

EAST ASCENSION CONSOLIDATED GRAVITY DRAINAGE DISTRICT NO. 1 BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

The meeting of the East Ascension Consolidated Gravity Drainage District #1 Commission was held on Tuesday April 18, 2023, at the Ascension Parish Court house. The meeting started at approximately 6:32 p.m.

Chairwoman Casso called the meeting to order and announced all commissioners who were in attendance or absent.

Members Present: Commissioners Michael Mason, Dal Waguespack, Aaron Lawler, John Cagnolatti, Chase Melancon, Chairwoman Terri Casso, Vice-Chairman Dempsey Lambert

Members Absent: Commissioners Travis Turner, Corey Orgeron, Joel Robert

The invocation was led by Commissioner John Cagnolatti followed by the Pledge of Allegiance that was recited by all present.

Public Comments Period/ Additions to Agenda-

Chairwoman Casso opened the floor for public comments and instructed those wishing to speak to present a card to the secretary. There were none.

Acceptance of March 7, 2023 meeting minutes-

Chairwoman Casso presented the minutes for March 7, 2023 meeting for approval.

There was a motion made by Commissioner Mason and a second by Commissioner Cagnolatti. No Objections. Motion Passes.

Chairman's Report/Announcements-

Chairwoman Casso recognized the concerns of the Conway Bayou community. She announced adding an item to the May 9th agenda to allow the Conway community to weigh in on the issues at hand. Chairwoman Casso requested to remove Item 6b. Approval to place the spoils from the Marvin Braud project on the property previously owned by Ormet and located near Pelican Crossing. The original scope of the Marvin Braud project called for spreading the dirt near where it was being excavated. If we are cleared and compensated by DEQ, we would like to truck the spoils to the Ormet site to help with the "red dust" problem. (John Diez, CEO)

Chairwoman Casso inquired about the reporting to DEQ in regards to the oil spill at the Sorrento Pump Station. Safety Director James Leblanc gave a brief explanation as to why DEQ was not notified. He specified that there are reportable quantities specific to the number of gallons that are spilled. He reported that there were about 3 or 4 gallons that was spilled at Sorrento which are not considered reportable quantities. Reportable quantities to DEQ are 49 gallons on land and

1,000 on water. Safety Director James LeBlanc reported that pictures and videos presented to DEQ is all that's required when an oil spill is being reported.

General Business

Approval of Amendment No. 1 to the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with homeowner for the elevation of Site #1 -17214 to increase the total CEA amount by an additional \$148,250.00 for a total CEA amount of \$375,555.75 for 100% funding from the federal government in accordance with all FEMA regulations at not cost to the Parish and to authorize Parish President Clint Cointment to sign and execute all documents pertaining to this CEA and/or Patrick Goldsmith, CFO for financial documents. (Hermina E. Irvin, Grants Director)

There was a discussion. Commissioner Mason made a motion. Commissioner Melancon made a second to the motion. No Objections. Motion Passed.

A Resolution of the East Ascension Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 1 to recommend an ordinance change to the development code regarding control of master drainage study data and use of the data as relates to new development requirements. (Jean Paul Robert, Legal Counsel)

There was a motion by Commissioner Mason and a second by Commissioner Melancon to approve the resolution. Commissioner Lawler made a motion to amend the original motion to change the language of the resolution. Commissioner Cagnolatti made a substitute motion to table for further discussion. Commissioner Lawler seconded the substitute motion. Commissioner Mason withdrew his original motion and seconded Commissioner Cagnolatti's substitute motion.

No Objections. Motion Passed.

Executive Session: Approval of drainage project over property of litigant in ongoing litigation in the matter of Shane Anderson, et. Al. vs. Ascension Parish, 3rd JDC, Parish of Ascension, Suite No. 130,709 Div.: "B" (Jean Paul Robert, Legal Counsel).

Commissioner Mason made a motion to go into executive session and Commissioner Melancon seconded the motion. Chairwoman Casso announced a roll call vote.

YEAS: 7

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 3

Commissioner Cagnolatti made a motion to reconvene and Commissioner Waguespack seconded the motion.

Passes.

Executive Session: Resolution for Ascension Parish Government is authorized to join a lawsuit by the Attorney General on behalf of the State of Louisiana, Levee Boards, and other parishes against FEMA to address grave concerns surrounding the Risk Rating 2.0 underlying methodology, its failure to properly take into account improvements of the Levee Boards to the flood protection systems and its catastrophic effect on Louisiana's flood insurance rates and the ability of Louisiana's homeowners to purchase flood insurance. (Jean Paul Robert)

Commissioner Lawler made a motion to enter into the 2nd executive session and Commissioner Mason seconded the motion. Chairwoman Casso announced a roll call vote.

YEAS: 7

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 3

Commissioner Melancon made a motion to reconvene and Commissioner Cagnolatti seconded the motion. Commissioner Lawler made a motion for approval of resolution to join the litigation. Commissioner Cagnolatti made a second to the motion.

No objection. Motion Passes.

Commissioners Mason and Lawler left at 7:11 pm.

Drainage Report

HNTB ADAPT/Grant Application Report- John Monzon, PE provided an update on the Adapt Program/Grant applications. There was a discussion.

Drainage Monthly Report: Jade Robin, Project Manager provided an update on the day to day drainage operations. There was a discussion.

Vegetation Monthly Report: Jonathan Samuel, Assistant Director provided an update on the day to day vegetation operations. There was a discussion.

Marvin Braud Pump Station Incident Report-

1. Safety Update – What has been done to ensure that our employees have been trained to respond and are properly equipped during an emergency?
2. Equipment Safety – What has been done to ensure that all pumps and engine equipment is protected from failure? This should include an update on what's been done and defining a plan of action.
3. Standard Operating Procedures – Defining a plan of action to ensure that employees have a written operating procedure for the pumping station and a clear change of command for emergencies.

William Dawson, Utilities Director provided the status of the safety improvements and training initiatives to the pump stations, plan of action for equipment safety and standard operating procedures, including the review and results of the state fire inspection. There was a discussion.

Vice-Chairman Lambert made a motion to adjourn.
Commissioner Meloncon made a second to the motion.

Adjourn @ 7:57 PM.