

Minutes of the Regular Monthly Board meeting of the North Lafourche Conservation, Levee & Drainage District, Tuesday, February 20, 2018

A regular monthly meeting of the North Lafourche Conservation, Levee and Drainage District Board of Commissioners was called to order by Mr. Timothy Allen, Board Vice-President, in the absence of Mr. Cory Kief, Board President, at 5:15 PM on Tuesday, February 20, 2018. The meeting was held at the District's office at 3862 Highway 1 in Raceland. Commissioner Adley Peltier led the assembly in the Pledge and Board VP Allen offered the Invocation.

Board VP Allen called roll. Commissioners present were: Timothy Allen, Louis Andolsek, Darcy Kiffe, Kenney Matherne, Adley Peltier, Robert Pitre, and Joni Tuck. Commissioners absent were: Rodney Foret, Cory Kief, Elmo Pitre, and Shawn Preston. Others present were NLLD Executive Director Dwayne Bourgeois; NLLD Project Manager Arthur Ostheimer; NLLD Administrative Assistant Madonna Viguerie; Attorney Pat Amedee; consultants; various engineering professionals; and members of the public.

Minutes: Motion was made by R. Pitre, seconded by D. Kiffe, to approve the minutes as written of the following meetings: January 16, 2018 Finance & Priority Committee and January 16, 2018 Regular Board. No discussion or public comment. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by J. Tuck, seconded by K. Matherne, to enter Public Hearing for the purpose of considering the proposed 2018 Revised Budget. No discussion or public comment. Motion passed unanimously.

In Public Hearing, Board VP Allen stated that the Finance and Priority Committee met on February 15, 2018 to review in detail the proposed 2018 Revised Budget based upon the estimated expenditures for this year and future reserves. The Commissioners and the public were provided with copies of the budget. Board VP Allen added that the Committee's recommendation to this board is for adoption as written. The Board will vote on the adoption of the budget immediately following public hearing and offered board discussion and public comment. On call for discussion, the Finance & Priority Committee Chairman Kenney Matherne stated that during the budget meeting, the committee went through every line item. He added that it was a really good meeting and over two (2) hours long and he commended the members who participated. He thanked the staff for putting it together. There was no further board discussion and no public comment after three calls were made for public comment.

Motion was made by R. Pitre, seconded by L. Andolsek, to close Public Hearing. No discussion or public comment. Motion passed unanimously.

In Regular Session, Board VP Allen stated that it is the recommendation of the Finance and Priority Committee that the Board adopts the 2018 Revised Budget as provided and just discussed. Motion was made by K. Matherne, seconded by J. Tuck that the Board adopts the 2018 Revised Budget as provided in writing. There was no discussion or public comment, and the motion passed unanimously.

The floor was then turned over to the Director to address regular session items and he reminded the commissioners that copies of the current Capital Project Report are in their packets.

A. Thibodaux – West Project Area:

The Director reported that the district is developing items in this project area via a drainage study and more will be reported as it develops.

B. Thibodaux - Lockport - Bayou Blue Project Area:

Bayou Blue – Hollywood Backwater Flood Protection Project: The Director stated that this project was submitted as a Capital Outlay request again this year, as well as by CPRA as part of their request on behalf of NLLD. He reported that this year, the State's Draft Annual Plan includes \$72,500 for engineering in FY2019 and another \$1.4M for construction of the closure portion of this project in FY2021 based on the CPRA request with funding coming from expected GOMESA funds. The local legislators should be encouraged to approve this Draft Annual Plan, and if approved by the state that would allow the District to get started on this project and better position the District for future funding assistances as additional funds are budgeted for the required engineering, permitting and field work for this project. Project Manager Ostheimer reported that this engineering work has been discussed with Leonard Chauvin, P.E. Inc. and a contract will be executed. He added that the permit process will probably be a little arduous.

TLBB Element 2, (Lockport to Mathews Levee Improvement Project: The Director reported that the State's Draft Annual Plan also includes \$100,000 for Engineering in FY2019 and another \$5.4M construction in FY2020 of the Thibodaux – Lockport –Bayou Blue, Element 2 Levee Improvements also based on the CPRA request and also with funding coming from expected GOMESA funds. He added that this needs to move forward as fast as possible. This project has been a high priority for the District for years scoring very high in NOPET, but it has been delayed due to its cost and other structural issues caused and fixed by the Parish. The budget includes additional funds for the required engineering, field and Geotech for this project.

