



Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana

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“WITHOUT FLOOD CONTROL, NOTHING ELSE MATTERS”

MINUTES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AUGUST 07, 2026

President Cory Kief called to order the Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana's (ALBL) Executive Committee Meeting at 10:00 a.m., Friday, August 7, 2026, 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. Keahey to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2026, Executive Committee 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 \$178,382.58; savings \$70,833.16; Litigation Savings Account \$15911.44. Motion by Mr. Matherne, seconded by Mr. Bourgeois to accept the financial statement. Motion passed without opposition.

During the Associate Member spotlight, Mr. Stevie Smith with All South Consulting Engineers and Mr. Jerry Outlaw with Ardaman & Associates both gave an overview on what their companies have to offer to the Association members.

Mr. Kirkpatrick gave the Legislative Committee Report and stated that we are looking ahead to next year and a fiscal session that starts in April 2027. Legislators will be allowed only five (5) bills of a general subject matter. He asked the membership to start thinking about the pre-filing deadlines and what needs to be discussed. Mr. Kief suggested that preliminary discussions be held in December and finalized at the February 2027 meeting.

Mr. Hare thanked the members for support on the procurement bill. He asked that ALBL take a position on the annual plan before the CPRA board meeting before session begins. Mr. Kirkpatrick will keep everyone informed when the draft annual plan is released.

Mr. Jacob Brister (USACE, Mississippi River Commission) reported that preparations are underway for the upcoming commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Great Mississippi River Flood of 1927 and the Flood Control Act of 1928.

He noted that USACE is acting under a memorandum from the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, Mr. Adam Telle, which outlines required actions for the commemoration. All activities must be completed without federal funding, relying instead on a public-private partnership.

A senior civilian representative, Chip Morgan (State of Mississippi), has been appointed as the primary point of contact with USACE. A 501(c)(3) foundation has been established and is currently selecting its members. A cooperative agreement is being drafted to define how USACE will coordinate with this foundation.

USACE will be providing historical information as requested; Brian Renfro has already been working with the foundation to supply historical data. A private marketing firm will manage all tasks identified in the memorandum.

As part of the centennial effort, ALBL members are asked to provide any historical data they may have. A QR code will be sent to all members in order to submit.

Mr. Cory Kief went over the draft proposal for the creation of a training development program for ALBL members. He asked everyone to review the draft and provide any feedback at the next Executive Committee Meeting. Mr. Patrick Furlong and Mr. Jesse Noel will co-chair the Training Committee. Other members will be Ms. Amber White, Ms. Angela Hidalgo, Mr. Brad Barth, and Ms. Monica Gorman. Mr. Waggoner suggested changing the name of the annual workshops and

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meeting to annual spring and fall training symposium. Colonel Gipson went over the new USACE training plan/facility and asked for support.

Mr. Kief advised that the information for the upcoming MVFCA Annual Fall Legislative Meetings is in everyone's packet.

Mr. Kief stated that the ALBL Annual Meeting structure is included in everyone's packet. December 2-3, 2026, at the New Orleans Westin Hotel. Invitations will be sent out within the next few weeks. Mr. Ronnie Robinson requested that all ALBL Members that are also officers with MVFCA be included in the invitation to attend the annual meeting. Motion by Mr. Bourgeois, seconded by Mr. Cloutare to add ALBL MVFCA officers to the invite list for the upcoming annual meeting to include: Mr. Reynold Minsky, Mr. Dwayne Bourgeois, Mr. Jason Trichell, Mr. Jesse Noel, and Mr. Ronnie Robinson. Motion passed without opposition.

During the ALBL Member spotlight, Mr. Noel gave an overview of Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority – West. He advised that as of August 1, 2026, Lafitte Area Independent Levee District has been absorbed into their district. He also went over the 5 core values of his district: safety, fiscal stewardship, transparency, teamwork and excellence.

