MINUTES OF THE SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY – WEST SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, August 11, 2015

The Special Board Meeting of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority - West ("Authority" or "SLFPA-W") was held on Tuesday, August 11, 2015, at the regular meeting place of the Algiers Levee District in Orleans Parish, the Moreau Center of the Our Lady of Holy Cross College, located at 4123 Woodland Drive, New Orleans, Louisiana, after due legal notice of the meeting was sent to each Board member and the news media and posted.

Ms. Maclay called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. and led all in the pledge of allegiance.

PRESENT:

Ms. Susan H. Maclay, Mr. Jim Wilkinson, Mr. Edward L. Camnetar, Mr. Paul R. Dauphin, Mr. Kendall Gaddy, Mr. Michael L. Merritt, Mr. Kerwin E. Julien, Sr.

ABSENT:

None.

OPENING COMMENTS:

Ms. Maclay advised that on-going discussions have been held concerning a tax election that the SLFPA-W, on behalf of the Algiers Levee District, is requesting to be placed on the November 21, 2015 ballot.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Maclay explained that the Constitution permits the governing authority of a levee district to levy an annual tax on the dollar amount of the assessed valuation of all taxable property situated within the district and to raise additional funds through millage increases subject to voter approval for the purpose of constructing and maintaining levees, levee drainage, flood protection, hurricane flood protection, and for all other purposes incidental thereto.

For a levee district created prior to January 1, 2006, such as the West Jefferson Levee District ("WJLD"), the general ad valorem tax authorized is 5 mills. However, due to roll-forwards, the number of mills levied on the 2014 tax rolls was 5.03, which generated revenues of \$5,119,588 for the year ended June 30, 2014.

For a levee district created after January 1, 2006, such as the Algiers Levee District ("Algiers" or "ALD"), the general millage is not fixed. However, when Algiers was carved out of the Orleans Levee District and placed within SLFPA-W, the legislature provided that Algiers would have the same taxing authority as the Orleans Levee District on July 12, 2007.

As a result, Algiers has the general ad valorem tax at the rate of 5.46 mills; a general maintenance ad valorem tax at the rate of 0.75 mills pursuant to the authority of the special election held on November 19, 1983; and a special levee improvement ad valorem tax originally authorized by special election on March 4, 1974 at the rate of 3 mills pursuant to the authority of Article 6, Section 39(B) of the Louisiana Constitution, which was extended for a period of thirty years through the year 2015 and increased to 6.07 mills pursuant to authority of a special election held on November 19, 1983, and which had been levied at the rate of 6.35 mills due to roll-forwards.

In Orleans Parish, ad valorem taxes are assessed for the calendar year and become due on January 1. Accordingly, this year is the last year that Algiers can levy and collect the special levee improvement ad valorem tax of 6.35 mills.

For the year ended June 30, 2014, the millages in Algiers resulted in revenues of approximately \$2,455,144. Without the special levee improvement ad valorem tax, it is expected that levee millages in Algiers will total approximately \$1,231,000.

In addition to millages needed to maintain the levees within the jurisdiction of Algiers, Ms. Maclay reminded the Board that the Army Corps of Engineers transferred the West Closure Complex ("WCC") to the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority ("CPRA").

The WCC is a major feature of the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System ("HSDRRS") for southeast Louisiana which reduces risk for residences and businesses in three parishes on the west bank of the Mississippi River: Orleans, Jefferson and Plaquemines parishes. The structural features of the project reduce the risk associated with a storm surge event that has a one percent chance of occurring in any given year, or a 100-year storm surge.

Ms. Maclay reminded the Board that it had previously approved an interim intergovernmental agreement that apportions operations and maintenance cost of the WCC with Plaquemines Parish and CPRA and that R.S. 38:301.1(D) permits levee districts located wholly or partially in the coastal area to expend funds for projects and programs outside of their normal jurisdictional bounds on the condition that the funds are used consistent with the purposes and intent expressed in R.S. 49:214.1 and will benefit the jurisdiction from which the funds are derived, if specially provided for by the CPRA in a cooperative endeavor agreement.

