



SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY - EAST

November 6, 2014

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Lake Borgne Basin Levee District Monthly Director's Report

REGIONAL DIRECTOR

Robert A. Turner Jr., P.E., CFM

EAST JEFFERSON LEVEE DISTRICT

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ORLEANS LEVEE DISTRICT

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I Safety

- A. 0 injuries since last report
- B. 0 accidents since last report.

II Construction / Capital Improvements

A. HMGP

- 1) Phase 1 for the Engine Upgrades at Stations 1&4
 - i. 95% drawings received on 10/13/14.
 - ii. Comments from 65% submittal resolved and back checked.
 - iii. Comments for 95% submittal were sent to designer.
 - iv. Anticipate 100% design package to FEMA in Nov.
- 2) Phase 1 Safe Room Design at Stations 1&7
 - i. Safe Room and telemetry designs are at 100%.
 - ii. Release of Phase 2 funds still pending.
 - iii. Anticipate work beginning in Jan 2015.
- 3) Drainage improvements along Bluebird and Palmisano Canals
 - i. Work is through a CEA with St. Bernard Parish.
 - ii. Funded through HMGP grant.
 - iii. Design is ongoing.

B. FEMA Public Assistance

- 1) Pump Station #6 Pump repair / Hangers at PS#6&7
 - i. 95% designs have been submitted.
 - ii. Will be advertised after Erosion Repair project.
 - iii. Evans Graves will perform CM/PM services (IDIQ Task Order).
- 2) Pump Station #6 Erosion Repair
 - i. Design and bid documents are complete.
 - ii. Intend to advertise as soon as possible.
 - iii. Evans Graves will perform CM/PM services (IDIQ Task Order).

III O&M

A. Levee Systems

1) Non-Federal Levee

- i. Efforts to certify the 40 Arpent Levee to FEMA criteria are ongoing.
- ii. Areas needing work to meet criteria are being addressed.
- iii. Design work and alternatives for areas along the Violet Canal are continuing.

2) Mississippi River Levee

- i. Crews continue to improve drainage along flood side toe along batture.
- ii. Slope paving repairs scheduled for 4th quarter 2014.
- iii. Preparations for USACE Annual inspection in January are ongoing.

B. Drainage Canals

Continued routine maintenance along drainage canals.

C. Caernarvon Sector Gate

- 1) Inspections with assistance from OLD personnel are ongoing.
- 2) Significant Issues identified:
 - i. High water content in hydraulic oil identified during last oil sample test.
 - 1.) LBBLD, OLD, USACE and HydroDyne conducted a site visit on 10/1/14 to evaluate problem.
 - 2.) Interim recommendations were given to LBBLD and OLD personnel for operations until the end of hurricane season.
 - 3.) HydroDyne tech recommends draining and cleaning of hydraulic reservoir and re-sealing of hydraulic fittings. Work will be done after hurricane season.
 - ii. Paint peeling on gate skin was inspected by USACE on 8/6/14, final report is still pending.
 - iii. Reporting gauges have been repaired and are functioning correctly.

D. Pump Stations

- 1) Turbocharger on the west engine of Pump Station 4 needs to be replaced.
 - i. Bearing failed, causing the impeller to damage the housing. Cause was likely due to age and natural wear.
 - ii. Conhagen has been contracted to assist with procurement and installation.

IV Inspections

Schedule for next inspection cycle

- 1) 3Q 2014 Inspections are complete.
- 2) USACE Semi-Annual Report was completed and submitted.
- 3) 4Q 2014 Inspection date TBD.

V Flood Fight Activities

No flood fight activities to report.

VI Personnel

No new hires in the last 30 days.

VII Budget

No new budget items since last report.

VIII Executive Director's Assessment

The ongoing certification efforts for the non-federal levee continues to progress. Priorities are continuation of design based on available information, and LBBLD and SLFPA-E staffs continue to work on funding sources for repairs as we refine the design efforts.

The joint St. Bernard Parish – LBBLD Community Outreach initiative was entered in the “2014 Excellence in Communication” contest, which is a nationwide communications contest hosted by the National Association of Flood and Storm water Management Agencies (NAFSMA). The winners were announced at the NAFSMA annual convention, which was held in Boston from October 14-17. The St. Bernard – Lake Borgne Basin Levee District collaboration took second place nationally in the Public Awareness of Flooding category for our submission “Flood Risk: Safety, Control and Responsibility”. Our Community Outreach and Education campaign was funded through a grant from FEMA’s Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. The outreach efforts for this year are winding down now, but we intend to resume these efforts again next year, in order to ensure folks are aware of their risks and responsibilities for the upcoming 2015 hurricane season. This effort will also be incorporated into the Community Rating System (CRS) in an attempt to further lower flood insurance premiums through non-structural risk mitigation measures.

The financial shortfall remains the most significant challenge. LBBLD’s proposed 7.5 mil increase will be put before the voters of St. Bernard on December 6. The proposed increase will raise approximately \$2.3 million in additional revenue to be used for O&M of the flood control features that LBBLD is responsible for throughout St. Bernard Parish. This increase will offset the current budget deficit and ensure that the levee district has the long term financial resources to maintain the system and drainage features within its jurisdictional boundaries. This increase is expected to be placed on the December 6 ballot in St. Bernard Parish.