

The Board of Commissioners for the Pontchartrain Levee District met at its office on Monday, March 18, 2019, pursuant to due notice given to each member in due time, form and manner as follows:

March 15, 2019

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 immediately following a Notice of Budget Public Hearing Meeting on Monday, March 18, 2019 at the Lutchter Office, Lutchter, Louisiana.

Very truly yours,

Monica Salins Gorman  
Executive Director

Vice President Sheets called the meeting to order at 6:17 p.m. Vice President Sheets requested roll call by Ms. Bush and the following members were present: Messrs. Leonard J. Wilson, Jr., Trey Granier, Percy Hebert, Jr., Blaine J. Sheets, Allen J. St. Pierre, Sr., Jerry Savoy and Ms. Senecca Boudreaux. Absent: Ricky Bosco and Henry Baptiste.

Pontchartrain Levee District employees in attendance were: Monica Salins Gorman – Executive Director, Mel D. Bush – PLD Board Secretary, as well as, Kenneth Steib, Sr. – Levee Board Operations Superintendent/PLD Emergency Coordinator and Matthew Arseneaux – PLD Police Captain. Also, in attendance were Dwight Poirrier – PLD Board Counsel and Joseph Sevario – Executive Assistant to the Board of Commissioners.

Recognition of guests included: Anthony Goodgion of Linfield, Hunter & Junius, Jane Dufour of GCR, Inc., Jack Morgan of Evans Graves, Kimberly Koehl of GSA, Henry Picard, III & David Boyd of BKI, John Troutman of CPRA, Benjamin Hartman of BAIRD, Trey Simon of IUL, Sam Scholle of SCP and Hamid Alizadeh of APTIM.

A motion to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting of February 18, 2019 was offered by Commissioner St. Pierre, seconded by Commissioner Boudreaux. There was no other

discussion, there were no public comments, there were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Security/Safety Committee:** Commissioner Hebert, Vice Chairperson of said committee, noted there were no items to report from the Security/Safety Committee held on March 12, 2019.

**Equipment Committee:** Vice President Sheets called upon Commissioner Hebert, Vice Chairperson of said committee, who noted there were no items to report from the Equipment Committee meeting held on March 12, 2019.

**Finance Committee:** Vice President Sheets called upon Commissioner Boudreaux, Vice Chairperson of the Finance Committee, reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on March 14, 2019:

The first item on the agenda was to approve the regular monthly invoice in the amount of \$39,071.04 as recommended by committee on March 14, 2019. Public Comments: None. Motion to approve said agenda item was made by Commissioner Savoy, seconded by Commissioner Hebert. There was no other discussion, there were no public comments, there were no objections, and the motion carried.

The next item was to approve the invoice from GCR, Inc. totaling \$33,403.36 (this total represents 2 projects: LPV - \$10,280.82; and WSLP - \$23,122.54) said invoicing represents the fees from February 1 through February 28, 2019 as recommended by committee on March 14, 2019. Public Comments: None. Commissioner St. Pierre 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 invoice from GCR, Inc. in the amount of \$9,262.50 for Laurel Ridge Levee Extension as recommended by committee on March 14, 2019. Public Comments: Jerry Savoy recused himself from the next two (2) agenda items. Roll Call Vote:

Yea(s) 6, Nay(s) 0, Absent 2, Not Voting 1. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and the motion carried.

The next item was to approve the invoice from GSA Consulting Engineers, Inc. in the amount of \$9,834.06 for Laurel Ridge Levee Extension as recommended by committee on March 14, 2019. Public Comments: Jerry Savoy recused himself from this agenda item. Roll Call Vote: Yea(s) 6, Nays 0, Absent 2, Not Voting 1. Commissioner St. Pierre made said motion, seconded by Commissioner Hebert. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and the motion carried.

