

**MINUTES OF  
SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY-EAST  
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON APRIL 2, 2015**

PRESENT: Louis Wittie, Chair  
Stephen Estopinal, Committee Member  
Paul Tilly, Committee Member

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The Operations Committee of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (SLFPA-E or Authority) met on April 2, 2015, in Meeting Room 201, Orleans Levee District Franklin Administrative Complex, 6920 Franklin Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana. Mr. Wittie called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**Opening Comments:** None.

**Adoption of Agenda:** The Committee adopted the agenda as presented.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the March 5, 2015 Operations Committee meeting were approved.

**Public Comments:** None

**New Business:**

**A. Discussion of agreement for installation of surveillance cameras along the Mississippi River Levee. (EJLD)**

Nyka Scott, SLFPA-E Executive Counsel, advised that an agreement with Entergy Louisiana, Inc. is under review for the installation of the cameras on utility poles. The East Jefferson Levee District (EJLD) anticipates receiving Port Security Grant funding to purchase the cameras. An intergovernmental agreement may be required with the City of Kenner and Jefferson Parish. Robert Garner, SLFPA-E Police Superintendent, added that the cameras will be strategically located in six locations (two in Kenner and four in Jefferson Parish) along the Mississippi River bature and will view the levee, river system and the port.

**B. Discussion of increase to the Floodgate Sill Roadway Project Budget. (O.L.D.)**

Felton Suthon, O.L.D. Engineer, explained that the original contract with Cycle Construction, LLC is in the amount of \$82,900. The contractor found 22-inches of asphalt on the roadway side of the floodgate sill during the roadway replacement, which resulted in an increase in cost of \$11,069.96. A construction budget of \$90,000 was established; therefore, approval is required to increase the construction budget from \$90,000 to \$95,000.

The Committee recommended that the request to increase the construction budget for the project be forwarded to the Board for approval.

**C. Discussion of increase to the Mississippi River Vegetation Removal Project Budget. (O.L.D.)**

Mr. Suthon explained that after some of the vegetation was removed the contractor discovered that the toe of the levee had migrated; therefore, extra area had to be cut. The Orleans Levee District (O.L.D.) is currently working with the contractor to determine how much extra area is involved.

**D. Discussion of approval of the Seawall Erosion Protection Phase 2 DEI Design and Phase 3 Survey. (O.L.D.)**

Mr. Suthon advised that Board approval is required to authorize Design Engineering, Inc. (DEI) to proceed with the design work (Task 3) for Phase 2 and the geotechnical and survey work for Phase 3 of the Seawall Erosion Protection Project at a cost of approximately \$712,000.

The Committee recommended that the request to authorize DEI to proceed with the aforementioned work for Phases 2 and 3 of the Seawall Erosion Project be forwarded to the Board for approval.

**E. Discussion of approval of the Citrus Lakefront Levee Railroad Drainage Pipe Replacement Burk-Kleinpeter Design Proposal. (O.L.D.)**

Mr. Suthon explained that the O.L.D. negotiated a task order with Burk-Kleinpeter, Inc. (BKI) in the approximate amount of \$270,000 for data gathering, permit processing, construction documents and bidding assistance for the repair of the drains on the floodside of the Citrus Lakefront Levee from Lakefront Airport to Southpoint. An agreement between the Alabama Great Southern Railroad (Norfolk Southern Railroad) and O.L.D. states that the O.L.D. is responsible for the repairs. The drains will be relined in order to extend the life of the drains another 30 to 40 years.

The Committee recommended that the request to approve the issuance of a task order to BKI for the aforementioned work be forwarded to the Board for approval.

**F. Discussion of the path forward for the construction of East Jefferson Levee District Safehouse/Consolidated facilities.**

Robert Turner, SLFPA-E Regional Director, advised that the architect is very close to completing the 95 percent plans. Since several levee segments in the EJLD will probably have to be raised, there is a need to consider phasing the construction of the safehouse/consolidated facilities or implementing some type of adjustment due to the anticipated reduction in the funding available for the project. He suggested that the working group previously assembled to review the overall plan for the safehouse/consolidated facilities reassemble to review the plans and other pertinent information in order to arrive at a decision on a path forward for the project. The architect's fees are based upon the project's construction cost using the Louisiana Division of Administration (DOA) formula for the calculation of architectural fees. An estimator

provided a construction cost estimate for the 35 percent plans and will provide another estimate for the 95 percent plans. The contract provides that once the final construction cost estimate is determined the SLFPA-E can either lock in a fixed price contract at that point or continue with the DOA's formula and pay the architect based upon the final cost of construction. The SLFPA-E is continuing to meet with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) relative to the proposed levee lifts and a final recommendation will be developed for the Board concerning the levees that should be lifted prior to armoring. He suggested that emphasis be placed on the construction of the office building since it includes the component to safehouse employees. The project can be broken down by building and by site. The architect can provide the line item breakdown to the working group. Mr. Estopinal advised that he would like to be included in the working group.

**Levee District Reports:**

**Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) Status Report:**

Mr. Turner reviewed the highlights of the HSDRRS Status Report. He advised that the maintenance crew discovered an issue with the IHNC Surge Barrier tension chain connection for the Barge Gate. A report was prepared and indications are that the attachment located above water is corroding and a pivoting problem has been created. The recommendation of the SLFPA-E's consultant is that the assembly be replaced with a stainless steel assembly and with bearings consistent with above water use. The SLFPA-E is working with the USACE regarding implementation of the correction. All of the navigation gates are operable at the present time.

**Police Activities:** Robert Garner, SLFPA-E Police Superintendent, reported on police activities for the past month: 7,500 hours worked by officers, 498 hours contributed by reserve officers, 10 misdemeanor arrests affected, 130 tickets issued, 229 dispatch calls, 293 proactive complaints, 106 vehicle checks and 99 pedestrian checks.

**Lake Borgne Basin Levee District (LBBLD):** Nick Cali, LBBLD Executive Director, reviewed the highlights of the LBBLD Status Report.

**Orleans Levee District (O.L.D.):** Gerry Gillen, O.L.D. Executive Director, reviewed the highlights of the O.L.D. Status Report.

**East Jefferson Levee District (EJLD):** Jonell Cangelosi, EJLD Administrative Assistant, reviewed the EJLD Status Report.

There was no further business; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m.