The WJLD has been operating off of the same level of mills since its founding in 1980. It was able to save several million dollars while its hurricane protection system was under construction in anticipation of levee lifts that it knew would be necessary in several sections of the newly constructed levees not long after they were completed. These lifts, which will begin in 2015, will

exhaust the savings accrued during the construction of the system. Further, now that the system is complete, the West Jefferson Levee District is responsible for the costs of Operation, Maintenance, Repair, Replacement and Rehabilitation ("OMRR&R") of a vastly expanded system including pump stations.

The Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority - West ("SLFPAW" or "Authority") was established as a levee district pursuant to Article VI, Sections 38 and 38.1 of the Constitution of Louisiana. The Authority exercises all authority over and has management, oversight, and control of the territories under the WJLD and the ALD, as provided by law for the boards of commissioners of such levee districts to which the authority is a successor and to the extent provided for in LA R.S. 38:330.1.

At the end of fiscal year 2014, the Authority spent \$5.2M to operate and maintain the levees and flood protection systems including salaries, benefits, and insurance. In 2015, the Authority will incur an additional \$1.6M to operate and maintain the West Closure complex through an interim agreement with Plaquemines Parish and CPRA. Last year President Obama signed the Water Resources Reform and Development Act ("WRRDA") of 2014 into law. The bill stipulates that the cost to operate and maintain (no mandate for RR&R) the West Closure Complex shall be cost shared with the state at a 65% federal and 35% state cost share. Thus, when the funds are appropriated the cost share to the Authority will be approximately \$1.2M per year.

The Westbank and Vicinity Projects ("WBV") are now complete and have been turned over to the Authority for OMRR&R. Most of the earthen sections on the west bank will require a lift prior to armoring. In order to maintain the 10 year certification that FEMA granted in 2014, the Authority will perform maintenance lifts in years 2015 and 2016 at an estimated cost of \$26 Million. The next round of lifts, armoring, repair, rehabilitation and replacement will occur between 2023 and 2033. It is estimated that the cash on hand required will be \$34.8 Million.

As of December 2014, the Authority has approximately \$17 Million available on hand for OMRR&R of the levee system. \$13.9 Million comes from the WJLD and \$3.2 Million from the ALD. The Authority is scheduled to collect \$8.2M in 2015; \$5.1M from WJLD, \$2.4M from Algiers and \$700k miscellaneous income.

However, the Authority will lose \$1.224M in revenue from an expiring 6.35 mills special levee district improvement tax in Algiers. Based on current obligations the Authority will begin to run on a deficit by 2016 and will be in a \$55M hole by 2024. Not to mention, Algiers will not collect enough to even meet its basic O&M needs, which means services will have to be cut back, as WJLD cannot legally float ALD.

Based on these projections it is estimated that the Authority will need to seek an additional 5.5 Mills from WJLD to have enough cash on hand to maintain the next 10 year cycle beginning in 2023. ALD needs to reimpose its special tax in order to be able to meet its routine O&M obligations as well as its contributions to the WCC.

Ms. Maclay explained that the resolutions before the Board were to seek to reimpose the special levee improvement ad valorem tax at 6.35 mills for Algiers for purposes of providing revenue to support levee maintenance operations in Algiers and for purposes of providing revenue to support Algiers' share of the operation and maintenance of the WCC, and to seek to levy a millage increase for WJLD for purposes of providing revenue to support WJLD's share of the operation and maintenance of the WCC and levee maintenance operations in West Jefferson; and to meet the needs of additional future RR&R needs.

