for the maintenance employees. This motion carried unanimously.

The next agenda item was Civil Service Circulars. These were on agenda for information purposed because they were received after committee meetings.

- a. April 1, 2015 pay hearings
- b. Rights to address members of legislative & supporting or opposing issue of public interest

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

At this time, Mr. Poche moved, seconded by Mr. Hebert to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously and President Wilson declared the meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

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**Susan M. Sheets, Secretary**

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**Steve Wilson, President  
Pontchartrain Levee District**