

The Board of Commissioners for the Pontchartrain Levee District met at PLD Headquarters, 2069 Railroad Avenue, Litcher, LA 70071 on Monday, March 20, 2023, pursuant to notice given to each member in due time, form and manner as follows:

March 17, 2023

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 Public Hearing Meeting on Monday, March 20, 2023 at PLD Headquarters, 2069 Railroad Avenue, Litcher, Louisiana 70071.

Very truly yours,

Monica Salins Gorman,
Executive Director

Vice President Sheets called the meeting to order at 6:19 p.m. Board members present were: Matthew Butler, Percy Hebert, Jr., Aaron Pourciau, Claude A. “Trey” Granier, III, Randy T. Cloutre, Sr. and Blaine J. Sheets. Absent: Senecca Boudreaux, Leonard C. Irvin, Sr. and Allen St. Pierre, Sr.

Pontchartrain Levee District employee present was Monica Salins Gorman- Executive Director and Kelly Poche- Administrative Assistant 6, and Captain Matthew Arseneaux- PLD Police Department. Also, in attendance: Dwight Poirrier – PLD Board Counsel and Joe Sevario, Executive Assistant to the Board of Commissioners of PLD.

Guests included: Mona Nosari of Civix, Senecca Toussant of La Terre Engineering, Nathan Junius of Linfield, Hunter & Junius, Kimberly Koehl of McKim & Creed, Roy Glapion of Beta, Sam Scholle of St. Charles Parish, Max Nassar of WSP and Dianna Poirrier. (Note: Henry Picard of BKI arrived at 6:38 p.m.)

A motion to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting of February 27, 2023, was offered by Commissioner Butler and seconded by Commissioner Pourciau. There were no objections, there were no public comments and the motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee: Vice President Sheets called upon Commissioner Butler, Chairman of said committee, who noted there were several items to report from the Finance Committee meeting held on Thursday, March 16, 2023, specifically:

The first item on the agenda was to Approve and authorize the Pontchartrain Levee District to join the Attorney General of Louisiana in litigation against the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to challenge Risk Rating 2.0 as referenced and so noted in committee on March 16, 2023. Public Comments: None. Motion to approve said agenda item as presented was offered by Commissioner Pourciau and seconded by Commissioner Clouatre. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and said motion carried unanimously.

Next on the agenda was to approve the Recommendation for Payment No. 1 invoice from The Lemoine Company, LLC in the amount of \$165,440.13 for the Laurel Ridge Levee Extension Project as recommended and so noted in committee on March 16, 2023. Public Comments: None. Motion to approve said agenda item as presented was offered by Commissioner Hebert and seconded by Commissioner Granier. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and said motion carried unanimously.

Next on the agenda is to approve the regular monthly invoices in the amount of \$43,194.88 for February 2023, as recommended and so noted in committee on March 16, 2023. Public Comments: None. Motion to approve said agenda item as presented was offered by Commissioner Pourciau and seconded by Commissioner Granier. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and said motion carried unanimously.

Next on the agenda was to approve the invoices from Civix totaling \$44,408.15 (this total represents 4 projects: LPV - \$12,014.48; Laurel Ridge - \$3,492.76; WSLP - \$27,406.66; Hwy. 22 - \$1,494.25) representing the fees from February 1, 2023 through February 28, 2023, as recommended and so noted in committee on March 16, 2023. Public Comments: None. Motion to approve said agenda item as presented was offered by Commissioner Granier and seconded by Commissioner Pourciau. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and said motion carried unanimously.

Next on the agenda was to approve the invoice from Dwight Poirrier, Board Attorney, in the amount of \$3,127.50 for the West Shore Lake Pontchartrain Project, as recommended and so noted in committee on March 16, 2023. Public Comments: None. Motion to approve said agenda item as presented was offered by Commissioner Clouatre and seconded by Commissioner Hebert. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and said motion carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was to approve the invoice from McKim & Creed for Task Order No. 5, the Louisiana Watershed Initiative- Hwy. 22 Gapping Project in the amount of \$38,566.80 as recommended and so noted in committee on March 16, 2023. Public Comments: None. Motion to approve said agenda item as presented was offered by Commissioner Granier and seconded by Commissioner Pourciau. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and said motion carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was to approve the invoice from McKim & Creed for Task Order No. 6, Bayou Manchac Preliminary Engineering in the amount of \$1,540.00 as recommended and so noted in committee on March 16, 2023. Public Comments: None. Motion to approve said agenda item as presented was offered by Commissioner Hebert and seconded by Commissioner Pourciau. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and said motion carried unanimously.