Project Manager Ostheimer reported that the district has met with Leonard Chauvin P.E. Inc. a couple of times on this. Although 2020 seems a ways ahead, when considering permitting and right-of-ways, there is a tremendous amount of work to be done.

St. Charles By-Pass Backwater Flood Protection: The Director reported that LA Contracting Enterprise, LLC is the contractor for this project that is intended to prevent repeated backwater flooding into this community and that is already working. Project Manager Ostheimer reported that LA Contracting has installed the culvert into the 40 Arpent Canal with the flap gate and the connection ditches to connect both sides of St. Charles By-Pass. They are continuing to grade and work the material from the ditch on the berm levee and Duplantis Design Group has a recommendation for the contractor's pay request for the Board's consideration.

Mr. Matt Rodrigue, from Duplantis Design Group reported that they have reviewed the pay request from the LA Contracting in the amount of \$48,195.00 and find it to be in order, and payment is recommended. Motion was made by K. Matherne, seconded by L. Andolsek to approve payment of the pay request in the amount of \$48,195.00 from LA Contracting Enterprise, LLC as recommended by the project engineer. No discussion or public comment. Motion passed unanimously.

Cyprien FDA Channel Improvements: The Director reported that the District is planning to perform much needed maintenance dredging at the Cyprien FDA reservoir, but that work is on hold until the design is in place for improvements to the pump station by Lafourche Parish Government. The District has been asked by the Parish to consider being responsible for the placement of rip-rap or other armoring along the two levees that make up the outfall canal and that is in the best interest of the district. The Director added that he is scheduled to meet with Dustin Rabalais from T. Baker Smith about this. Mr. Rabalais was not present for an update.

C. Lockport - Larose Project Area

Lockport – Larose Valentine Return Levee Project: The Director stated that Low Land Construction Co., Inc. is the contractor on the levee portion of this project. Project Manager

Ostheimer reported that Low Land continues to move material to the levee limits from the adjacent borrow pits. They are currently placing material on the 40 Arpent Canal side of the project near the end at the structure and they have a majority of material placed heading towards LA 1. Neil has a recommendation for payment on a request from Low Land.

Mr. Neil Angelette, from Angelette-Picciola recommended payment of pay request #7 from Low Land Construction in the amount of \$103,813.92. Motion was made by A. Peltier, seconded by R. Pitre to approve payment of pay request #7 in the amount of \$103,813.92 from Low Land Construction Co., Inc. as recommended by the project engineer. No discussion or public comment. Motion passed unanimously.

Lockport – Larose Valentine Return Structure Project: The Director stated that Sealevel Construction, Inc. is the contractor on the structure portion of this project. Project Manager Ostheimer reported that Sealevel is installing the sheet pile wall on both sides of the structure with the culvert passing through. The sheet pile is installed up to the edge of the 40 Arpent Canal. Sealevel has begun excavating the area that will fall in the canal alignment and are working on drying that material out. Neil has a recommendation for payment on a request from Sealevel. Mr. Neil Angelette, from Angelette-Picciola recommended approval of Sealevel's pay request #4 in the amount of \$144,373.75. Motion was made by L. Andolsek, seconded by K. Matherne to approve payment of pay request #4 in the amount of \$144,373.75 from Sealevel Construction Inc. as recommended by the project engineer. No discussion or public comment. Motion passed unanimously.

Lockport – Larose Levee Project, Reaches C4, C5, and D1: The Director reported that Onshore Materials, LLC is the contractor on this project that is phase 1 of the improvements to the levees in these reaches. The objective of this phase is to provide and place material that will be available for phase 2 of the project while immediately improving the stability of the levee. He noted that Phase 2 of the project will reshape the material providing an improved and consistent elevation along its length. Project Manager Ostheimer reported that the preconstruction meeting was conducted on February 16, 2018 here at the NLLD office. Project issues were discussed and a preparatory period starting February 18, 2018 was given to Onshore Materials to gather survey information and the Notice to Proceed was issued for March 12, 2018 to begin mobilizing equipment. He added that after a slight delay, all of the primary appraisals for the expropriations were received from Truax and Robles, and the review appraisals from A.R.E are expected to be received by the end of this week or next. The expropriation suits have been prepared by Pat Amedee's office and are ready to be filed as soon as the review appraisals are received. Discussion ensued regarding the comfort in kicking this off without all of the parcels in place. Project Manager Ostheimer explained that mobilization of equipment will begin on March 12, 2018 at tract #8 and the first tract for expropriation is not until tract #23 and the review appraisals should come in on the lower tract numbers first. Attorney Pat Amedee stated that the District has quick take powers with the public's best interest and the paperwork is ready to go. He stated that the only challenge could be the evaluation that would be tried later. As soon as the numbers are received from the secondary appraiser, the documents will be delivered to the judge for his signature. Discussion then ensued regarding the construction starting point and a project update letter mailed to the landowners from the District. Project Manager Ostheimer explained that the work will start in Valentine at the Return Levee Structure project and the specifications indicate that the construction has to be worked in one continuous direction from tract #8. Commissioner Darcy stated that a landowner concern presented to him was the time needed by a landowner to