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Wilkinson and seconded by Mr. Julien:

ALD RESOLUTION 081115-01

A resolution ordering and calling a special election to be held in the Algiers Levee District, to authorize a special tax therein; making application to the State Bond Commission in connection therewith; and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-West (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the Algiers Levee District (the "District"), that:

SECTION 1. Election Call. Subject to the approval of the State Bond Commission, and under the authority conferred by Article VI, Sections 30, 32 and 39(B)of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974, R.S. 38:405, the applicable provisions of Chapter 5 and Chapter 6-A of the Louisiana Election Code, and other constitutional and statutory authority, a special election is hereby called and ordered to be held in the District on SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2015, between the hours of seven o'clock (7:00) a.m., and eight o'clock (8:00) p.m., in accordance with the provisions of La. R.S. 18:541, and at the said election there shall be submitted to all registered voters qualified and entitled to vote at the said election under the Constitution and laws of this State and the Constitution of the United States, the following proposition, to-wit:

PROPOSITION (MILLAGE)

Summary: Authority to levy for a term of 30 years, and dedicate the proceeds of a special 6.35 mill property tax for (i) constructing and maintaining levees, levee drainage, flood protection, hurricane flood protection and all other purposes incidental thereto including debt service payments, and (ii) operation and maintenance of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway - West Closure Complex as part of Louisiana's comprehensive integrated coastal protection plan with benefit to the jurisdiction of the Algiers Levee District.

Shall the Algiers Levee District (the "District") be authorized to levy and collect annually a special tax of 6.35 mills on all property subject to taxation in said District (the "Tax") (an estimated \$1,224,000 reasonably expected at the time to be collected for an entire year) for a period of thirty years beginning with the year 2016, and ending with the year 2045; and shall the revenues or proceeds of 6.35 mills of the Tax hereafter received from the authorization of the Tax be dedicated and used for the purpose of constructing and maintaining levees, levee drainage, flood protection, hurricane flood protection and for all other purposes incidental thereto, including payments required in connection with debt obligations incurred for any of the above described capital purposes, as well as a portion of the operation and maintenance of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway - West Closure Complex (the "West Closure Complex"), which is part of Louisiana's comprehensive integrated coastal protection plan and from which the jurisdiction of the Algiers Levee District derives benefit?

SECTION 2. <u>Publication of Notice of Election</u>. A Notice of Special Election shall be published in The New Orleans Advocate, a newspaper of general circulation within the District, published in New Orleans, Louisiana, and being the official journal of the District, once a week for four consecutive weeks, with the first publication to be made not less than forty-five (45) days nor more than ninety (90) days prior to the date of the election, which Notice shall be substantially in the form attached hereto as "Exhibit A" and incorporated herein by reference the same as if it were set forth herein in full.

SECTION 3. <u>Canvass</u>. This Governing Authority shall meet at its regular meeting place, at the regular meeting place of the Algiers Levee District in Orleans Parish, the Moreau Center of the Our Lady of Holy Cross College, located at 4123 Woodland Drive, New Orleans, Louisiana, on TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2015, at FIVE THIRTY O'CLOCK (5:30) P.M., and shall then and there in open and public session proceed to examine and canvass the returns and declare the result of the said special election.

SECTION 4. <u>Polling Places</u>. The polling places set forth in the aforesaid Notice of Special Election are hereby designated as the polling places at which to hold the said election, and the Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners, respectively, will be the same persons as those designated in accordance with law. The amendment of the Notice of Special Election to reflect future changes in precincts and polling places to be used at the election, is hereby authorized.

SECTION 5. <u>Election Commissioners</u>; <u>Voting Machines</u>. The officers designated to serve as Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners pursuant to Section 4 hereof, or such substitutes therefor as may be selected and designated in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1287, shall hold the said special election as herein provided, and shall make due returns of said election for the meeting of the Governing Authority to be held on Tuesday, December 1, 2015, as provided in Section 3 hereof. All registered voters in the District will be entitled to vote at the special election, and voting machines shall be used.

SECTION 6. <u>Authorization of Officers</u>. The Secretary of the Governing Authority is hereby empowered, authorized and directed to arrange for and to furnish to said election officers in ample time for the holding of said election, the necessary equipment, forms and other paraphernalia essential to the proper holding of said election and the President and/or Secretary of the Governing Authority are further authorized, empowered and directed to take any and all further action required by State and/or Federal law to arrange for the election, including but not limited to, appropriate submission to the Federal Department of Justice under Section 5 of the Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended.