Next on the agenda was to approve the invoice from McKim & Creed for Laurel Ridge Levee Extension Project in the amount of \$15,596.12 as recommended as so noted in committee on March 16, 2023. Public Comments: None. Motion to approve said agenda item as presented was offered by Commissioner Clouatre and seconded by Commissioner Granier. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and said motion carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was to approve the invoice from Burk Kleinpeter, Inc. for Task Order No. 9, West Shore-Lake Pontchartrain in the amount of \$2,043.75 as recommended and so noted in committee on March 16, 2023. Public Comments: None. Motion to approve said agenda item as presented was offered by Commissioner Pourciau and seconded by Commissioner Hebert. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and said motion carried unanimously.

Next on the agenda was to approve the invoices from Burk Kleinpeter, Inc. for the Ascension Storm Surge Protection Project in the amount of \$34,580.14 as recommended and so noted in committee on March 16, 2023. Public Comments: None. Motion to approve said agenda item as presented was offered by Commissioner Clouatre and seconded by Commissioner Granier. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and said motion carried unanimously.

Next was to approve the invoice from La Terre Engineering, LLC for Grant Management Services for LWI Highway 22 Gapping Project in the amount of \$39,550.00 as recommended and so noted in committee on March 16, 2023. Public Comments: None. Motion to approve said agenda item as presented was offered by Commissioner Hebert and seconded by Commissioner Pourciau. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and said motion carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was to approve the invoice from Civix for the computer technical support for February 2023 in the amount of \$345.00 as recommended and so noted in committee on March 16, 2023. Public Comments: None. Motion to approve said agenda item as presented was offered by Commissioner Granier and seconded by Commissioner Hebert. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and said motion carried unanimously.

Next on the agenda was to approve the invoice from Linfield, Hunter & Junius for the metal canopy at the PLD Headquarters in the amount of \$4,874.08 as recommended and so noted in committee on March 16, 2023. Public Comments: None. Motion to approve said agenda item as presented was offered by Commissioner Pourciau and seconded by Commissioner Hebert. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and said motion carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was to approve the invoice from Custom Security Systems for the Fire Inspection in the amount of \$1,495.00 as recommended and so noted in committee on March 16, 2023. Public Comments: None. Motion to approve said agenda item as presented was offered by Commissioner Granier and seconded by Commissioner Hebert. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and said motion carried unanimously.

Next on the agenda was to approve the proposed engineering Task Order No. 7 from McKim & Creed to develop the necessary documents and information for the pre-application of Round 2 of the Louisiana Watershed Initiative specific to potential projects including the Amite River Restoration. This Task Order is on a time and materials basis with a Not to Exceed Limit of \$15,000.00, all as discussed, recommended and so noted in committee on March 16, 2023. Public Comments: None. Motion to approve said agenda item as presented was offered by Commissioner Clouatre and seconded by Commissioner Pourciau. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and said motion carried unanimously.

Personnel Committee: Vice President Sheets called upon Commissioner Hebert, Chairman of said committee, who noted that there was nothing to report from the Personnel Committee meeting held on Thursday, March 16, 2023.

Security/Safety Committee: Vice President Sheets called upon Commissioner Hebert, Co-Chair of said committee, who noted that there was only one item on the agenda:

The only item on the Security Committee agenda was to approve the highest bid from Dufresne's Firearms for the nine (9) surplus firearms in the amount of \$2,385.00 as recommended and so noted in committee on March 16, 2023. Public Comments: None. Motion to approve said agenda item as presented was offered by Commissioner Butler and seconded by Commissioner Granier. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and said motion carried unanimously.

Equipment Committee: Vice President Sheets called upon Commissioner Hebert, Chairman of said committee, who noted that there was nothing to report from the Equipment Committee of Thursday, March 16, 2023.

STAFF REPORTS

Executive Director LONO Report: The Executive Director's report and LONO's issued were in the packet for the board members' review. Ms. Gorman offered that if any of the board members have any questions they could email or contact her directly.