move a crawfish pond and the district's ability to work on the property at any time. Project Manager Ostheimer explained that the form letter was sent to all landowners who had signed the ROW agreement to keep them informed and to serve as a reminder to call the District if they needed the ROW marked or anything addressed that was previously discussed. He stated that the project timeline is 500+ days and the construction has to be sequential from the starting point in Valentine, but with the ROW in place the contractor can go on the property at any time for survey and such as needed. The Director stated that the underlying goal of the letter was to let the landowners know to contact the District if they have any questions and periodic updates will likely go out as well. Board VP Allen stated that it sounds like a good job was done to inform the landowners that the project is kicking off and how it's going to proceed, but based on the comments reported, consider amending the sentence about going on the property whenever wanted.

Edna Barrios Pump Consolidation Project: The Director stated that the completion of this pump station by Lafourche Parish Government is vital to the NLLD as it will allow the removal of the old Barrios Pump Station which interferes with the levee alignment in the area; however, the newly installed pumps had to be pulled for modifications to the pumping capabilities. As reported last month, there is a proposed plan for the modifications and the contractor was awaiting the go ahead from the Parish. Mr. Neil Angelette, from Angelette-Picciola, reported that proposed modifications were presented to Lafourche Parish Government at the end of 2017. The Parish has since been advised by the District Attorney that the proposal is acceptable, but it would have to go before the council as a change order so that will be at least a couple of weeks in their process. The Director stated that the budget includes amounts to finish off the levee after the removal of the old pump station and to consider adding a fourth pump in that station as it was built to accommodate.

Lockport to Larose Levee Project "Reaches D3" Project: The Director stated in cooperation with CPRA, remaining funds from Reach D2 will be used to extend the lift onto Reach D3. He added that Volute Inc. is the contractor for this project that is intended to re-section and elevate the existing levee to a +7.5' elevation. Project Manager Ostheimer reported that the District participated in a construction progress meeting on February 8, 2018 and a site visit on February 14, 2018. The project is proceeding well and they are close to finishing the lifts on a majority of the levee. They still have a few lifts to do near the pump station where the additional excavation occurred based on the change order approved last month. Mr. Jack Plaisance, from Picciola & Associates reported that pay request #3 is in good order and payment was recommended in the amount of \$58,760.10. Motion was made by D. Kiffe, seconded by R. Pitre to approve payment of the pay request #3 in the amount of \$58,760.10 from Volute, Inc. as recommended by the project engineer. No discussion or public comment. Motion passed unanimously.

Lockport to Larose Reaches A2 and Claudet Return Levee Project: The Director stated that Womack and Sons Construction Group, Inc. is the contractor for this project that is intended to increase the level of flood protection through the reshaping of levees and the installation of borrowed embankment. Project Manager Ostheimer stated that as reported last month, Womack and Sons has installed the material on the A2 portion of the project to achieve the minimum of 7.5' as designed. Although they have made some progress on the Claudet Return portion of the levee there is still a good bit of work remaining. Mr. Leonard Chauvin, from Leonard Chauvin, P.E. Inc. reported that the progress has slowed down a little bit. The construction is at about 59% completed and about 52% of time remaining. Mr. Chauvin stated

that the pay request is in order and he recommended payment to Womack and Sons Construction Group, Inc. in the amount of \$210,007.57. Motion was made by A. Peltier, seconded by D. Kiffe to approve payment of a pay request in the amount of \$210,007.57 from Womack and Sons Construction Group, Inc. as recommended by the project engineer. No discussion or public comment. Motion passed unanimously.

