

**MINUTES OF
SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY-EAST
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON AUGUST 18, 2016**

PRESENT: Stephen V. Estopinal, Chair
Lambert J. Hassinger, Jr., President
Clay Cosse, Committee Member
Mark Morgan, Committee Member

The Operations Committee of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (SLFPA-E or Authority) met on August 18, 2016, in the St. Bernard Parish Council Chambers, St. Bernard Parish Government Complex, 8201 West Judge Perez Drive, Chalmette, Louisiana. Mr. Estopinal called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Mr. Hassinger did not take part in the discussions or votes on the items or issues that came before the Operations Committee.

Opening Comments: None.

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

Approval of Minutes: The Committee approved the minutes of the Operations Committee meeting held on February 18, 2016.

Public Comments:

Thomas W. Tubre, Jr., Senior Vice President of TKTMJ, Inc., introduced himself and explained that TKTMJ has constructed several projects under the Orleans Levee District Seawall Erosion Control Program. He advised that TKTMJ is striving to remain competitive while providing the best possible product and asked that Committee members contact him with any questions or comments regarding the construction.

New Business:

A. Discussion of implementation of GPS monitoring of the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS).

Robert Turner, SLFPA-E Regional Director, explained that the project involves the installation of four Continuously Operating Reference (COR) Stations with the possibility of future expansion. The project will primarily be centered in areas in the eastern end of the HSDRRS where the greatest subsidence is being experienced and could be expanded to the western end of the system in the future. The project will provide state of the art technology to track levee movement and afford the opportunity to take the appropriate action when necessary. The project will also provide the data necessary to track subsidence and its effect on benchmarks. In addition to the equipment and installation, LSU will be working with the SLFPA-E on tracking information and the development of trends. A GPS seminar will be conducted in the near future. Local

surveyors and engineers will be invited to the seminar for which a nominal fee will be assessed to cover costs and expenses. Surveyors and engineers will receive PDH hours for attending the seminar.

Mr. Estopinal commented that the seminar will demonstrate the importance of tracking vertical movement. He urged the Operations Committee to begin looking into obtaining seismic information to complement the GPS observations.

Dave Culpepper advised that The Culpepper Group, LLC, has been working on a scope of work for a geophysical survey. The first phase would be to review existing geotechnical and geophysical data. A detailed survey scope of work would then be developed along with an application for a Coastal Use Permit exemption. Mr. Estopinal requested that Mr. Culpepper submit a written proposal to the SLFPA-E Regional Director. Mr. Culpepper commented that UNO has obtained some deep seismic data and suggested the development of a reciprocal data sharing agreement with UNO.

The Operations Committee will recommend that the Board authorize the SLFPA-E Regional Director to execute a contract with LSU and, if deemed warranted, with The Culpepper Group.

B. Discussion about the elevation review of the historical benchmarks along Paris Road.

Stevan Spencer, SLFPA-E Regional Chief Engineer, advised that the field work has been completed and a report will be forthcoming.

C. Discussion of award of contract for Lake Pontchartrain Seawall Erosion Control Reaches 2C, 2D and 3C Project (Phase II) Project to TKTMJ, LLC.

Gerry Gillen, Orleans Levee District (O.L.D.) Executive Director, advised that bids were received on May 31st and recommended that a contract for Lake Pontchartrain Seawall Erosion Control Reaches 2C, 2D and 3C Project (Phase II) Project be awarded to TKTMJ, LLC. In the amount of \$7,720,774.

The Committee will recommend that the Board award the contract to TKTMJ, LLC.

D. Discussion of issuance of Task Order No. 5 to Design Engineering, Inc. (DEI) for Phase 2 construction administration, inspection services and record drawings in the amount of \$935,194.66, and to authorize an increase of the not-to-exceed limit of the Agreement with DEI for the Seawall Erosion Control Agreement from \$5,768,962.26 to \$5,910,429.93.

Mr. Gillen explained that the proposed task order includes the construction administration and resident inspection services required for the construction of the project awarded under Item C. The original contract amount has also been adjusted to provide a four percent annual fee increase and the overall scope was increased to extend the construction contract time from 240 days to 270 days and to provide for a second inspector. He recommended approval of the task order.

The Committee will recommend that the Board approve the issuance of Task Order No. 5 to DEI.

