



Lake Borgne Basin Levee  
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LBBLD Monthly Director's Report

*May*  
~~April 4, 2013~~  
*April 30, 2013*

**I Safety**

- a. 0 lost time accidents this year
- b. 0 accidents since last report

**II O&M**

A. Levee Systems

- a. Focus has been on deficiencies and priorities of work identified during levee inspections ahead of the projected high river.
  - i. All major deficiencies were corrected prior to the river reaching +11' at Carrolton gauge.
  - ii. There are still outstanding minor repairs, will address after river falls below +11'.
- b. Continue to focus on preparations for hurricane season.
  - i. All access gates along HSDRRS have been serviced and exercised.
  - ii. Bayou Dupre and Caernarvon Sector gates were inspected April 15-16.
  - iii. Caernarvon Highway and RR gates were exercised and serviced in conjunction with USACE.

B. Equipment

- a. Continued routine preventative maintenance on vehicles and equipment.
- b. Preparing advertisements for purchase of an excavator before the end of FY13.

C. Office / Shop

- a. 100kw backup generator was purchased for the office facilities to ensure continued operations during a storm event. Testing and installation are ongoing.

D. Pump Stations

- a. We have experienced heavy rainfall from thunderstorms recently. No significant mechanical or operational issues at pump stations.
  - i. Pump Station #2&3 seepage repair is currently under design.

- ii. There are several projects scheduled for the next few months that will significantly enhance the functionality and safety of the pump stations. These projects are all funded through grants or FEMA PA.

E. Drainage Canals

- a. Continued routine maintenance along drainage canals.
  - i. Canals are checked for obstructions before, during and after severe weather events.
  - ii. We have noticed a reduction in the amount of debris and trash dumped into canals that cause blockages during heavy flow.

F. Other – Bayou Dupre Sector Gate

- a. High tidal activity and strong fronts with winds from the E/SE continue to force us to open and close the gate very often to ensure that the water levels inside of the Central Wetlands remain adequately low.

G. Permits

- a. High River requires work within 1500' of the centerline of the MRL to stop without approved waiver from USACE Operations Division.
  - i. Only a few Contractors and businesses in St. Bernard who are currently working impacted.
  - ii. We will enforce permit requirements and stop work as necessary.

**III Inspections**

A. Schedule for next inspection cycle

- i. 2Q 2012 inspection not yet scheduled

**IV Flood Fight Activities**

- A. No recent flood fight activities – preparing for the possibility due to high river.
  - a. Inventories are updated and provided to SLFPA-E
  - b. We have coordinated with USACE EOC, St. Bernard EM director and SBSO for planning and support purposes.

**V FEMA Active Public Assistance and HMGP Grants**

A. HMGP

b. Phase 1 for the Engine Upgrades at Stations 1&4

- i. Has been approved by FEMA Region 6, preparing SOW for RFQ.
  - 1. Advertisement of RFQ for design being reviewed by St. Bernard Parish.
  - 2. Anticipate RFQ advertised by 5/10/13.
- ii. Submitted for the addition of new gantry cranes for both pump stations and right angle drives for all four engines, GOHSEP has approved, awaiting FEMA approval.

c. Phase 1 Safe Room Design

- i. Safe Room design is ongoing. Linfield Hunter and Junius was selected as the AE for design.

1. Contract has been signed.
2. Site visit with LBBLD personnel to determine approximate locations was conducted on 4/26/13.
3. Goal is to complete design and construction advertisement in order to start construction at the end of Hurricane Season 2013.

B. PA work

- a. Pump Station #6 Pump repair and pipe hanger repair / Hangers at PS#7
  - i. Atkins 100% designs have been submitted and are being reviewed.
  - ii. These PW's are in one bid package, but as separate line items for FEMA accounting purposes (structured like projects within a program).
- b. Pump Station #6 Erosion Repair
  - i. Atkins prepared bid docs, 100% received 18 February 2013.
- c. Flood Gate #9
  - i. Fenstermaker submitted 100% bid package on March 5.
- d. Fence Repair on Canals / Levees
  - i. Advertised in March
    1. Mandatory Pre-bid was conducted on 4/16/13.
    2. Bid opening is scheduled for 5/7/13

C. Port Security Grant Program

- a. Rescue equipment and Radios
  - i. LBBLD has been approved and funded for the purchase of safety and rescue equipment, as well as 20 new portable 7/800mhz radios and 2 desktop units.
  - ii. Price quotes were obtained through vendors on approved state contracts, and submitted to grant administrator last week. Awaiting review and approval to issue Purchase Order.
  - iii. This is funded at a 25% cost share.
- b. Cameras and surveillance equipment
  - i. We have been approved for remote surveillance cameras and associated hardware to be placed at several locations throughout the HSDRRS and pump stations for monitoring.
  - ii. Project has been approved, in final reviews and funding is anticipated shortly. This is funded at a 25% cost share.
- c. Vehicles and patrol equipment
  - i. We have been approved for purchase of one police vehicle and 2 ATV's.
  - ii. Project has been approved, in final review and funding is anticipated shortly. This is 100% federally funded.

**VI Personnel**

- A. Preparing to advertise posting for 1 new pump station employee.

## **VII Budget**

- A. An Amended budget for ending FY2013 will be presented.
  - a. Revenues and expenditures offset by the same amounts, funded with intergovernmental grants and postponed until next fiscal year.

## **VIII Executive Director's Assessment**

In anticipation of the projected high river, levees and gates along the MRL have been inspected and all required maintenance is complete. All items listed as a major deficiency along the MRL have been corrected, and all work was completed prior to the river reaching 11' at the Carrolton Gauge. We have begun daily inspections of the MRL in conjunction with assigned USACE personnel and frequency will increase as the river stage rises to ensure visibility on any problems. The projected high river is a top priority for the levee crew and we will continue to work to monitor the situation.

There are several projects designed and scheduled for advertisement and award in the next few months. A significant portion of this work is going toward improving the pump efficiency and employee safety at the pump stations. We are also awarding a FEMA PA contract to replace all of the security fences around the non-federal levees, canals and pump stations to further prevent trespassing and physical security.

The amended FY13 budget is being submitted. Although we have made significant improvements in budget discipline, a shortfall is still anticipated, although the deficit will be less than originally projected. We are tracking the cost implications of maintaining the new structures on the HSDRRS, and anticipate those costs to increase the existing budget deficit after O&M of the HSDRRS system is turned over to LBBLD.