Lockport to Larose Reach A1: The Director reported that the bid opening took place on February 15, 2018 and Leonard Chauvin P.E. Inc. has a recommendation of award for the board's consideration. Project Manager Ostheimer stated that 14 bids were received for the project from 20+ contractors who attended the pre-bid meeting. He added that Mr. Chauvin has reviewed the bids and has a recommendation to award for the Board's consideration. Mr. Leonard Chauvin, from Leonard Chauvin, P.E. Inc. reported that a bid tabulation was prepared and submitted earlier on this meeting day. Mr. Chauvin explained that out of the 14 bids received, two bidders were on the high end at \$7.9M and \$3M. He added that most of the bids were in the range near \$2M. He reported that the low bidder was Gulf Island Services, LLC at \$1,828,060.62, the number two low bidder was Shavers-Whittle Construction, LLC at \$1,852,268.33, and the number three low bidder was Sealevel Construction Inc. at \$1,893,899.20. Mr. Chauvin explained that the figures just reported were for the base bid using vinyl sheet wall and an alternate for a steel sheet wall. He added that the project estimate was at about \$2.1M for construction. Mr. Chauvin explained that the bid from Gulf Island Services, LLC was \$1,398,356.16 for vinyl sheet with the alternate to use steel at \$429,704.46. The two numbers total \$1,828,060.62 and he recommended to award to the low bidder using the steel which is within the funds allocated for this project. Motion was made by K. Matherne, seconded by R. Pitre, that NLLD awards the construction contract to Gulf Island Services, LLC, thus committing \$1,828,060.62 of NLLD's net assets from the 2017 Bond Proceeds towards NLLD Project No. 6300.57Z and authorizing the NLLD President to sign, execute, and administer a contract and any and all relevant documents. With no board discussion or public comment, the motion passed unanimously.

D. Choupic Project Area:

West Choupic Storm Water Protection Project: The Director stated that Leonard Chauvin P.E. Inc. continues to work on getting the permit application together for submittal to the USACE. Project Manager Ostheimer reported that along with Leonard Chauvin, the District participated in a meeting with Office of Coastal Management on January 23, 2018 to discuss the permit application for the project. This meeting went well and no major issues or concerns were brought up. The next step is to prepare a wetland delineation for the permit application and the engineering agreement will be modified accordingly. Mr. Ostheimer added that NLLD is preparing a letter to be mailed to the landowners explaining the plan and requesting permission to access their property so Leonard Chauvin P.E., Inc. can perform this task.

Existing Choupic Levee Status: The Director reported that this item concerning an old permit application and ROW agreements for existing Parish levees in the Choupic area has been receiving the attention of the LPG through the assistance of Mr. Jack Plaisance with Picciola & Associates. Although NLLD is not taking responsibility for any past actions of the LPG, the District is willing to assist in the process. Mr. Jack Plaisance, from Picciola & Associates reported that he will push harder to schedule a sit down meeting with the Parish and District. Board VP Allen requested a reminder of the situation. Mr. Jack Plaisance explained that it is related to an existing permit issue where several conditions are out of compliance, partly due to ROW issues. The Director stated that he had spoken with the related landowners, but the parish didn't

follow-up. Commissioner Peltier expressed his concern that this situation may cause the Corps to hold back on allowing the District to do what is desired in North Choupic.

E. St. James Project Area:

The Director stated that although the District is developing items in the project area via a new drainage study, there is nothing new to report on that at this time.

F. Lake Bouef Watershed Project Area:

Lake Bouef Watershed, Backwater Flood Protection Project: The Director stated that Leonard Chauvin, P.E. Inc. is working on a wetland delineation to set an alignment that avoids wetland impacts and prepare a permit application for submittal. Project Manager Ostheimer reported that Leonard Chauvin P.E. Inc. is moving forward with the wetland delineation for this project to establish an alignment and avoid the wet areas. It will then have to go through the process of ROW's. Mr. Ostheimer added that a meeting with a farmer in the area was conducted and the farmer seemed open to the ideas. The Director stated that if the project can stay out of the wetlands and the district can gain the cooperation of the landowners, this could possibly be done rather quickly. The farmers tend to recognize what has been lost already and can bring a lot to the table with the landowners. A brief discussion ensued regarding the farmers in the area being tenants and the type of protection system in mind, but with funds budgeted only for engineering at this time.