SECTION 7. <u>Furnishing Election Call to Election Officials</u>. Certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Secretary of State, the Clerk of Court and Ex-Officio Parish Custodian of Voting Machines of Orleans Parish and the Registrar of Voters of Orleans Parish, as notification of the special election, in order that each may prepare for said election and perform their respective functions as required by law.

SECTION 8. Application to State Bond Commission. Application is made to the State Bond Commission for consent and authority to hold the special election as herein provided, and in the event said election carries for further consent and authority to continue to levy and collect the special tax provided for therein. A certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the State Bond Commission on behalf of this Governing Authority, together with a letter requesting the prompt consideration and approval of this application. In the event the State Bond Commission, through its staff, requests an amendment to the proposition appearing in Section 1 hereof and in the attached Notice of Special Election, such amendment is hereby approved and authorized provided such amendment does not change the amount of the millage levy or term of the tax.

This resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS:

Ms. Susan H. Maclay, Mr. Jim Wilkinson, Mr. Edward L.

Camnetar, Mr. Paul R. Dauphin, Mr. Kendall Gaddy, Mr.

Michael L. Merritt, Mr. Kerwin E. Julien, Sr.

NAYS:

None.

ABSENT:

None.

And the resolution was declared adopted on this, the 11th day of August, 2015.

Secretary

President

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

Pursuant to the provisions of a resolution adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority - West (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the Algiers Levee District (the "District"), on August 11, 2015, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special election will be held within the District on SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2015, and that at the said election there will be submitted to all registered voters in the District qualified and entitled to vote at the said election under the Constitution and Laws of the State of Louisiana and the Constitution of the United States, the following proposition, to-wit:

PROPOSITION (MILLAGE)

Summary: Authority to levy for a term of 30 years, and dedicate the proceeds of a special 6.35 mill property tax for (i) constructing and maintaining levees, levee drainage, flood protection, hurricane flood protection and all other purposes incidental thereto including debt service payments, and (ii) operation and maintenance of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway - West Closure Complex as part of Louisiana's comprehensive integrated coastal protection plan with benefit to the jurisdiction of the Algiers Levee District.

Shall the Algiers Levee District (the "District") be authorized to levy and collect annually a special tax of 6.35 mills on all property subject to taxation in said District (the "Tax") (an estimated \$1,224,000 reasonably expected at the time to be collected for an entire year) for a period of thirty years beginning with the year 2016, and ending with the year 2045; and shall the revenues or proceeds of 6.35 mills of the Tax hereafter received from the authorization of the Tax be dedicated and used for the purpose of constructing and maintaining levees, levee drainage, flood protection, hurricane flood protection and for all other purposes incidental thereto, including payments required in connection with debt obligations incurred for any of the above described capital purposes, as well as a portion of the operation and maintenance of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway - West Closure Complex (the "West Closure Complex"), which is part of Louisiana's comprehensive integrated coastal protection plan and from which the jurisdiction of the Algiers Levee District derives benefit?

The said special election will be held at the following polling places situated within the District, which polls will open at seven o'clock (7:00) a.m., and close at eight o'clock (8:00) p.m., in accordance with the provisions of La. R.S. 18:541, to-wit:

