

**St. Tammany Levee,
Drainage and Conservation District (STLDCD)
Board Meeting Minutes**

Date: September 18, 2019

Time: 6:00 P.M.

Location: Staff Conference Room, 3rd Floor Building B, Parish Government Complex, Koop Drive, Mandeville, LA

Welcome, Silent Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance

Call to Order – *Vice-Chairman Faust welcomed members and requested that the secretary call the roll*

Roll Call –

Present: Vice-Chair Faust, Commissioner Krieger, Commissioner McGovern, Commissioner Price, Commissioner Philippi, Commissioner LaSalle

Absent: Chairman DiFranco, Commissioner McHugh, Commissioner Ingram-Hunter

Quorum was met with 6 members present - 3 members absent.

Approval of Minutes –

It was moved by Commissioner McGovern and seconded by Commissioner Price to adopt the minutes from the August 21, 2019 STLDCD Board meeting. Without objection the minutes were approved unanimously.

New Business –

- A. **Update on Comprehensive STP Coastal Study NSI** - *Don Lancaster with NSI presented an update on the coastal master plan. NSI has received comments back from St. Tammany Parish Government regarding the data report which have been incorporated. NSI hopes to deliver a final report to the parish and levee board by the end of next week. All of the comments have been addressed regarding the modeling and a meeting request for CPRA will be submitted at the end of the week. A meeting with the Parish, the Levee Board and NSI to review the GAP analysis resulted in some good discussions. Based on those discussions, NSI will be meeting with the St. Tammany Parish Government's Grant Department. A final GAP Analysis report which will include project alternatives. Vice-Chairman Faust asked Mr. Lancaster if he was aware of the LA Watershed Initiative and how would NSI be proceeding with this new state initiative and the masterplan? Mr. Lancaster noted that in the GAP analysis they will make mention of the watershed initiative. Mr. Lancaster provided the website address to the Board members and public in attendance. Watershed.la.gov*

- B. **Update on storm surge modeling for East STP** – *Vice-Chairman Faust asked Mr. Lancaster if St. Tammany Parish Government has given NSI any information as to how the Levee Board is going to proceed with the storm surge modeling for east St. Tammany Parish. NSI is currently working on a meeting with CPRA for a status update on the GAP analysis and the GAP modeling results.*
- C. **New WRDA study** - *Vice-Chairman Faust began his discussion on the Water Resource Development Act, which dates back to the mid 1970's, and stresses the need for a study by the USACE to evaluate flood protection, coastal erosion, and environmental issues. Vice-Chairman Faust raised his concern as to the effect that the WRDA study could possibly have on the development of the coastal masterplan. Commissioner Faust inquired about the time frame that is would take from the announcing of the approved funding to the time that the appropriation can be spent. Henry Picard with Burke, Klienpeter, informed the Board that it is a 3x3x3. Meaning 3 years to complete a feasibility study with \$3,000,000.00. The local sponsor is required to come up with a 50% match which is \$1,500,000. A scope of work will have to be worked out for the deliverability. Commissioner Price made a motion for the Board to schedule a meeting with the USACE and St. Tammany Parish Government, seconded by Commissioner LaSalle, without objection the motion carried.*
- D. **Other storm surge reduction projects being planned in St. Tammany Parish** - *Vice-Chairman Faust asked Mr. Lancaster about municipalities and parish government that are currently undertaking drainage and flood protection projects in which he, as a member of the Levee Board, was unaware and feels left out of the process (i.e. – Slidell and Madisonville). Mr. Lancaster reminded the members that early in the GAP analysis process NSI met with all the stakeholders to gather information as to projects in current development and future projects. This data is in the GAP analysis report. Commissioner LaSalle suggested that the Board draft a letter to all stakeholders in the parish asking that they make the Levee Board aware of current projects or anticipated projects. Commissioner Krieger also suggested that the municipalities also come and make presentations to the Levee Board and share information on each project. Commissioner McGovern moved that a letter be drafted inviting the municipalities to come to the Levee Board meetings to update the Board, the motion was seconded by Commissioner LaSalle, without objection the motion carried.*
- E. **Treasurer's Report** –
Commissioner Krieger reported that the September balance reflected is \$38,428.80. There are four debits which are reflected on the balance sheet provided to each member. There is one outstanding check in the amount of \$550.00 for the accounting firm DHM for the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's report. With no questions, a motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Commissioner LaSalle, seconded by Commissioner McGovern, without objection the motion carried.

October 16, 2019 Meeting Date Announcement –

The next meeting of the Levee Board will be on Wednesday, October 16, 2019 in the Parish Council Chambers located at The Parish Towers Building, 520 Old Spanish Trail, Slidell, LA at 6:00 p.m. and was approved by the Board.

Public Comment:

Several members of the public asked questions of the Board and also made comments to the Board. It was suggested by Commissioner Krieger that invitations be sent to all municipalities asking that they send a representative to attend the Levee Board Meetings. Mr. Tommy Thompson asked the Board to make a formal request for an Attorney General's opinion regarding specific language in Act 303 of the 2014 Regular Legislative Session. Vice-Chairman Faust and Commissioner McGovern stated that they would wait to make that motion at the next Levee Board meeting.

Adjournment –

Vice-Chairman Faust asked for a motion to adjourn, Commissioner McGovern moved that the Board meeting stand adjourn, seconded by Commissioner LaSalle. Without objection the meeting was adjourned.