Ms. Jennifer Marusak, Executive Director of the Ports Association of Louisiana (PAL) spoke about the membership structure of PAL and the dues collected. She stated that her main responsibility as Executive Director is lobbying for the Ports and that meeting planning is outsourced.

During the continuation of the ALBL Member Spotlight, Mr. Sagrera gave an overview of the Teche Vermilion Fresh Water District and pointed out on a map, the areas of note in his district.

Mr. Kief asked the members to begin thinking of hiring an Executive Director for the Association. He would like a decision to be made at the next Executive Committee Meeting. There were several issues brought up to think about: Does the association have the funding to hire and sustain an executive director? Will the current lobbyist remain? Should a federal lobbyist be hired instead? What would be the expected duties? Can fundraising be utilized to supplement an Executive Director's salary and if so, what does that look like? This matter will be taken into consideration at the next Executive Committee meeting in December.

There was no Old Business.

There was no New Business.

Motion by Mr. Bourgeois, seconded by Mr. Henry to go into Executive Session. Motion passed without opposition.

Motion by Mr. Matherne, seconded by Mr. Keahey to return to Regular Session. Motion passed without opposition.

Motion by Mr. Keahey, seconded by Mr. Kyle Ardoin to approve the K2 Advocacy contract for legislative monitoring for the period of August 1, 2026 through July 31, 2027. Motion passed without opposition.

Motion by Mr. Henry, seconded by Mr. Cloutare to increase the salary of Ms. White by four percent (4%). Motion passed without opposition.

Motion by Mr. Keahey, seconded by Mr. Guidry to adjourn. Motion passed without opposition.

The next Executive Committee Meeting will be held at the upcoming Annual Meeting in December.

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Attendees:

Kyle Ardoin, Atchafalaya Basin Levee District
Larry Ardoin, Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection – West
Brad Barth, Coastal Protection & Restoration Authority
Jarret Bauer, All South Engineering
Curt Boniol, Department of Transportation and Development
Brad Bosch, Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority – West
Dwayne Bourgeois, North Lafourche Levee District
Jacob Brister, USACE, Mississippi River Commission
Michael Brocato, St. Mary Levee District
Brian Cespiva, Red River, Atchafalaya & Bayou Boeuf Levee District
Karen Clement, USACE, New Orleans District
Randy Clouatre, Sr., Pontchartrain Levee District
Ryan Foster, Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority – East
Patrick Furlong, Caddo Levee District
Colonel Jeremiah Gipson, USACE, Vicksburg
Monica Gorman, Pontchartrain Levee District
Keith Guidry, South Lafourche Levee District
Spencer Harvey, Atchafalaya Basin Levee District
Jay Hardman, Port of Greater Baton Rouge
Michael Hare, Coastal Protection & Restoration Authority
Donald Ray Henry, Lafourche Basin Levee District
Angela Hidalgo, Trey Middleton, Terrebonne Levee & Conservation District
Drew Keahey, Tensas Basin Levee District
Cory Kief, North Lafourche Levee District
Suzanne Krieger, St. Tammany Levee and Conservation District
Jennifer Marusak, Ports Association of Louisiana
Nic Matherne, South Lafourche Levee District
Neil McMillin, Department of Transportation and Development
Trey Middleton, Terrebonne Levee & Conservation District
Reynold Minsky, Fifth Louisiana Levee District
Jesse Noel, Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority – West
Jerry Outlaw, Ardaman & Associates, Inc.
Dwight Poirrier, Pontchartrain Levee District
Ronnie Robinson, Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority – West
Donald Sagrera, Teche Vermilion Fresh Water District
Ronald Schumann, Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority – East
Stevie Smith, All South Engineering
Jennifer Stephens, USACE, New Orleans District
Doug Taylor, All South Engineering
Tommy Thibodeaux, Atchafalaya Basin Levee District
Jason Trichell, Fifth Louisiana Levee District
Ryan Vivian – Coastal Protection & Restoration Authority
Brandon Waggoner, Tensas Basin Levee District
Amber White – Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana
Billy Williamson – Department of Transportation and Development