

The Board of Commissioners for the Pontchartrain Levee District met at its office on Monday, February 20, 2017, pursuant to due notice given to each member in due time, form and manner as follows:

February 17, 2017

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 February 20, 2017 at the Lutchter Office, Lutchter, Louisiana.

Very truly yours,

Monica Salins Gorman
Executive Director

President Steve Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m. The following members were present: Messrs. Jerry Savoy, Percy Hebert, Jr., Allen J. St. Pierre, Sr., Blaine J. Sheets, Steve Wilson, Ricky Bosco, Henry Baptiste and Ms. Senecca Boudreaux. Absent: Leonard J. Wilson, Jr.

Pontchartrain Levee District employees in attendance were: Monica Salins Gorman – Executive Director, Mel D. Bush – Board Secretary and Roscoe Brewer – PLD Police Captain (Detailed). Also, in attendance was Dwight Poirrier – PLD Board Counsel.

Special guests included: Steve Braquet and Nathan Junius of Linfield, Hunter & Junius, Steve Gourgues and Mona Nosari of GCR, Inc., Jack Morgan of Evans-Graves, Jake Lambert of GSA, Hamid Alizadeh of CB&I, Sam Scholle of St. Charles Parish Dept. of Public Works, Steve Cali of Volkert, Henry Picard of BKI, Rob VanVrancken of Elos Environmental, Jim Simmons of N.Y. & Associates and Wanda Taylor of Big Shake. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Commissioner Allen St. Pierre made the request to add an item to the agenda, under Personnel. Motion from President Steve Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Savoy to add an item to the agenda, under the Personnel Committee reports. There were no public comments, there were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

A motion to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting of January 17, 2017 was offered by Commissioner Hebert, seconded by Commissioner St. Pierre. There were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Security/Safety Committee: President Wilson called upon Vice President Sheets, Chairperson of said committee; who noted that there were no items to report from the Security/Safety Committee held on February 14, 2017.

Equipment Committee: President Wilson called upon Commissioner St. Pierre, Chairperson of said committee; who noted there were no items to report from the Equipment Committee meeting held on February 14, 2017.

Finance Committee: President Wilson called upon Commissioner Bosco, Co-Chairperson of the Finance Committee; who instructed President Wilson to continue with reporting. As such, President Wilson reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on February 16, 2017. The first item on the agenda was to approve 3rd amendment to contract for professional services for right of way acquisition and program management services for GCR, Inc. to extend the engagement period of the contract to January 22, 2019 as recommended by committee on February 16, 2017. This motion was made by Commissioner St. Pierre, seconded by Vice President Sheets. There was no other discussion, there were no public comments, there were no objections, and the motion carried unanimously.

The next item was to approve to allow President Steve Wilson to sign and accept the CPRA Grant to replace the CRCL Grant for the LaBranche Salinity Barrier Project as recommended by committee on February 16, 2017. Public Comments: President Wilson noted that he received message from Kent V., asking Chris Williams for a construction timeline. This motion was made by Commissioner Savoy, seconded by Commissioner Boudreaux. There was no other discussion, there were no other public comments, there were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

The next item was to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Pontchartrain Levee District was constitutionally created as a levee board representing the parishes of East Baton Rouge, Iberville, Ascension, St. James, St. John the Baptist, and St. Charles, located on the East side of the Mississippi River, commissioned with flood control and hurricane protection;

WHEREAS, 2016 produced two (2) devastating flood events of unprecedented measures in the lower Amite River Basin in the months of March and August;

WHEREAS, the flooding events caused billions of dollars of damage to residential, commercial, and governmental properties, and affected thousands of citizens and businesses,

creating damage which, in many instances, are cost prohibitive to the repair or the rebuild of the structure;

WHEREAS, commerce and business in these affected areas were devastated and shall require years to recover;

WHEREAS, the events of 2016 affected all six (6) parishes, but primarily East Baton Rouge, Iberville, Ascension, and St. James in these events;

WHEREAS, in the flood event of 1983, similar impacts were occasioned by the event and produced similar problems as incurred in the events of 2016;

WHEREAS, since 1983, much growth has occurred, and is expected to continue, in areas affecting the lower Amite River Basin and which will further exaggerate the adverse effects to the lower Amite River Basin;

WHEREAS, numerous past efforts, including years of study, investigations, and planning, have been undertaken by various entities, including municipalities, parishes, and other state and federal entities, including the Pontchartrain Levee District, many of which were authorized to address specific needs to minimize or mitigate said flooding impacts;

WHEREAS, since flood events of this nature may continue to occur in the future and cause similar impact to the affected areas, it is recognized, at a federal, state, and local level, that a comprehensive, regional approach, taking into consideration and prioritizing these past, current and future efforts, is essential in creating a Regional Flood Risk Reduction Plan for the lower Amite River Basin that can be adopted, supported, and encouraged by all stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, a comprehensive, regional approach for the lower Amite River Basin will enhance support for federal, state, and local funding opportunities;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pontchartrain Levee District, as the primary flood and hurricane protection control agency in the affected areas, proposes to act as program sponsor in developing a regional flood risk reduction plan for the Lower Amite River Basin; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Pontchartrain Levee District shall communicate, work and develop with all of the federal, state and local stakeholders in developing and implementing this plan of comprehensive, regional approach, said stakeholders to include all affected local governments, State of Louisiana agencies, Congressional delegations, federal and state regulatory agencies, including the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, and the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Pontchartrain Levee District hereby proposes to work toward the establishment of a Lower Amite River Basin Flood Reduction Task Force along with the Amite River Basin Commission, who has concurrent jurisdictions in the Parishes of East Baton Rouge, Iberville, Ascension and St. James as well as Livingston, East Feliciana and St. Helena Parishes, which were also impacted by the recent flood events, to receive, review and distribute all relevant information and data pertinent to the development and implementation of a comprehensive, regional flood risk reduction plan for the lower Amite River Basin.

