

SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY – WEST (SLFPA-W)
Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, October 29, 2024

The SLFPA-W Board of Commissioners met at approximately 4:00 P.M., Tuesday, October 29, 2024 at the SLFPA-W – Office – Board Room, 7001 River Road, Marrero, Louisiana.

Mr. Burke called the public meeting to order and directed Mr. Gauthé to call the roll.

Commissioners in attendance at the SLFPA-W – Office – Board Room: Mr. Burke, Ms. Foster, Mr. Galloway, Mr. Gauthé, and Mr. Robinson. Mr. Ardoin and Mr. Fogle were absent.

Mr. Burke led all in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Mr. Gauthé, seconded by Ms. Foster, and unanimously approved by the Commissioners in attendance to affirm the agenda as presented.

It was moved by Mr. Burke, seconded by Mr. Gauthé, and unanimously approved by the Commissioners in attendance to accept and approve the minutes of the September 17, 2024 regular board meeting.

There were no public comments.

Mr. Burke presented the President’s report for the month of October.

Mr. Gauthé reported on the activities, meetings, and issues of the Administration Committee during the month of October.

Mr. Robinson reported on the activities, meetings, and issues of the Operations and Maintenance Committee during the month of October.

Mr. Robinson represented SLFPA-West at the Mississippi Valley Flood Control Association (MVFCA) Washington D.C. 2024 Fall Legislative meetings. He briefed the Board on his meetings with members of Congress regarding funding, and the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) requests.

Mr. Noel presented the Regional Director’s report for the month of October.

It was moved by Mr. Burke, seconded by Mr. Gauthé and unanimously approved by the Commissioners in attendance to order and call a special election to be held in the West Jefferson Levee District, to authorize the renewal of the levy and collection of a special ad valorem tax therein; making application to the Louisiana State Bond Commission and providing for other matters in connection therewith as follows:

Shall the West Jefferson Levee District (the "District") be authorized to renew the levy and collection of a special tax of four and seventy-five hundredths (4.75) mills on all property subject to taxation in said District (the "Tax") (an estimated \$6,551,596 reasonably expected at the time to be collected

for an entire year) for a period of ten (10) years beginning with the year 2028, and ending with the year 2037; and shall the revenues or proceeds of the Tax be dedicated and used for the purposes of constructing, raising, armoring and maintaining levees, and for the repair, rehabilitation and replacement of capital projects for purposes of flood and hurricane protection including the Bayou Segnette Complex, Harvey Sector Gate Complex and the District's share of the West Closure Complex; including payments required in connection with debt obligations incurred for any of the above capital projects? The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

YEAS: Mr. Burke, Ms. Foster, Mr. Galloway, Mr. Gauthé, Mr. Robinson

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Mr. Ardoin, Mr. Fogle

RECUSED: None

It was moved by Mr. Gauthé, seconded by Ms. Foster, and unanimously approved by the Commissioners in attendance to approve bills for payment and accept financial statements as submitted for the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority – West, West Jefferson Levee District, and Algiers Levee District. The vote on the motion was as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Foster, Mr. Galloway, Mr. Gauthé, Mr. Robinson

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Mr. Ardoin, Mr. Fogle

RECUSED: None

It was moved by Mr. Gauthé, seconded by Mr. Galloway, and unanimously approved by the Commissioners in attendance to authorize the President to adopt a contract with Mr. Jesse Noel for Regional Director services; and to further authorize the President to execute any contracts, agreements, and documents to carry out the intent of this action. The vote on the motion was as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Foster, Mr. Galloway, Mr. Gauthé, Mr. Robinson

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Mr. Ardoin, Mr. Fogle

RECUSED: None

It was moved by Mr. Robinson, seconded by Ms. Foster, and unanimously approved by the Commissioners in attendance to authorize bid advertisements of Project #2024-310: Jazz Walkway Lighting project; and to further authorize the President to execute any contracts, agreements, and documents to carry out the intent of this action. The vote on the motion was as follows:

YEAS: Mr. Burke, Ms. Foster, Mr. Galloway, Mr. Gauthé, Mr. Robinson

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Mr. Ardoin, Mr. Fogle

RECUSED: None

It was moved by Mr. Gauthé, seconded by Mr. Robinson, and unanimously approved by the Commissioners in attendance to amend The Ehrhardt Group contract to increase the not to exceed value from \$48,000.00 to \$100,000.00 for the fiscal year 2024-2025; and to increase the SLFPA-W Public Information 2024-2025 budget line item from \$48,000.00 to \$200,000.00. The vote on the motion was as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Foster, Mr. Galloway, Mr. Gauthé, Mr. Robinson