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 and the Ascension Parish Storm Surge Protection Project (Henry Picard, III, BKI)
- b) Laurel Ridge Levee Extension and LWI projects, specifically Hwy. 22 and the Bayou Manchac Regional Conceptual Planning project (Kimberly Koehl of McKim & Creed)
- c) St. Charles Hurricane Protection Levee Matters, Mainline River Levee (MRL) Right of Entries, Laurel Ridge Levee Extension project and the West Shore-Lake Pontchartrain project (Mona Nosari, Civix)

RIGHTS OF ENTRY

Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District – request of October 14, 2022 and revised February 3, 2023 from Patrick White, Chief, Acquisition and Planning, Vicksburg District to Ms. Senecca Boudreaux, President of the Pontchartrain Levee District for a right-of-entry for a period of 24 months, to conduct surveys, soil borings, environmental and cultural resource investigations, hazardous, toxic, and radiological wastes (HTRW) assessments and general planning investigations in connection with Mississippi River and Tributaries (MR&T), Belmont Levee Enlargement, Item 152-L, Pontchartrain Levee District (PLD), St. James Parish, Louisiana as per the Corps of Engineers maps entitled, “St. James Parish, FC/MR&T, Pontchartrain Levee District (PLD), Levee Enlargement, Belmont, LA. MRL Item-152”, Sheet Identification Numbers R-001, R-101, R-102, and R-103, undated. Public Comments: None. Motion to approve said agenda item as presented was offered by Commissioner Pourciau and seconded by Commissioner Butler. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and said motion carried unanimously.

Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District – request of October 14, 2022 and revised February 3, 2023 from Patrick White, Chief, Acquisition and Planning, Vicksburg District to Ms. Senecca Boudreaux, President of the Pontchartrain Levee District for a right-of-entry for a period of 24 months, to conduct surveys, soil borings, environmental and cultural resource investigations, hazardous, toxic, and radiological wastes (HTRW) assessments and general planning investigations in connection with Mississippi River and Tributaries

(MR&T), Romeville Levee Enlargement, MRL Item 163-L, Pontchartrain Levee District (PLD), St. James Parish, Louisiana as per the Corps of Engineers maps entitled, "St. James, Louisiana, FC/MR&T, Pontchartrain Levee District (PLD), Levee Enlargement, Romeville, Item 163-L", Sheet Identification Numbers R-001, R-101, R-102 and R-601, undated. Public Comments: None. Motion to approve said agenda item as presented was offered by Commissioner Hebert and seconded by Commissioner Granier. There was no other discussion, there were no objections and said motion carried unanimously.

PRESIDENT/VICE PRESIDENT REMARKS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Next item on agenda was Resolution- Steve Wilson

The following resolution was offered by Commissioner Pourciau and seconded by Commissioner Clouatre:

WHEREAS, Steve Wilson began his tenure on November 15, 2000 as Commissioner At Large from St. Charles Parish; and became President of the Levee District on February 16, 2004 where he served until September 15, 2017. Mr. Wilson was called Home on March 5, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Pontchartrain Levee District benefitted greatly from his 17 years of knowledge and experience and is grateful to have had such a dedicated Commissioner/President; and,

WHEREAS, He served as Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana President from January 2010 through December 2016;

WHEREAS, He also served as Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) Levee Region 3 Representative, chosen from and by the Presidents of Pontchartrain, Atchafalaya, Lafourche Basin and North Lafourche Levee District which position he held until September 2015;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Pontchartrain Levee District do hereby extend heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Steve Wilson; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be spread upon the permanent records of this Board and that a certified copy thereof be forwarded to the family of Steve Wilson.

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

YEA: Claude Granier, Percy Hebert, Blaine Sheets, Matthew Butler,
Aaron Pourciau and Randy Clouatre

NAY: None.

ABSENT: Senecca Boudreaux, Leonard C. Irvin and Allen St. Pierre, Sr.

The resolution was declared adopted.

Last item on the agenda was Adopt Fiscal Year Budget Ending June 30, 2024

The following resolution was offered by Commissioner Butler and seconded by Commissioner Hebert:

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, 2024 be adopted:

SEE ADDENDUM "A"

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

The foregoing resolution was made a part of the record, the roll was called on the adoption thereof, and the resolution was adopted by the following votes:

YEAS: Randy Clouatre, Matthew Butler, Blaine J. Sheets, Percy Hebert, Claude Granier, III and Aaron Pourciau

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Senecca Boudreaux, Leonard C. Irvin and Allen J. St. Pierre, Sr.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Hebert, seconded by Commissioner Granier to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Monica Salins Gorman, Executive Director

Blaine Sheets, Vice President