

Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana

CORY KIEF PRESIDENT

DREW KEAHEY VICE PRESIDENT

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"WITHOUT FLOOD CONTROL, NOTHING ELSE MATTERS"

MINUTES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING FEBRUARY 14, 2025

President Cory Kief called to order the Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana's (ALBL) Executive Committee Meeting at 10:00 a.m., Friday, February 14, 2025, at Drusilla Seafood Restaurant in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. There were seventeen (17) member agencies present which constituted a quorum.

Motion by Mr. Henry, seconded by Mr. Bourgeois to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2024, Executive Committee Meeting and the January 17, 2025, Special DRIVE Meeting. Motion passed without opposition.

The Financial Report was given by Ms. Gorman who updated the budget from the last Executive Committee Meeting. The following balances formed the working capital of the ALBL: checking account \$197,834.89; savings \$70,822.75; Litigation Savings Account \$15,909.11. Motion by Mr. Matte, seconded by Mr. Robinson to accept the financial statement. Motion passed without opposition.

Mr. Kirkpatrick gave the Legislative Committee Report and stated that the legislative session begins April 14 and that April 4th is the deadline for general subject matter legislation. If you have any bills that need to be addressed, please reach out. The committee will keep a watch on the DOTD reorganization as well as the DRIVE initiative.

Ms. White stated that the draft program for the upcoming ALBL Annual Workshop May 1-2, 2025 at the Crowne Plaza in Baton Rouge is in everyone's packet. The Ethics and Preventing Sexual Harassment sessions have been confirmed however more topics are needed. The following were suggested: Hurricane Preparedness (GOHSEP), Comprehensive Lower Mississippi River Study (USACE), and Public Meeting Procedures (Terrebonne Levee Legal).

For the legal session, DOTD legal is looking at a session on Ethics or Professionalism as well as Public Records Law. If anyone has suggestions for topics, please reach out.

During the ALBL member spotlight, Ms. Buck gave an overview of the Plaquemines Parish Government and Mr. Matte gave an overview of the St. Mary Levee District.

During the Associate member spotlight, Mr. Decell with Sunshine Quality Solutions both gave an overview on what his company has to offer to the Association members.

Mr. Kief stated that Secretary Gray would like to meet with a small group to discuss their concerns related to the DRIVE initiative. Mr. Waggoner, as the chairman of the non-Coastal committee has created a list of concerns for the members of the Association. Some of the major concerns are with operations and maintenance, engineering services, and funding sources. Mr. Kief and Mr. Waggoner will get together a group to meet with Secretary Gray and report back to the membership. At that time, the Association will adopt a resolution that outlines the concerns of the members. Mr. Kirkpatrick stressed the timeliness of this meeting since the legislation is being worked on and the deadline is quickly approaching.

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There was no Old Business.

Under New Business, Mr. Ed Knight stated that he put a map on each table showing the fourteen (14) gauge stations that DEQ will stop funding across the State. He will email the map to Ms. White who will distribute to the membership for comments. Mr. Knight asked that everyone review the maps for any in their areas and what data parameters are being collected. If there are any concerns please reach out to Mr. Knight.

Motion by Mr. Bourgeois, seconded by Mr. Hidalgo to adjourn. Motion passed without opposition.

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

Attendees:

Curt Boniol, Proxy for Fifth Louisiana Levee District Dwayne Bourgeois, North Lafourche Levee District Kimberly Buck, Plaquemines Parish Government Roy Carubba, SLFPA-East Hunter Decell, Sunshine Quality Solutions Patrick Furlong, Caddo Levee District Monica Gorman, Pontchartrain Levee District Donald Ray Henry, Lafourche Basin Levee District Angela Hidalgo, Terrebonne Levee & Conservation District Devan Jordan, Bossier Levee District Cory Kief, Proxy for South Lafourche Levee District Scott Kirkpatrick, K2 Advocacy Ed Knight, DOTD Earl Landry, Chenier Plain District Glenn Ledet, CPRA Marcus Long, Bossier Levee District Eric Matherne, Lafourche Basin Levee District Tim Matte, St. Mary Levee District Trey Middleton, Terrebonne Levee & Conservation District Jason Placke, CPRA Ronnie Robinson, SLFPA-West Paul Sawver, Amite River Basin Commission Brandon Waggoner, Tensas Basin Levee District Amber White, ALBL Billy Williamson, DOTD