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Mr. Ardoin, Mr. Fogle

RECUSED: None

It was moved by Mr. Gauthé, seconded by Ms. Foster, and unanimously approved by the Commissioners in attendance to adopt the revisions to SLFPAW Policy #11-16 Ethics and Dual Employment, as presented with an effective date of October 29, 2024. The vote on the motion was as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Foster, Mr. Galloway, Mr. Gauthé, Mr. Robinson

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Mr. Ardoin, Mr. Fogle

RECUSED: None

It was moved by Mr. Gauthé, seconded by Mr. Robinson, and unanimously approved by the Commissioners in attendance to adopt the revisions to SLFPAW Policy #11-17 Equal Employment Opportunity, as presented with an effective date of October 29, 2024. The vote on the motion was as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Foster, Mr. Galloway, Mr. Gauthé, Mr. Robinson

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Mr. Ardoin, Mr. Fogle

RECUSED: None

After discussion, it was moved by Mr. Gauthé, seconded by Mr. Robinson, and unanimously approved by the Commissioners in attendance to adopt the revisions to SLFPAW Policy #11-18 Sexual Harassment, as presented with an effective date of October 29, 2024. The vote on the motion was as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Foster, Mr. Galloway, Mr. Gauthé, Mr. Robinson

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Mr. Ardoin, Mr. Fogle

RECUSED: None

It was moved by Mr. Gauthé, seconded by Ms. Foster, and unanimously approved by the Commissioners in attendance to adopt the revisions to SLFPAW Policy #11-19 Workplace Harassment & Discrimination, as presented with an effective date of October 29, 2024. The vote on the motion was as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Foster, Mr. Galloway, Mr. Gauthé, Mr. Robinson
NAYS: None
ABSTAINED: None
ABSENT: Mr. Ardoin, Mr. Fogle
RECUSED: None

It was moved by Mr. Gauthé, seconded by Ms. Foster, and unanimously approved by the Commissioners in attendance to adopt the revisions to SLFPAW Policy #11-20 Americans with Disabilities Act, as presented with an effective date of October 29, 2024. The vote on the motion was as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Foster, Mr. Galloway, Mr. Gauthé, Mr. Robinson
NAYS: None
ABSTAINED: None
ABSENT: Mr. Ardoin, Mr. Fogle
RECUSED: None

It was moved by Mr. Gauthé, seconded by Ms. Foster, and unanimously approved by the Commissioners in attendance to adopt SLFPAW Policy #24-43 Public Meeting ADA Accessibility Policy, as presented with an effective date of October 29, 2024. The vote on the motion was as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Foster, Mr. Galloway, Mr. Gauthé, Mr. Robinson
NAYS: None
ABSTAINED: None
ABSENT: Mr. Ardoin, Mr. Fogle
RECUSED: None

It was moved by Mr. Gauthé, seconded by Mr. Robinson, and unanimously approved by the Commissioners in attendance to adopt a resolution authorizing the President to negotiate a contract for legal services for one fiscal year with Owen J. Bordelon, at an amount not to exceed \$150,000.00 per year, subject to the adoption of SLFPA-W's budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025, and to further authorize the President to execute any contracts, agreements, and documents to carry out the intent of this action. The vote on the motion was as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Foster, Mr. Galloway, Mr. Gauthé, Mr. Robinson
NAYS: None
ABSTAINED: None
ABSENT: Mr. Ardoin, Mr. Fogle
RECUSED: None

It was moved by Mr. Gauthé, seconded by Ms. Foster, and unanimously approved by the Commissioners in attendance to adopt a resolution authorizing the President to negotiate a contract for legal services for one fiscal year with Connick and Connick, LLC, at an amount not to exceed \$65,000.00 per year, subject to the adoption of SLFPA-W's budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025, and to further authorize the President to execute any contracts, agreements, and documents to carry out the intent of this action. The vote on the motion was as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Foster, Mr. Galloway, Mr. Gauthé, Mr. Robinson

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Mr. Ardoin, Mr. Fogle

RECUSED: None

It was moved by Mr. Gauthé, seconded by Mr. Robinson, and unanimously approved by the Commissioners in attendance to adopt a resolution authorizing the President to negotiate a contract for legal services for one fiscal year with Pickering and Cotogno, at an amount not to exceed \$65,000.00 per year, subject to the adoption of SLFPA-W's budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025, and to further authorize the President to execute any contracts, agreements, and documents to carry out the intent of this action. The vote on the motion was as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Foster, Mr. Galloway, Mr. Gauthé, Mr. Robinson

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Mr. Ardoin, Mr. Fogle

RECUSED: None

Mr. Burke announced the next board meeting of the Authority is to be held Tuesday, November 19, 2024, at the SLFPA-W – Office – Board Room, 7001 River Road, Marrero, Louisiana at 4:00 PM.

The agenda being completed, Mr. Burke declared the meeting adjourned at approximately 4:32 P.M.