Polling Places

Ward	Precinct	Location
15	1	Algiers Courthouse, 225 Morgan St.
15	2	International School of Louisiana, 502 Olivier St.
15	3	Algiers Courthouse, 225 Morgan St.
15	5	Central Fire Station, 425 Opelousas Ave.
15	6	Martin Behrman Charter Elem. School, 715 Opelousas Ave.
15	8	McDonogh #32 School, 800 Dearms St.
15	9	Arthur Mondy M.S.C., 1111 Newton St.
15	10	L.B. Landry High School, 1200 L.B. Landry Ave.
15	11	William J. Fischer Elementary School, 1801 L B Landry Ave.
15	12	O.P. Walker High School, 2832 General Meyer Ave.
15	12A	O.P. Walker High School, 2832 General Meyer Ave.
15	13	O.P. Walker High School, 2832 General Meyer Ave.
15	13A	Pearlie H. Elloie Head Start Center, 3029 Wall Blvd.
15	13B	Pearlie H. Elloie Head Start Center, 3029 Wall Blvd.
15	14	Paul B. Habans School, 3819 Herschel St.
15	14A	Edna Karr School, 3332 Huntlee Dr.
15	14B	Edna Karr School, 3332 Huntlee Dr.
15	14C	Woodland Presbyterian Church, 5824 Berkley Dr.
15	14D	Edna Karr School, 3332 Huntlee Dr.
15	14E	Paul B. Habans School, 3819 Herschel St.
15	14F	Paul B. Habans School, 3819 Herschel St.
15	14G	Woldenberg Village, 3663 Behrman Place
15	15	Engine House #33, 3440 General Meyer Ave.
15	15A	Engine House #33, 3440 General Meyer Ave.

Polling Places

Ward	Precinct	Location
15	15B	Edna Karr School, 3332 Huntlee Dr.
15	16	Algiers Technology Academy, 6501 Berkley Dr. (Rosenwald Campus)
15	17	Edna Karr School, 3332 Huntlee Dr.
15	17 A	Edna Karr School, 3332 Huntlee Dr.
15	17B	Woodland Presbyterian Church, 5824 Berkley Dr.
15	18	Woodland Presbyterian Church, 5824 Berkley Dr.
15	18A	Woodland Presbyterian Church, 5824 Berkley Dr.
15	18B	Engine House #17, 4115 Woodland Hwy.
15	18C	Engine House #17, 4115 Woodland Hwy.
15	18D	Dwight Eisenhower School, 3700 Tall Pines Dr.
15	18E	Private Res. (Park Timbers), #1 Park Timbers Dr.
15	18F	Dwight Eisenhower School, 3700 Tall Pines Dr.
15	19	Cut-Off Community Center, 6600 Belgrade St.
15	19A	Bo De Temple, 4386 Lincoln St. Corner Hwy. 406
15	19B	Cut-Off Community Center, 6600 Belgrade St.
15	19C	Algiers Technology Academy, 6501 Berkley Dr. (Rosenwald Campus)

The polling places set forth above are hereby designated as the polling places at which to hold the said election, and the Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners, respectively, shall be those persons designated according to law.

The said special election will be held in accordance with the applicable provisions of Chapter 5 and Chapter 6-A of Title 18 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, and other constitutional and statutory authority, and the officers appointed to hold the said election, as provided in this Notice of Special Election, or such substitutes therefor as may be selected and designated in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1287, will make due returns thereof to said Governing Authority, and NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the Governing Authority will meet at its regular meeting place, the Moreau Center of the Our Lady of Holy Cross College, located at 4123 Woodland Drive, New Orleans, Louisiana, on Tuesday, December 1, 2015, at FIVE THIRTY O'CLOCK (5:30) P.M., and shall then and there in open and public session proceed to examine and

canvass the returns and declare the result of the said special election. All registered voters of the District are entitled to vote at said special election and voting machines will be used.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED at Algiers, Louisiana, on this, the 11th day of August, 2015.

ATTEST:

Secretary

President

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF ORLEANS

I, the undersigned Secretary of the Board of Commissioners of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority - West (the "Governing Authority"), the governing authority of the Algiers Levee District (the "District"), do hereby certify that the foregoing pages constitute a true and correct copy of the proceedings taken by the Governing Authority on August 11, 2015, ordering and calling a special election to be held in the Algiers Levee District, to authorize the dedication of a special tax therein; making application to the State Bond Commission in connection therewith; and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

IN FAITH WHEREOF, witness my official signature and the impress of the official seal of the District at Algiers, Louisiana, on this, the 11th day of August, 2015.

Secretary

There was no further business; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 6:06 p.m.