

Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana



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Cory Kief
President

Drew Keahey
Vice President

"Without Flood Control, Nothing Else Matters"

MINUTES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING FEBRUARY 07, 2020

President Cory Kief called to order the Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana's (ALBL) Executive Committee Meeting at 10:00a.m., Friday, February 07, 2020, at Drusilla Seafood Restaurant in Baton Rouge. There were fifteen (15) member agencies present which constituted a quorum.

Motion by Mr. Bourgeois, seconded by Mr. Minsky, to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2019, Executive Committee Meeting. Motion passed without opposition.

The Financial Report was given by Ms. Monica Gorman who updated the budget from the last Executive Committee Meeting. The following balances formed the working capital of the ALBL: checking account \$135,414.64; savings \$70,787.94; litigation savings account at \$15,901.33, and Flood Insurance Coalition account \$21,784.32. Motion by Mr. Keahey, seconded by Mr. Mustapha, to accept the financial statement. Motion passed without opposition.

Mr. Dwayne Bourgeois gave an update on the Louisiana Flood Risk Coalition. He stated that the Coalition has coordinated efforts with CPRA and their NFIP committee. In December the program was extended to October 31, 2020. He advised that there is a potential of going to Washington, D.C. in March of 2020 and that he will keep the membership informed.

Mr. Scott Kirkpatrick gave the Legislative Committee Report and stated that the Legislative Regular Session is coming up and that the committees have been appointed. February 28, 2020, is the pre-file date for this Session. The ALBL Legislative Committee was reaffirmed at the December meeting. Sometime in March he will be sending out bills that will be affecting the Association and recommended positions.

Mr. Curole advised that Title 38 has been changed in regards to the payment of liquidated damages and is of concern to the members. Mr. Kirkpatrick will contact other public entities to see how it is affecting them and will look over the relevant court cases to get a better idea of how to approach this.

There was also a discussion about somehow rating contractors and having an option to not use them even if they are the low bidder. Mr. Kirkpatrick will contact Commissioner Jay Dardenne's office about the possibility of having someone speak at the upcoming May Workshop in regards to low performing, unsatisfactory contractors.

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Mr. Monzon suggested engaging with AGC to explain that flood protection projects are different than construction projects and possibly seek their help in changing the law.

Mr. Kirkpatrick advised that he is working on a document to explain the funding of the Watershed Initiative and he will send it around to the membership when completed. He also stated that the GOMESA revenue sharing has increased.

Mr. Kief gave an update on the amicus brief prepared by Loulan Pitre and stated that information is in the packet. Mr. Pitre will give an update at the upcoming May Workshop.

Mr. Curole gave the Comprehensive Hurricane Protection Committee Report and stated that it is important that everyone understands that restoration and hurricane protection, while both important, are two (2) different things.

Ms. Gorman advised that the schedule of events for the MVFCA Washington DC trip scheduled for March 8-11th and all meetings/events for 2020 is included in the packet.

Ms. Gorman advised that there is a draft program for the upcoming ALBL Workshop May 7-8, 2020.

There was no update on the Louisiana Watershed Initiative, as presented on the agenda, due to the absence of the speaker.

There was no Old Business.

Under New Business, Mr. Bourgeois stated that he was made aware of a lawsuit by riverine landowners suing USACE for when and how they operate the control structure. He asked Mr. Stringer and Mr. Minsky, in the Northern part of the state if they thought that this lawsuit will affect their districts directly. They stated that they did not.

Mr. Kief advised that he would like to implement a way to recognize commissioners for their service in increments of five (5) years. This recognition will take place at the luncheon in December at the Annual Meeting. Ms. White will be sending out emails to the boards requesting service years for commissioners.

The next Executive Committee Meeting will be held at the May Workshop in Baton Rouge.

The motion to adjourn passed by acclamation.

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Members Present:

Don Beshel, Plaquemines Parish Government
Derek Boese, SLFPA-E
Curt Boniol, LADOTD
Dwayne Bourgeois, North Lafourche Levee District
Ronald Callais, South Lafourche Levee District
Windell Curole, South Lafourche Levee District
Reggie Dupre, Terrebonne Levee & Conservation District
Kendall Gaddy, SLFPA-W
Monica Gorman, Pontchartrain Levee District
Greg Hardy, DOTD
Drew Keahey, Tensas Basin Levee District
Cory Kief, North Lafourche Levee District
Scott Kirkpatrick, Roedel Parsons Koch Blache Balhoff & McCollister
Earl Landry, Chenier Plain Authority
Reynold Minsky, 5th Louisiana Levee District
John Monzon, SLFPA-W
Ali Mustapha, Caddo Levee District
Shane Nicholas, East Baton Rouge Parish Public Works
Dietmar Rietschier, Amite River Basin Commission
Blaine Sheets, Pontchartrain Levee District
James Sims, Caddo Levee District
John Stringer, Tensas Basin Levee District
Will Tyson, Atchafalaya Basin Levee District
Brandon Waggoner, Tensas Basin Levee District
Amber White, ALBL
Jacob Wilson, DOTD