

**MINUTES OF
SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY-EAST
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON MAY 17, 2018**

PRESENT: Herbert I. Miller, Chair
Mark L. Morgan, Committee Member
G. Paul Kemp, Committee Member

The Operations Committee of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (Authority or FPA) met on May 17, 2018, in the St. Bernard Parish Council Chambers, St. Bernard Parish Government Complex, 8201 West Judge Perez Drive, Chalmette, Louisiana. Mr. Miller called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

Opening Comments: None

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

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the April 19, 2018 Operations Committee meeting were approved.

Public Comments: None.

New Business:

A. Discussion of the Emergency Operations Procedures Manual for 2018.

Derek Boese, Chief Administrative Officer, advised that, basically, operational procedures have not changed. The Emergency Operations Procedures Manual was revised to reflect the new organizational structure and consolidation. The revised Manual includes the new standardized numbering system for floodgates, new consistent maps, standardized meal plans, and specific information regarding closing floodgates, such as, the manpower, equipment and estimated time needed to close each floodgate and traffic signage requirements. The continuity of operations plan is included in the Manual; however, the plan is still being developed. A small team will be sent offsite (likely Alexandria, LA) to handle IT, contracting, possibly legal and other administrative functions in the event major issues occur in New Orleans. The Manual's appendices focus on each levee district. A section has been included in the Manual for the PCCP, as well as other major components of the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS). The manual will be refined over time and evolve. Staff will track and document potential changes throughout the hurricane season in order to revise the Manual.

Mr. Morgan commented that the Board's approval of the Manual is needed; however, the Manual should be treated as a living document that can be modified as needed.

Mr. Miller inquired about the PCCP staffing. Mr. Boese responded that six of the eight positions have been filled. The seventh position is being filled on May 21st. The eighth position is being readvertised. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is working towards decommissioning the interim closure structures and temporary pumps.

The Committee by a unanimous vote adopted a motion to recommend that the Board approve the Manual subject to the amendment of the resolution to include language relative to the Manual being a living document subject to modification as needed.

B. Discussion of the proposed issuance of a Purchase Order to Mike Munna Construction, LLC for furnishing Labor, Equipment, Materials and Supplies for Grass Cutting of Levees LPV 145 through LPV 149.

Mr. Boese advised that bids were received for contracted grass cutting services in the Lake Borgne Basin Levee District (LBBLD). The lowest bid was \$13.70 per acre with weed eating at \$800 per cut for a total cost of \$138,013 per year for the proposed ten cuts of all acreage (949 acres) with weed eating.

The Committee by a unanimous vote adopted a motion to recommend that the Board approve the award of the bid to the lowest responsive bidder, Mike Munna Construction.

C. Discussion of a proposed task order to be issued to Design Engineering, Inc. for Construction Administration and Resident Inspection Services for the NASA Levee Repair Project.

Felton Suthon, Engineer, explained that the proposed task order with Design Engineering, Inc. (DEI) is for construction administration and part time resident inspection services at a total cost of \$73,000 for the NASA Levee Repair Project. Repairs are needed to the ruts and erosion caused by a lack of grass growth. The project includes improvements to enhance grass growth on levee slopes. Mr. Boese added that the Board approved the award of the construction contract in the amount of \$354,000 at its last meeting.

The Committee by a unanimous vote adopted a motion to recommend that the Board approve the issuance of the task order to DEI.

D. Discussion of the increase of \$3 million to the not to exceed cost of the levee lift portion of the LPV 109.01a Armoring/Levee Lift Project, 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.

Stevan Spencer, Chief Engineer, explained that the USACE finalized the design for the LPV 109.01a Armoring/Levee Lift Project. The quantities have been refined and additional slope pavement has been included. A payment of \$4 million was provided to the USACE based on the initially proposed levee lift work. An additional payment of \$3 million was provided due to the USACE's concern about borrow costs. The design has

been finalized with the entire length of the levee being raised to ensure the elevation will meet the 100-year level of protection in 2023. The borrow costs included in the bids received by the USACE for the LPV 111.1 Armoring/Levee Lift Project were lower than anticipated and the USACE will refund \$1 million to the FPA, which can be rolled over to the LPV 109.01a Project. If the borrow costs are lower than anticipated on the LPV 109.01a Project, the USACE will refund the money that is not needed.