Bayou Bouef School Forced Drainage Project: The Director reported that this project was submitted again as one of NLLD's Capital Outlay request for this year's legislative session.

Zeller/Larousse Forced Drainage Area Systems Improvement: The Director reported that Sealevel Construction, Inc. is the contractor on Phase 1A of this project which includes clearing encroachments and dredging the reservoir. Project Manager Ostheimer reported that Sealevel Construction has completed all of the clearing and is continuing with the drainage excavation along the alignment. Mr. Leonard Chauvin, from Leonard Chauvin P.E. Inc. reported that the project is about 57.63% complete with about 68% of the time lapsed. He added that the construction is a little behind and he will be meeting with the contractor and will address this more in the March board meeting. Mr. Chauvin stated that there is a pay request in the amount of \$171,997.50 that is in order for the work completed and he recommended payment. Motion was made by A. Peltier, seconded by J. Tuck to approve payment of a pay request in the amount of \$171,997.50 from Sealevel Construction Inc. as recommended by the project engineer. No discussion or public comment. Motion passed unanimously.

40 and 80 Arpent and Halpins Canal Maintenance Dredging Project, East Theriot Canal Maintenance Dredging Project, and Sam Foret and adjacent Canals Maintenance Dredging: The Director stated that as previously reported, the permit has passed from the state to the USACE and Leonard Chauvin P.E. Inc. was addressing comments and questions from the public notice with the USACE and DEQ. Project Manager Ostheimer reported that this project is getting close with regards to the permit. All of the outstanding items with the USACE have been addressed. The District has also begun discussions with Leonard Chauvin P.E. Inc. regarding the best timeline for the project to take place, along with how to frame up the project in general for bidding being it will be ongoing year to year. Mr. Ostheimer reminded the board that this project will involve dredging material out of the canal and spraying out into the marsh.

G. Gheens Project Area:

Mathews Canal Project: The Director reported that Low Land Construction Co., Inc. is the contractor for this project. Project Manager Ostheimer reported that Low Land is continuing to fill in the existing ditches and excavate the new ditches while processing the material for

placement on the levee. The material from the ground is quite wet so it takes some time to process. Commissioner Robert Pitre asked if a livestock watering issue was resolved and Mr. Ostheimer stated that to the best of his knowledge, yes it was resolved based on the request of the landowner (who donated the 56 acres of ROW). Mr. John Plaisance, from J. Wayne Plaisance, Inc. reported that a pay request from Low Land in the amount of \$95,076.99 is in order and recommended payment. Motion was made by R. Pitre, seconded by L. Andolsek to approve payment of a pay request in the amount of \$95,076.99 from Low Land Construction Co., Inc. as recommended by the project engineer. No discussion or public comment. Motion passed unanimously.

Des Allemands Bulkhead Project: The Director reminded all that there are two elements of this project and both are in the design stage with the intent to reduce the project cost while still obtaining meaningful improvements. Project Manager Ostheimer reported that All South Consulting Engineers is finalizing the maintenance and upgrade recommendations to the pump station for NLLD to review in accordance with the budget. On the levee, there are still issues to be finalized and meet with a landowner.

Des Allemands Breakwater Project: The Director stated that there was nothing new to report on this project at this time and it will be removed from the agenda since there are no funds available from DOTD.

Jesse Dufrene FDA Levee Improvements: The Director stated that as previously reported some available land has been identified that is suitable enough to use for borrow material. Project Manager Ostheimer reported that All South Consulting Engineers (ASCE) has gotten a contractor started on the geotechnical work on the project and the first set of bore samples has been taken. Once the geotechnical work is done, ASCE will move forward with the preliminary design of the levee in accord with amounts budgeted in the current and next year. The district will work within the footprint of the levee to stabilize and create an equal elevation across based on the geotechnical findings. The Director explained that this levee was left out of the State's Master Plan. If the district can get the Jesse Dufrene and Natural Gas levees to a stable 7 ½' that might allow the District to go to the State letting them know this was done and needs attention to bring to higher protection with a sheet pile wall.

