

SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY – WEST (SLFPA–W)
Finance, Administration, Legal, and Public Information Committee Meeting
Tuesday, February 16, 2016

The Finance, Administration, Legal, and Public Information (FALPI) Committee of the SLFPA–W met on Tuesday, February 16, 2016, with the following members present: Mr. Dauphin, chairman and Ms. Maclay. Mr. Thomas was absent. Staff in attendance were: Mr. Bosch, Mr. Monzon, Mr. Noel, and Ms. Noll. Harry Vorhoff of the Attorney General’s office was also in attendance.

Mr. Dauphin called the meeting to order in the Commissioners’ meeting room at the SLFPA–W Office, 7001 River Road, Marrero, Louisiana at approximately 6:09 PM.

The Committee unanimously approved the agenda as presented.

There were no public comments.

The Committee reviewed and approved the minutes from the previous meeting, dated January 19, 2016.

Ms. Ford provided information regarding the proposed revisions to the Special Entrance Rate (SER) policy #11-11. The Committee recommended the revised policy be presented for Board consideration and approval.

The Committee discussed possible uses of the BP settlement funds. Staff recommended using West Jefferson Levee District’s portion for levee lifts and/or an emergency fund for the West Closure Complex (WCC). It was recommended that Algiers Levee District’s portion go into their Capital Project Fund and/or into a WCC emergency fund. The Committee agreed to recommend the creation of a WCC emergency fund for approval by the Board. The Committee recommended the BP settlement funds be moved into each respective levee district’s capital project funds for Board approval; at a later point the Committee rescinded that approval, pending staff presentation to the TOM Committee.

Mr. Bosch presented the check register and financial statements for SLFPA–W and its member levee districts. The Committee agreed to recommend these reports for approval by the Board. The Committee directed Mr. Bosch to closely examine the classification for the new O&M/Admin column on the check register. The Committee also discussed using SLFPA-W as the primary account to be utilized for payments, with the two levee districts transferring funds to SLFPA-W.

The Committee reviewed the current budget and recommended a \$60,000 amendment, to the West Closure Complex (WCC) Utilities budget, for approval by the Board.

The Committee reviewed the draft proposed budget and provided feedback. The Committee discussed the future financial status of SLFPA-W and its levee districts. Due to the new millage not being approved by the voters in the West Jefferson Levee District there are insufficient funds for the long term repair, replacement, and rehabilitation (RR&R) of the flood protection system.

During the revenue discussion, the Committee directed staff to forward Swift Energy’s bankruptcy information to Lafitte as a courtesy.

Mr. Avant and Ms. Ford provided information regarding civil service rules, performance adjustments, and layoff avoidance. After discussion, the Committee requested additional information, research, and revisions to the draft proposed budget.

There were no Commissioner's travel expense reports to review.

The Committee reviewed the Cooperative Endeavor Agreements (CEAs) for operations and maintenance by and between SLFPA-W and its member levee districts and agreed to recommend these for approval by the Board.

The Committee reviewed the CEA for the feral hog program by and between SLFPA-W and the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF) and agreed to recommend this CEA for approval by the Board.

Mr. Monzon updated the Committee regarding the interim intergovernmental agreement for the WCC, now extended for another two months, through March 2016.

Mr. Monzon informed the Committee that the Record Retention Schedule has been approved by State Archives.

Ms. Maclay stated that Mr. Merritt is still researching the issue regarding the Lafitte royalties, but appreciates that the issue should be taken up by Lafitte with the oil companies. Mr. Vorhoff stated that there was a three year time frame during which this issue should be addressed.

Mr. Noel presented a fiscal update regarding the lifts and armoring status.

The right of entry spreadsheet was reviewed and the Committee will be updated again at next month's meeting.

Mr. Monzon provided a report of his activities for the month of February and informed the Committee on pending issues.

Mr. Dauphin announced that the date and time of the next Committee meeting is to be held on Tuesday, March 8, 2016 at 6:00 PM. It will be held in the Commissioners' meeting room at the SLFPA-W Office, 7001 River Road, Marrero, Louisiana.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:49 PM.