E. Discussion of issuance of Task Order 6 to DEI to provide an additional amount of \$74,595.01 for Resident Inspection Services to complete the Lake Pontchartrain Seawall Erosion Control Reach 1A & 3B Project, and to increase the not-to-exceed limit of the Agreement with DEI for the Seawall Erosion Control Project from \$5,910,429.90 to \$5,985,024.91.

Mr. Gillen advised that the original proposal for Phase I was based on a completion schedule that ended in mid-May. The proposed task order extends inspection services through the end of June. Overtime has been included in the budgeted amount; however, the contractor will be required to reimburse the O.L.D. for this amount. He recommended approval of the task order.

The Committee will recommend that the Board approve the issuance of Task Order No. 6 to DEI.

F. Discussion of rebuilding of the police station at Elysian Fields Avenue and Lakeshore Drive at a cost not to exceed \$3 million (including state capital outlay money). (O.L.D.)

Wilma Heaton, SLFPA-E Director of Governmental Affairs, explained that the original request for funding was for \$4.6 million. The project cost has been reduced to \$3 million, which includes the demolition of the Loft Building, where O.L.D. police personnel are currently housed, and the existing blighted structures at the Elysian Fields site. A revised Capital Outlay Project (COP) funding request will be submitted. The O.L.D. included \$2 million in its FY 2017 Budget for the project. One million dollars was included in this year's Capital Outlay Budget legislation, which was signed by the Governor. The process for receipt of the COP funding includes Bond Commission approval. She asked that the O.L.D. be allowed to proceed with the demolition of the structures located on the Elysian Fields site. The SLFPA-E will continue seeking COP funding. She pointed out that the project would rebuild the police station on its pre-Katrina site. She advised that she would work hard with Mr. Gillen and the architect to complete the project within the approved budget.

The Committee will recommend that the Board approve the rebuilding of the police station at the Elysian Fields Avenue site.

G. Discussion of issuance of a task order to Burk-Kleinpeter, Inc. in a not-to-exceed amount of \$189, 615.80 to provide Resident Inspection Services for the repainting and repair of the East Bank Mississippi River Floodgates (EB-1 thru EB-74).

Mr. Gillen advised that a contract was awarded to repaint all of the Mississippi River East Bank Floodgates. A testing lab is needed to verify that the paint coating applications are being done properly. Approximately 68 floodgates will be repainted. He recommended that the issuance of a task order to Burk-Kleinpeter, Inc. be approved.

The Committee will recommend that the Board approve the issuance of the task order.

H. Discussion of the amendment of the indefinite delivery-indefinite quantity contract with Atkins North America, Inc. to provide an ending date of December 31, 2016 and to increase the maximum not-to-exceed amount of the contract to \$1,200,000; to amend Task Order No. 08-01-31 for HSDRRS inspection services to reflect a total not-to-exceed amount of \$110,000; and to authorize a task order in the amount of \$70,000 for the Third and Fourth Quarterly Inspections of the IHNC Surge Barrier and Seabrook Complex.

Mr. Turner explained that the SLFPA-E has an ID-IQ contract with Atkins under which resident inspection services are being provided. The SLFPA-E issued a task order to Atkins for the inspection of the contracts being constructed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) as part of the HSDRRS to ensure that the projects are being constructed according to the plans and specifications. The proposed amendment would extend the current task order to the end of December. The Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) is paying 50 percent of the inspection cost for the HSDRRS projects. Atkins has also been used for several years to perform the quarterly inspections of the IHNC Surge Barrier. The quarterly inspection reports are submitted to the CPRA and USACE. If approved, a task order would be issued for the 3rd and 4th quarterly reports.

The Committee will recommend that the Board approve the amendment of the Atkins contract and the issuance of the requested task order and amendment.

I. Discussion of request to advertise for bids for construction of LPV 20.1, LPV 19.2, LPV 01.1 and LPV 02.2 Levee Lift Projects.

Mr. Turner advised that the Board previously approved the advertisement for bids for the construction of the LPV 00.2 Levee Lift on the western side of the EJLD lakefront. The LPV 20.1, LPV 19.2, LPV 01.1 and LPV 02.2 Levee Lift Projects will complete the lakefront area in Jefferson Parish. LPV 20.1 and LPV 19.2 will be bid as one project and LPV 01.1 and LPV 02.2 will be bid as a separate project. The SLFPA-E expects to receive the permits from the USACE within the next couple of weeks.