Upper Barataria Risk Reduction (UBRR) Project: The Director stated that this project is included in the State's Draft Master Plan for 2017 and the project team has spent some time educating the CPRA on project details to hopefully gain support should funding become available through CPRA. Also Lafourche Basin Levee District has submitted this project as a Capital Outlay request of \$3M (with a local contribution of \$1.5M of that total) for preliminary engineering and design work and NLLD has reached out to our legislative delegation for additional support of their request. A NLLD contribution of \$500K to increase the local match in cooperation with LBLD was considered and included in the approved budget revision earlier in this meeting in case it is needed to secure the funding requested. A second meeting with CPRA is scheduled for Monday of next week.

H. Valentine - East Project Area:

New Valentine/Ludevine Forced Drainage Area: The Director stated that this is the levee running from Hamilton St. in Larose about 5,500 feet towards the Ludevine Pump Station along the Blackwater Canal. The objective of the project is to stabilize this levee without any real improvement to the elevation. He emphasized that this levee is one of worse in the area. After working through an archeological issue presented by the Corps, the permit is nearing issuance.

Project Manager Ostheimer reported that the mitigation letter for this project was received and the District is currently soliciting pricing from the available mitigation banks and plans to execute an agreement within the next few weeks. The mitigation looks to be a little less than expected. Mr. Ostheimer noted that this permit application started in October 2016. After a couple of meetings with Picciola & Associates and the USACE, the application got caught up in the archeological issue, but it is finally being issued. The District will be meeting with Picciola & Associates to discuss the project and to finalize the project timeline, as this project is budgeted for this year.

I. Regional/Other Capital Projects:

Morganza to the Gulf, Reaches K & L in Lafourche Parish: The Director reported that in cooperation with SLLD and TLCD, NLLD's CAT/Wilco buggy continues working to build terracing as part of the mitigation work for Reaches K&L of the Morganza to the Gulf project in Lafourche Parish, while a second marsh buggy is assisting in this. The second machine and both operators are contracted through Dean Equipment and NLLD is being reimbursed for the operational cost on this effort. The Director also mentioned that TLCD, along with the SLLD, NLLD, and the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government (TPCG), is pursuing a course of action to provide the greatest amount of flood protection in Terrebonne and Lafourche, as soon as possible, and at the most efficient cost. He explained that with the progress on the Reach K and L levees in this area, the team is focusing on Grand Bayou and specifically how to reduce surge coming up Grand Bayou from getting into the Intracoastal and the back side of the levees. SLLD has a plan for a permanent structure at this location as part of the Federal MtoG system which is estimated at a cost of \$25-30M. While the design and planning for this structure can be completed in the next year or so, funding for the construction of this piece may take several years. Realistically, this structure may not be completed for 5 to 7 years or more and with that in mind the team has asked All South Consulting Engineers (ASCE) to look at an interim solution for a flood protection measure in Grand Bayou. Through SLLD, the team has asked ASCE to do a preliminary report on two alternatives: 1) A structure that will provide protection to an elevation 6' matching the temporary road embankment that is being built for Reach K, and 2) A structure that provides the greatest level of protection within a \$1.5M construction budget. The Director explained that because of the numerous entities involved, the contractual stuff is a bit different, but at this point, for the Preliminary Report, ASCE will be contracting with SLLD because of the project location and TLCD has agreed to pay for this Preliminary Report. More on this as it develops. As a point of information, Board VP Allen stated that Lafourche Parish Government listed a restoration project as a top priority that is to introduce more fresh water in that canal system from the Intracoastal. Mr. Allen thinks that Ducks Unlimited (DU) might have been hired as the engineer on the project and he suggested that ASCE coordinate on these designs. Mr. Stevie Smith, from ASCE, confirmed that he is familiar with the effort, but he has not had any discussions with Ducks Unlimited. Mr. Smith explained that the cross sectional area that is previously permitted for the structure in Grand Bayou provides the same cross sectional area that Grand Bayou provides and that is a requirement of the permitting to not constrict the tidal flow with or without the structure. The permit does not provide for increase flow so that will have to be coordinated with DU. The Director indicated that 99.9% of the time the structure will be open for water flow.

Morganza to the Gulf, Larose to Lockport Alignment: The Director reported that Delta Coast Consultants has been working to provide NLLD with the final alignment and report to begin the process of permitting and funding applications for this and the solution for the Gheens community. He added that a draft report was reviewed and Delta Coast Consultants will have the updated report for presentation at the March board meeting.

