

**MINUTES OF
SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY-EAST
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON MARCH 15, 2018**

PRESENT: Herbert I. Miller, Chair
Mark L. Morgan, Committee Member
Clay Cosse, Committee Member

The Operations Committee of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (Authority or FPA) met on March 15, 2018, in the Franklin Avenue Administrative Complex, Meeting Room 201, 6920 Franklin Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana. Mr. Miller called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Opening Comments: None

Adoption of Agenda: The agenda was adopted by the Committee.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the February 15, 2018 Operations Committee meeting were approved.

Public Comments: None.

New Business:

A. Discussion of proposed Intergovernmental Agreement between the FPA, on behalf of the Lake Borgne Basin Levee District, and the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority for Operation and Maintenance of the Violet Siphon Freshwater Diversion.

Derek Boese, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), advised that the updated agreement between the FPA, Lake Borgne Basin Levee District (LBBLD) and Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) would allow the LBBLD to continue operating the Violet Siphon Freshwater Diversion. The LBBLD has operated the structure on behalf of the State since 2000. The LBBLD is reimbursed for labor and only handles basic operations and maintenance of the structure. CPRA is responsible for any significant maintenance or repairs. A CPRA engineer is currently determining the repairs required on the intake structure that was struck by a barge last year. The cost of the repairs will be borne by CPRA. The new agreement is for a period of five years.

Ryan Foster, Engineer, explained that the LBBLD is authorized to start the siphon when the Mississippi River reaches 4-ft. and rising at the Carrollton Gage. The siphon automatically shuts down when the river level drops. The LBBLD is authorized to shut down the siphon in the event of a chemical spill in the river or due to an impending storm event. The structure includes two 54-inch pipes that bring fresh water to the Central Wetlands.

The Committee will recommend that the Board approve the updated agreement for the operation of the Violet Siphon Freshwater Diversion.

B. Discussion of proposed contract in the not to exceed amount of \$68,000.00 with Hard Rock Construction, LLC, for the West Return Wall Slope Paving Repair Project.

Mr. Miller explained that four bids were received with Hard Rock Construction, LLC, submitting the lowest bid in the amount of \$68,000. The three remaining bids range from \$74,000 to \$87,278. Stevan Spencer, Chief Engineer, advised that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) informed the FPA that the problem was considered maintenance and needed to be monitored or addressed by the FPA. The repairs are required at the location where the West Return Floodwall transitions to the levee.

The Committee will recommend that the Board approve the award of the contract to Hard Rock Construction, LLC.

C. Discussion of proposed Task Order with Evans-Graves Engineers, Inc. in the amount of \$112,560.00 for Resident Inspection Services for the West Roadway Raising Project.

Mr. Foster advised that Burk Kleinpeter, Inc. (BKI) was the design engineer for the road raising project. BKI was used for several other projects and the contract is nearing the cap. Therefore, Evans-Graves Engineers was selected to provide resident inspection services. The West Roadway project has been under consideration for the past several years; however, the project could not begin until work was completed on the 17th Street Canal Permanent Canal Closure and Pumps. The construction contract for the West Roadway Raising Project was awarded to Hard Rock Construction, LLC.

The Committee will recommend that the Board approve the proposed Task Order with Evans-Graves Engineers.

D. Discussion of proposed task order with C.H. Fenstermaker & Associates, LLC in the amount of \$659,408.00 for Phase II – Video/Sonar Explorations of culverts and valves located in the flood protection system within the Orleans Levee District and Engineering Report with recommendations for repairs/replacements.

Mr. Spencer explained that under PL 84-99 in order to be eligible for reimbursement for repairs to hurricane protection or riverine facilities required as a result of a storm or flood event, the FPA must first prove that the facilities have been maintained and are operational. The FPA is attempting to demonstrate that the drainage pipes and culverts crossing its levees or floodwalls are in good working order. The FPA has an Indefinite Delivery-Indefinite Quantity contract with C.H. Fenstermaker & Associates LLC (Fenstermaker) for hydraulic engineering services. Fenstermaker completed Phase

One of the project at a cost of \$80,000, which included the review of FPA and USACE records to determine the location of all of the pipes and culverts, along with their diameter, length and openings (nearest access manhole). Phase Two is for video and sonar explorations of the pipes/culverts greater than 8-inches in diameter and for production of a report that includes recommendations for the placement of additional manholes to reduce the length of future exploration efforts and costs. The FPA is not aware of any existing problems at this time. The USACE reviewed and approved the proposed scope of work. FPA coordination will be required for traffic control. Phase Three will be for the design of the improvements.

Newell Schindler, Fenstermaker's New Orleans Operations Leader, advised that a GIS database was set up for Phase One data. Data from Phase Two will be added to the database. Alan Day, Fenstermaker IT Vice President, explained that a platform was built to allow Fenstermaker to compatibly work with the FPA's GIS system. Fenstermaker will, as a free service, provide a fully integrated on-line interactive mapping system that will include all of the results of the investigations. The mapping system will be available to the FPA to incorporate into its GIS system.

Mr. Spencer commented that the culverts/pipes must be inspected every five years. Staff recommended that all 91 culverts of varying lengths be inspected at this time in order to establish a baseline. The installation of additional manholes and any repairs required as a result of the explorations must be accomplished at the FPA's expense. Future explorations can be conducted on a rotating basis. Additional access manholes closer to the levee/floodwall would reduce the length of future explorations.

The Committee will recommend that the Board approve the proposed Task Order with Fenstermaker for Phase Two of the project.

E. Discussion of proposed increase to the not to exceed cost of the levee lift portion of the LPV 109.01a and 111.01 Armoring/Levee Lift Projects, to authorize payment of said increase to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and to authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to execute any and all necessary documents.

Mr. Boese explained that the USACE requested that the FPA include this item on the Committee and Board Agenda in case the additional cost was determined. The USACE advised that additional funding will not be required for the levee lift portion of the LPV 111.01 Armoring/Levee Lift Project. The USACE has not yet determined the additional amount needed for the levee lift portion of LPV 109.01. The Board previously authorized payments to the USACE of \$4 million for LPV 111.01 and \$7 million for LPV 109.01. The additional funding (estimated at \$1 million) must be provided to the USACE prior to the award of the contract. The item was deferred.

Mr. Boese advised the status of the East Jefferson Lakefront Armoring Projects. Reach 1 (Duncan Canal to West Return Floodwall) has been completed. Reaches 2 and 4 (Duncan Canal to Elmwood Canal and Suburban Canal to Bonnabel) are ongoing. The

USACE is hoping the Erlanger Ramp will be completed quickly. Reach 3 (Clearview section) and Reach 5 (Bonnabel to Bucktown) have not yet commenced. The Lake Villa ramp has been completed. The Severn Ramp has not yet been completed. Reopening access to the levee to the public will depend upon grass growth. The contractors frontloaded the ramps in the sections in which they are working so that they can be reopened as soon as possible.

There was no further business; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.