Derek Boese, EJLD Executive Director, advised that the elected officials have been briefed about the levee lift plan. Stakeholder outreach mailings will begin in the next couple of weeks. The East Jefferson lakefront levee will be raised roughly one to two feet, depending on the reach. The total estimated cost for all of the levee lift projects is \$8 million to \$10 million. The projected time period for construction is six months. The USACE will synchronize its application of amoring with the levee lift projects. The EJLD must pay for the levee lift projects; however, conditions have been set so that reimbursement can be sought should Congressional legislation be passed in the future relative to levee lifts. Mr. Turner commented that the levee lifts will provide the elevation needed to extend the life of the levee for the 100-year event to at least 2023 and possibly to 2030, which will be beyond the next re-certification cycle in 2023.

The Committee will recommend that the Board approve the advertisement for bids for the construction of the levee lift projects.

Levee District Reports:

Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) Status Report:

Mr. Turner reported relative to the following issues:

- Seabrook Complex Structure - There is an inclinometer alarm problem on the west lift gate of the structure. The USACE is still responsible for the work that is being done on the gate and will have its contractor investigate and fix the problem. SLFPA-E staff does not anticipate any problem with closing the gate; however, a procedure is in place to manually close the gate, if necessary.
- IHNC Surge Barrier – The Barge Gate remains closed at this time. Current velocities are being monitored in the GIWW. The USACE expects to award a contract to refurbish the windlass units soon.
- GIWW Corridor – The IHNC locks will remain closed through the current hurricane season. The USACE dredged Baptiste Collette to facilitate traffic that would normally pass through the locks. The U.S. Coast Guard is conducting monthly counts of vessels during the hurricane season to ensure that there will be adequate time, if necessary, to evacuate vessels through the two available routes.
- There were no major impacts to the EJLD, LBBLD and O.L.D. during the recent flood event. The SLFPA-E and levee districts have offered assistance to areas that were significantly impacted.

Police Activities: Robert Garner, SLFPA-E Police Superintendent, provided the following report on police activities for the month of July: Officers logged in over 7,000 hours of combined service, Reserve Officers logged in 465 hours of service, and 157 pedestrian checks and over 180 separate vehicle checks were conducted. Two train derailments occurred within the Tchoupitoulas corridor with no major damage to levee district structures. Police Officers will be escorting vehicles to St. John Parish and other areas to assist the Pontchartrain Levee District in the flood fight. O.L.D. Police Officers conducted interpersonal contacts with citizens residing throughout the city. Four Officers attended the U.S. Attorney sponsored valor training. Two Police Sergeants were certified by Clock Armory for firearm inspections. Four EJLD Lieutenants attended use of force and documentation classes sponsored by the Ascension Parish Sherriff's Office.

Lake Borgne Basin Levee District (LBBLD): Nick Cali, LBBLD Executive Director, reviewed the highlights of the monthly status report. He noted that Mr. Cosse participated in the LBBLD safety meeting conducted on August 17th and discussed several topics and concerns with employees. LBBLD staff pumped down the canals and had extra people on shift at the pump stations during the recent rain events.

Orleans Levee District (O.L.D.): Gerry Gillen, O.L.D. Executive Director, reviewed the highlights of the monthly status report.

East Jefferson Levee District (EJLD): Derek Boese, EJLD Executive Director, reviewed the highlights of the monthly status report, and offered the following additional comments:

- Jefferson Heights Mississippi River Levee Lift - The new estimated substantial completion date is mid-October, 2016. SLFPA-E and EJLD staff have raised several serious quality issues with the USACE relative to the project.
- West Return Wall flooding issue - The sheetpile has been driven, but not yet capped, in the area from West Esplanade Avenue to the pump station. Residents in this area have not experienced any further flooding since the sheet pile was driven. The swale has been lifted in the area between West Esplanade Avenue and Vintage Drive. The USACE is negotiating with the contractor for the work north of Vintage Drive and no work has been started in this area.
- EJLD Safe House - The schematic design of the safe house is being developed. The EJLD expects to advertise for bids for the construction of the safe house after the first of next year. A separate package will be developed for demolition of the old fire station located on the property and pile load tests will be conducted prior to the advertisement for construction bids.

There was no further business; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.