Pump Station Study: The Director reported that this project is intended to extend the District's influence into the proper operation of the pumps in Lafourche Parish to prevent possible damage from over pumping to District levees and property inside a forced drainage area. As previously discussed, this exercise will include a few phases to get to the educational step and eventually a monitoring program. Project Manager Ostheimer reported that T. Baker Smith has submitted the draft reports for the four FDA's. (Al Robichaux, Jesse Dufrene, Leighton, Edgar Guidry-Larose-Parr-Parr Larose) as requested by the District. NLLD reviewed the reports and offered feedback and direction to TBS. They sent out surveyors to do some field verification and they will meet with landowners to learn of concerns and pump operators to understand their current process. Board VP Allen stressed that the purpose of this project is to assist the Parish with the operation of the pumps to not inflict more harm on the levees. The Director gave an example of findings by Leonard Chauvin P.E. Inc. at Comeaux Drive to emphasize the need for this project.

J. Equipment:

Liebherr Dragline: The Director reported that the purchaser moved out with the machine on January 18, 2018.

Volvo buggy: The Director stated that with the board's approval in December 2017, the surplus sale bid date was set for February 15, 2018 at 10:00 AM and the minimum bid set at \$80,000.00. No timely bids were received; however, there was thought of one interested party, but no longer. The District is currently looking at options that would allow the District to offer it up for sale again with a reserve amount equal to the scrap value. He added that after discussions with Attorney Pat Amedee on the two solid efforts to sell the machine at a higher value, he asked the board to consider the motion as provided in their meeting packet. Motion was made by R. Pitre, seconded by D. Kiffe to allow the Director, in consultation with NLLD Attorney, to sell the surplus Volvo/WECO Buggy for any amount above scrap value or to dispose of the excavator for scrap, and to authorize the Executive Director to sign any and all related documents for the sale of this surplus equipment. No discussion or public comment; the motion passed unanimously.

Project Manager Ostheimer reported that issues with the equipment this past month include: CAT/Wilco buggy – a cylinder pin issue that will likely cause the pin to have to be replaced. The Director mentioned that there is a lot of work still to be done with the machine. He added that all of the slack in the tracks was taken out and the machine will probably require track work done this year and money is budgeted for that expectation.

CAT/MBI buggy – it seems to be functioning correctly since MBI re-worked the bolts on the mounting system.

K. General Items

Photo Presentation: The Director presented and explained the photos of the following work: Claudet Return Levee, Mathews Canal/Clotilda, Lockport to Larose Reach D3, St. Charles By-Pass Backwater Flood Protection, Valentine Return Levee, and Valentine Return Structure. The Director mentioned that he requested the Lafourche Parish Government Department of Public Works cleans the roadside ditches and removes the spoil near the St. Charles By-Pass project.

NLLD Insurance Renewal: The Director reported that a quote for additional Excess Liability Insurance was requested as per Commissioner Andolsek's request and this was discussed again at the Finance & Priority Committee budget meeting.

Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana (ALBL) Annual Workshop: The Director reported that the ALBL, in a joint effort with the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, will be hosting its annual workshop in Baton Rouge on May 3 – 4, 2018 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Baton Rouge. This workshop is a great opportunity to attend state mandated training sessions and show support for the NLLD board president as he serves all of the levee districts as the president of the association. As commissioners of a coastal levee district, each of you is required to attend the training conducted by DOTD or CPRA twice during your term. He noted that there have been changes with the procedures to attend the live ethics training at the workshop. Please let NLLD Administrative Assistant know if you would like to attend and the registration and accommodations will be handled.

Louisiana Board of Ethics Reporting Requirements: The Director reminder the commissioners that each of them is required to complete a Tier 2.1 Personal Financial Disclosure Statement (Form 417) on or before May 15th each year. The electronic version can be found at: <http://ethics.la.gov/Pub/FinDiscl/F417s.pdf> or the NLLD Administrative Assistant can give you a printed version.

Morganza Action Coalition (MAC) continued funding: The Director reported that NLLD's participation in partially funding MAC along with the South Lafourche and Terrebonne Levee Districts has been helpful to the District. It was stated when this was first approved in May of 2016 that the effort would likely have to be a multi-year effort. The District's participation in this association is providing substantial benefits to the District at the State and Federal levels. He added that NLLD needs to consider ongoing funding for the efforts during this year and he requested the board consider the motion in their meeting packets to approve funding. The Director explained how this is shared between the three local levee districts based on population and he added that the budget includes \$75K for this funding. He also mentioned that President Trump had just released his Infrastructure Package and it includes suggestions for reforms to permitting, mitigation banks, and other good things that came out of meetings that were arranged by MAC. Motion was made by J. Tuck, seconded by K. Matherne to approve payments up to the amount of \$71,500.00 to the Morganza Action Coalition for continued financial support in the interest of the NLLD for the efforts during this calendar year (2018). No discussion or public comment; the motion passed unanimously.