This motion was made by Vice President Sheets, seconded by Commissioner Boudreaux. Public Comments: None. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

The next item was to approve the Memorandum of Understanding regarding Louisiana's Flood Risk and Resilience Program between the "Parties" as recommended by committee on February 16, 2017. Public Comments: None. This motion was made by Commissioner Hebert, seconded by Commissioner St. Pierre. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

The next item was to approve the regular monthly invoices in the amount of \$30,845.54 as recommended by committee on February 16, 2017. Public Comments: None. This motion was made by Commissioner St. Pierre, seconded by Commissioner Baptiste. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

Next was to approve the invoice from GCR & Associates in the amount of \$12,843.65 for the month of January 1, 2017 through January 31, 2017 as recommended by committee on February 16, 2017. This motion was made by Commissioner Baptiste, seconded by Commissioner Boudreaux. Public Comments: None. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

Next item was to approve the invoice from Linfield, Hunter & Junius in the amount of \$1,000.00 for the LONO Review Cheval Subdivision as recommended by committee on February 16, 2017. Public Comments: Commissioner Bosco asked Mrs. Salins-Gorman, "You said this is the last invoice?" Mrs. Salins-Gorman responded, "Yes". Vice President Sheets made said motion, seconded by Commissioner Hebert. There was no other discussion, there were no other public comments, there were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

Next item was to approve the December invoice from Linfield, Hunter & Junius in the amount of \$3,018.48 for the New Administrative Complex/DRCC as recommended by committee on February 16, 2017. Public Comments: None. Commissioner Boudreaux made

said motion, seconded by Commissioner Baptiste. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

Next item was to approve the January invoice from Linfield, Hunter & Junius in the amount of \$1,509.20 for the New Administrative Complex/DRCC as recommended by committee on February 16, 2017. Public Comments: None. Commissioner Baptiste made said motion, seconded by Commissioner Boudreaux. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

Next item was to approve the invoice from Fluid Process & Pumps in the amount of \$21,670.00 for replacement of the main bearings on P.T.O. and seals at the Cross Bayou Pump Station as recommended by committee on February 16, 2017. Public Comments: None. Vice President Sheets made said motion, seconded by Commissioner Hebert. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

Next item was to approve the expense for 2017 National Hurricane Conference held at Hyatt Regency Hotel-New Orleans, LA on April 17-20, 2017 as recommended by committee on February 16, 2017. Public Comments: None. Commissioner Savoy made said motion, seconded by Commissioner St. Pierre. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

Next item was to approve the expenses for the 32nd Annual Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana held at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Baton Rouge, LA on May 4-5, 2017 as recommended by committee on February 16, 2017. Public Comments: None. Commissioner Boudreaux made said motion, seconded by Commissioner Hebert. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

Personnel Committee: Vice President Sheets turned the meeting over to Commissioner St. Pierre. Commissioner St. Pierre wanted to have an open discussion concerning the vacant Captain position, as well as the 2 vacancies of Police Officer 2. Public Comments: Commissioner St. Pierre stated that his reason for requesting to add the discussion of the vacant positions to the agenda was his concern for PLD Police Department. Commissioner St. Pierre felt that the department is suffering from being short staffed and by filling the 3 vacant PLD PD positions, it would bring the complete police department up to date. A motion was then made by Commissioner St. Pierre to post and fill the PLD PD Captain position, as well as, to post and fill the vacant PO2 positions. Said motion was seconded by Commissioner Baptiste. There was further discussion and then a substitute motion was made by Commissioner Savoy, seconded by Commissioner Hebert to bring discussion of the vacant positions to the Tuesday, March 14th, 2017, Security Committee Meeting. A roll call vote was requested:

Commissioner Boudreaux- Yea

Commissioner St. Pierre- No

Commissioner Bosco- Yea

Commissioner Baptiste- Yea

Commissioner Sheets- Yea

Commissioner Savoy- Yea

Commissioner Hebert- Yea

The substitute motion therefore replaced the previous motion and no other public comments were had. There were no other objections and the substitute motion carried unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS

Executive Director LONO Report: The Executive Director's report was in the packet for review. Mrs. Gorman offered her assistance to any of the board members should they have any questions or comments concerning any of the issued LONOs within their packets.

Reports on Projects: Reports were given for each of the following projects by the respective engineer and/or representative. Written reports were also in the board members packets.

- a) West Shore-Lake Pontchartrain Hurricane Protection – Henry Picard, III
- b) St. James/Ascension Storm Surge Project – Henry Picard, III
- c) St. Charles Urban/Walker/Almedia Pump Station – Jack Morgan
- d) Laurel Ridge Levee/Bayou Conway-Panama Canal – Jake Lambert
- e) St. Charles Hurricane Protection Levee – Steve Gourgues
- f) PLD Admin. Complex Disaster Response Coordinator Center – Steve Braquet

RIGHTS OF ENTRY

None.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

President Wilson asked that all board members let Ms. Bush know whether or not they will be attending ALBL conference in May.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Baptiste moved, seconded by Vice President Sheets to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously and meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Mel D. Bush, Board Secretary

Steve Wilson, President
Pontchartrain Levee District