The next item was to approve the invoice from GSA Consulting Engineers, Inc. in the amount of \$5,420.11 for Bluff Swamp Control Structure (formerly Alligator/Frog/Fish Bayous) as recommended by committee on March 14, 2019. Public Comments: None. Commissioner Granier made said motion, seconded by Commissioner Hebert. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

The next item was to approve the invoice from Linfield, Hunter & Junius, Inc. in the amount of \$870.00 for Upper Pontchartrain Seepage Control as recommended by committee on March 14, 2019. Public Comments: None. Commissioner Granier made said motion, seconded by Commissioner Savoy. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

Next item was to approve the expenses for the annual Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana held in Baton Rouge, LA on May 2-3, 2019 as recommended by committee on March 14, 2019. Public Comments: None. Commissioner Granier made said motion, seconded by Commissioner Wilson. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

Next item was to approve to allow Kenneth Steib, Sr., Levee Board Operations Superintendent, to proceed with the purchase of a new ice machine/bin as represented by Quote No. 2677 from Allstate Refrigeration in the amount of \$7,452.76 as recommended by committee on March 14, 2019. Public Comments: Ms. Gorman added, "the motion should be to proceed with the purchase of a new ice machine/bin in an amount not to exceed \$7,452.76 pending the receipt and review of two (2) additional quotes and after review by PLD Board Attorney."

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

**Personnel Committee:** Vice President Sheets called upon Commissioner Hebert, Vice Chairperson of the Personnel Committee, who noted there were no items to report on the Personnel Committee meeting held on March 14, 2019.

### **STAFF REPORTS**

**Executive Director LONO Report:** The Executive Director's report was in the packet for review and she discussed each item within her report and noted several items of interest for the board's information. In addition, 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 – David Boyd, BKI
- b) St. James/Ascension Storm Surge Project – David Boyd, BKI
- c) St. Charles Urban/Walker/Almedia Pump Station – Jack Morgan, E-G
- d) Laurel Ridge Levee/Bayou Conway-Panama Canal/Hwy.22 – Kimberly Koehl, GSA
- e) Bluff Swamp & Spanish Lake Flood Risk Reduction – Kimberly Koehl, GSA
- f) St. Charles Hurricane Protection Levee – Jane Dufour, GCR
- g) Upper Pontchartrain Seepage Control Project – Anthony Goodgion, LH&J

### **RIGHTS OF ENTRY**

None.

### **PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

None.

## OLD BUSINESS

None.

## NEW BUSINESS

Adopt Resolution for Fiscal Year Budget Ending June 30, 2020.

The following resolution was offered by Commissioner St. Pierre and seconded by Commissioner Wilson:

**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, 2020 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.

Public Comments: None. There was no other discussion and there were no objections.

Adopt Resolution for Dwight Poirrier as per Act 611 and to be submitted to the Attorney General for the State of Louisiana for approval.

The following Motion and Resolution was offered by Commissioner Savoy who moved for its adoption, and seconded by Commissioner Boudreaux at the March 18, 2019, regular Board Meeting of the Pontchartrain Levee District Board of Commissioners (the "Board");

WHEREAS, the Pontchartrain Levee District is a levee district situated on the East Bank of the Mississippi River in the Parishes of East Baton Rouge, Iberville, Ascension, St. James, St. John The Baptist and St. Charles, commissioned with flood and hurricane protection including specifically the maintenance of the East Bank of the Mississippi River Levee and those affected parishes and the Hurricane Protection Levee in St. Charles Parish, Louisiana;

WHEREAS, the Pontchartrain Levee District is currently engaged in many projects to further add flood protection and to enhance and solidify its current protection, said projects to include the Westshore Hurricane Protection Levee, the Laurel Ridge Extension Levee and other ongoing projects;

WHEREAS, the Pontchartrain Levee District has a need for services for contractual review, adherence to Federal, State and Local statutes, regulations and ordinances, expropriation of properties for specific projects, defense of claims and lawsuits and adherence to the Louisiana Civil Service Commission Rules and Regulations as it relates to its employees; and

WHEREAS, a real necessity exists for the employment of Dwight D. Poirrier as board counsel to assist in the Pontchartrain Levee District in the above endeavors and obligations at the rate of Two Hundred Twenty-Five and no/100 (\$225.00) per hour, as needed, directed and approved by the Board of Commissioners;

WHEREAS, this resolution shall take effect immediately.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Pontchartrain Levee District, pursuant to La. R.S. 42:262, does hereby retain and employ Dwight D. Poirrier, Attorney at Law, as board counsel; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution and proposed contract described herein be submitted to the Attorney General for the State of Louisiana for approval.

The resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS	7
NAYS	0
ABSENT:	2
NOT VOTING:	0

Whereupon the Resolution was declared adopted by the Pontchartrain Levee District Board of Commissioners on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2019.

Public Comments: None. There was no other discussion and there were no objections.

Adopt Resolution for R. Gray Sexton as per Act 611 and to be submitted to the Attorney General for the State of Louisiana for approval.

The following Motion and Resolution was offered by Commissioner Wilson who moved for its adoption, and seconded by Commissioner Hebert at the March 18, 2019, regular Board Meeting of the Pontchartrain Levee District Board of Commissioners (the "Board");

WHEREAS, the Pontchartrain Levee District is a levee district situated on the East Bank of the Mississippi River in the Parishes of East Baton Rouge, Iberville, Ascension, St. James, St. John The Baptist and St. Charles, commissioned with flood and hurricane protection including specifically the maintenance of the East Bank of the Mississippi River Levee and those affected parishes and the Hurricane Protection Levee in St. Charles Parish, Louisiana;

WHEREAS, the Pontchartrain Levee District is currently engaged in many projects to further add flood protection and to enhance and solidify its current protection, said projects to include the Westshore Hurricane Protection Levee, the Laurel Ridge Extension Levee and other ongoing projects;

WHEREAS, the Pontchartrain Levee District has a need for services from time to time regulating ethical consideration and issues; and

WHEREAS, a real necessity exists for the employment of the Law Office of R. Grey Sexton as special counsel to assist the Pontchartrain Levee District in the above endeavor at the following hourly rates:

R. Gray Sexton	\$320.00
Alesia Ardoin	\$185.00
Paralegal	\$55.00

as needed, directed and approved by the Board of Commissioners;

WHEREAS, this resolution shall take effect immediately.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Pontchartrain Levee District, pursuant to La. R.S. 42:262, does hereby retain and employ Law Office of R. Grey Sexton, as special counsel; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution and proposed contract described herein be submitted to the Attorney General for the State of Louisiana for approval.

The resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS	6
NAYS	0
ABSENT:	2
NOT VOTING:	1

Whereupon the Resolution was declared adopted by the Pontchartrain Levee District Board of Commissioners on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2019.

Public Comments: Jerry Savoy asked, “when we need expert counsel, do we have to use this attorney, R. Gray Sexton?” Dwight Poirrier answered, “Not necessarily, it depends on the area of expertise.” Trey Granier then asked, “Is this for work that Mr. Sexton has done for us or is going to do for PLD?” Dwight Poirrier answered, “Work that he has already done.” with a notation that Jerry Savoy abstained. There was no other discussion and there were no objections.

Approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Pontchartrain Levee District and the Greater Baton Rouge Port Commission, as prepared by PLD Board Counsel, and to authorize the PLD President to execute said agreement for the acquisition of a perpetual flood protection levee easement identified as Tract No. PE-1 and a perpetual utility easement identified as Tract No. PUE-1a, as required by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for construction of the project more particularly known as the “Mississippi River Levees, East Bank Levee, Pontchartrain Levee District, Upper Pontchartrain LD, Seepage Control, Item M-225-L, B/L Station 160+00 to B/L Station 181+00, East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana.” Public Comments: Jerry Savoy said that he would like to have a better understanding of the procedure. Dwight Poirrier stated, “this is for utility easement agreement, and the Corps cannot issue award of the project until PLD has secured the LERRDS” Jerry Savoy stated to Monica Gorman that for the next month, he would like to have information on the pumping well. A motion was made by Commissioner Savoy, seconded by Commissioner Boudreaux. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

## ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Wilson moved, seconded by Commissioner Granier to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously and meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

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Mel D. Bush, Board Secretary

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Blaine Sheets, Vice President  
Pontchartrain Levee District