Louisiana Flood Risk Coalition (LFRC): The Director reported that LFRC has been established as an initiative of the ALBL and created as an independent 501(c) (4) organization. To date, the LFRC initiative has collected \$177,750 from ALBL members over a four (4) year period. It will continue seeking annual donations from its members and is also set up to receive (and has received) other donations as well (SCIA & realtors). Efforts to shape the reauthorization of the NFIP are already underway by Congress. The LFRC has been impactful in the formation of that Legislation. Those working on the reauthorization effort strongly feel that success will be driven by a public policy resulting from casting a wider net in Washington with Members of Congress that have a vested interest in changing this law appropriately. Because this issue is of proven interest to this District, this Board and its constituents, the Director asked that this Board consider making a fourth pledge of \$5,000.00 to this Coalition, which has already been done by other levee districts throughout the state. Motion was made by R. Pitre, seconded by L. Andolsek that NLLD continues to support the Louisiana Flood Risk Coalition of the ALBL thus

making another single payment of \$5,000.00 to the ALBL for the LFRC. No discussion or public comment; the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion on the needs and possible changes to NLLD Standing and Project Committees was pulled from the agenda due to Board President Kief's absence.

Other Meetings this Month: The Director stated in addition to the regular monthly meeting circuit and those previously discussed, he participated in the following meetings:

January 23 – 26, 2018 - DC Trip

February 8, 2018 - CPRA LSU Water Campus Tour, joined by Commissioners Matherne and Tuck. They all agreed that it is amazing and Commissioner Tuck stated that there is an open invitation through Restore or Retreat.

February 8, 2018 - Meeting with LA DNR which involves trying to get legislation passed to drastically reduce the mitigation requirements when talking about projects that are in the State's Master Plan.

February 16, 2018 - ALBL Executive Committee Meeting

Committee Reports:

Finance & Priority Committee: Chairman K. Matherne reported that the F&P Committee met on January 16, 2018. During that meeting, the committee reviewed and approved the Payables report that was recommended and accepted by the full board during the Regular Board meeting that followed. The committee also met on February 15, 2018 to review the proposed budget revisions for recommendation to the full board that was done earlier in this meeting and the minutes will be provided next month.

Accounts Payable: The Board VP stated that each of the commissioners was provided with a financial report detailing the current year-to-date figures, as well as the current month's Accounts Payable listing. The chairman of the Finance & Priority was asked for the committee's recommendation. Motion was made by K. Matherne, seconded by J. Tuck, to accept the Payables Report as reviewed by the Finance and Priority Committee in a meeting just prior to this Board meeting. On call for discussion, Commissioner Matherne commented that just a few years back the annual budget was \$1.1M and today's payables report totaled \$1,267,466.95 for just one month. That is a good sign that the district is doing work. No further discussion or public comment. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board VP called for any other engineering reports; there were none.

The Board VP called for additional public comments; there were none.

The Board VP announced the next Regular Monthly Board Meeting will be at 5:15 PM, or immediately following the F&P committee meeting, on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 at the District's office located at 3862 Highway 1, Raceland, LA.

Attorney Pat Amedee informed the board that there were no updates on the pending litigation of Cecil Gassiott, LLC Vs NLCLDD; therefore Executive Session would not be needed for Agenda item 11a.

Motion was made by J. Tuck, seconded by R. Pitre, to enter Executive Session at 6:48 PM pursuant to LA R.S. 42:17A (1) to discuss the annual evaluation of the Executive Director. No discussion or public comment. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by J. Tuck, with a unanimous second to return to Regular Session at 7:05 PM. No discussion or public present to comment. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by R. Pitre, seconded by L. Andolsek, to take action as authorized by the Board in Executive Session. No discussion or public present to comment. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:06 PM on motion by R. Pitre, with a second by L. Andolsek.

/s/ Cory Kief, President

/s/ Dwayne Bourgeois, Director