Brett Herr, USACE Project Manager, clarified the reason for the increase in cost. When the USACE first envisioned incorporating the levee lift work in the armoring project, the FPA requested that about 9,000 feet (about 1-1/2 miles) of the levee be lifted. A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was executed between the USACE and the FPA with a cost of \$4 million and a quantity of about 50,000 cubic yards. During the process a decision was made by the FPA to raise the entire length of the levee (6 miles). Therefore, the quantity increased from 50,000 cubic yards to 178,000 cubic yards. The USACE estimates the FPA's share of the project is about \$10 million. He pointed out that the \$10 million figure is based on the Government estimate. If the bids come in with a lower cost for the embankment quantities, then the USACE will be able to refund some of the money to the FPA. The USACE must have the funds in hand to match the Government estimate before the project can be advertised. The initial \$4 million estimate included engineering, design and construction management. The USACE anticipates advertising the project in early June and awarding the contract in July. The contract will have a 558 day duration. Most of the mobilization and demobilization costs and most of the construction management costs will be borne by the USACE under the armoring portion of the contract. Prior to issuing a notice to proceed, a MOU will be executed between the USACE and FPA that would allow the FPA to seek credit should future levee lifts be authorized by Congress.

The Committee by a unanimous vote adopted a motion to recommend that the Board approve the increase in cost for the levee lift portion of the LPV 109.01a Armoring/Levee Lift Project.

E. Discussion of a proposed amendment to the task order issued to Burk Kleinpeter, Inc. to increase the total not to exceed amount to \$257,016.00 for Construction Administration and Resident Inspection for the drainage repairs under the Norfolk Southern tracks on the flood side of the Citrus Lakefront Levee from Lakefront Airport to Southpoint.

Ryan Foster, Engineer, explained that the entire length of the drainage repairs (about 10 miles) are located within the Norfolk Southern Railroad right-of-way and about half of the project is within an existing USACE Armoring Contract. Coordination with the Railroad and the USACE's contractor resulted in a lengthy delay in the progress of the drainage repair project. A total increase of \$58,016.00 (\$15,776.00 for Construction Administration and \$42,240.00 for Resident Inspection) is proposed to the Burk-Kleinpeter, Inc. (BKI) task order to provide for the three additional month contract duration. The construction contractor received approval for the additional contract time, but has not approached the FPA for additional costs. BKI's services will be invoiced on an hourly basis and BKI will be compensated for hours invoiced. Construction

administration includes reviewing pay requests, RFI's and testing data. The project includes 95 drainage inlets and pipes that must be lined. The contractor must video the pipes prior to the decision to line the pipes. The engineer must review the video and present his recommendation regarding lining the pipe. Mr. Foster stated that the construction administration fees are reasonable.

The Committee by a unanimous vote adopted a motion to recommend that the Board approve the increase to the BKL task order.

F. Discussion of the proposed increase to the not-to-exceed amount for Railroad Consultants, Inc.'s Observer Services to \$200,000 for the drainage repairs under the Norfolk Southern tracks on the flood side of the Citrus Lakefront Levee from Lakefront Airport to Southpoint.

Mr. Foster advised that since the drainage repair work is within Norfolk Southern Railroad's right-of-way, the FPA had a choice of using the Railroad's flagmen or a third party construction observer. Bids were received from two observer companies. The FPA chose to use the services of the observer company that submitted the lowest bid. The cost of using the Railroad's flagmen would have been significantly higher than using a contracted observer. The increase in cost for the observer's services is due to the delays in coordination. The estimated increase in cost is for a three month period; however, the full amount additional amount of \$50,000 may not be used.

The Committee by a unanimous vote adopted a motion to recommend that the Board approve the increase in cost for the railroad observer services.

G. Discussion of a proposed amendment to the contract with Cycle Construction, LLC to increase the contract amount from \$94,780.00 to \$114,962.47 for the Hayne Boulevard Lakefront Levee Repair Project.

Mr. Suthon explained that the project initially included seeding the levee; however, seeding proved to be a problem and a decision was made to switch to sodding. The change also resulted in an additional cost of \$15,395.49 for installation of a silt fence. A credit was received for seeding (-\$8,000); however, there was an additional labor and equipment charge for sodding (\$12,836.98). The net increase to the contract is \$20,232.47. The Orleans Levee District is coordinating with the East Jefferson Levee District for the use its water truck in this area. The engineering work on the project is being performed in-house. Mr. Boese recommended approval of the increase to the construction contract amount.

The Committee by a unanimous vote adopted a motion to recommend that the Board approve the increase to the construction contract amount for the Hayne Boulevard Lakefront Levee Repair Project.

There was no further business; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.