

GRAVITY DRAINAGE DISTRICT NO.EIGHT

OF WARD ONE, CALCASIEU PARISH

2841 Goos Road

MINUTES

Lake Charles, LA 70611

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

6:00 P M, Monday, April 9, 2018

The **Board of Commissioners of Gravity Drainage District No. Eight of Ward One, Calcasieu Parish**, met in a Regular Board Meeting session at 2841 Goos Road, Moss Bluff, Louisiana, 70611, at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, April 9, 2018. President Martin Thomas Benoit called the meeting to order, Vice President Terry Barrett spoke the Invocation and the President then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Benoit then called the **Roll** of the **Board of Commissioners**, acknowledging all of the following members as being present: President Martin Thomas Benoit, Board Member William Lavergne, Secretary-Treasurer Darby Quinn, Vice President Terry Barrett and Board Member David Bryan Guidry. All of the Board of Commissioners Members were present.

Employees present at the meeting were Superintendent Eddie Hebert, Assistant and Crew Supervisor Michael Naquin, Jonathan Peloquin and recording secretary Lesley Impastato.

The only **Visitors** to the meeting were Mr. Lee Lancon, Jr. and Mr. Allen Cross.

The March 5, 2018 Regular Session Minutes were unanimously approved by all members, after motions by Mr. William Lavergne and Mr. Darby Quinn.

There were no Requests to Appear.

President Martin Thomas Benoit read the law, Louisiana Revised Statute 47:1705(A), which requires all tax recipient agencies of ad valorem taxes of every parish, excluding Orleans, to adopt an ordinance or resolution each year with the millage rate to be applied to the assessed value. This meeting was announced as the session in which that tax millage would be adopted for the year 2018 for drainage maintenance by GDD8W1. The following Resolution was approved by roll call vote, after motions by Mr. William Lavergne and Mr. Darby Quinn.

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following millage is hereby levied on the 2018 tax roll on all property subject to taxation by GRAVITY DRAINAGE DISTRICT NO. EIGHT, WARD ONE:

MILLAGE

Tax for :Gravity Drainage Lateral Maintenance

11.040 mills

The taxing district did **not** roll forward. Copies of all required notices and agenda are attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

Martin Thomas Benoit

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED Before Me, this 9th day of April, 2018, at 2841 Goos Road, Lake Charles, Louisiana.

Mr. Allen Cross was present in the meeting to request a letter of no objection to his development , Dream View Estates Subdivision, Phase Four, Preliminary Plat. After discussion of the map showing Phase three and four, and the direction of the drainage flow, Mr. Darby Quinn motioned to authorize the letter of no objection, according to Parish Ordinance regulations, with final review and comment by the GDD8 Board of Commissioners. Mr. Terry Barrett seconded the motion. All members voted YEA in agreement.

The board members unanimously approved the payment of the Lancon Engineering Recommendation for Payment # 49 Invoice #46, in the amount of \$6,545.95 for Professional Engineering Services for February 16 through March 15, 2018 for Phase 2 Engineering Services (#11), Supplemental Agreement #10, and RPR Observation on LEI Project #12-036/ HMGP# 1786-019-0006. Motions were made by Mr. Barrett and Mr. Guidry.

For the Belfield Ditch Improvement Project (HMGP # 1786-019-0006) LEI Project 12-036, Lee Lancon Engineering Recommendation for **Payment # 50** , in the amount of \$60,467.50, representing Contractor's Application for Payment No. One (1) for work completed and/or stored materials for the period March 1-20, 2018 was discussed and unanimously approved for payment. Motions were made by Mr. Terry Barrett and Mr. Darby Quinn. The members were able to see an overhead view of the work done. Mr. Quinn suggested that the driveway on North Perkins Ferry Road may need to be wider to allow the equipment to access.

Superintendent Hebert showed the board members the proposed 1st amended Cooperative Endeavor Agreement from Louisiana Facility Planning and Control, with the current level of funding as shown in Exhibit "B" and the proposed allocation of those funds as shown in Exhibit "A" reflecting current state funding and match. The members asked to be informed as to what had changed.

In the previous board meeting, March 5, the board approved the request for quotes for Quality Assurance Construction Testing for the Belfield Ditch Improvement Project. The Calcasieu Parish Grant department handled the quotes and then made the recommendation to award the bid for construction soil testing to Fugro USA Land Inc. in the amount of \$5,940.00. Mr. Quinn motioned to accept the lowest recommended bid, followed by a second from Mr. Barrett. All members voted YEA in agreement.

A new development by Mr. Allen Singletary for Rouse's, at Sallengs Road, has asked the District to clean silt out of L-13-B , on the next property to the west. There is no right of way on it, and it is very close to the building there. Arabie Environmental Solutions, LLC has given an estimate for the 404 US Army Corps Of Engineers Permit. There would also be costs of delineation and engineering to reroute the ditch and protect the building. The members expressed concern that this is very late in the development planning, which the District was not consulted about. Mr. Hebert was instructed to find the person at the Parish who has permitted this project, and send a letter to let him know the situation of the District on this request to now handle the flow of water from this property onto another property, and ask them to give advice on how to fix it. Also request legal counsel.

The members were presented with new options for lawn mowers, as requested in the previous month's board meeting session. After much discussion and comparison, no decision was reached on obtaining a mower. Mr. Hebert was instructed to check with Moss Bluff Mower for Skaggs models in his continued research.

The board again looked at the driveway crossing damage in the drainage easement of GSC-1 at 1370 Pin Oak Drive. Mr. McFatter owns the land and has a driveway that runs across the GDD8W1 right of way for the lateral. In maintaining the right of way, the district crews have to go over the driveway. The drive was cracked on the last time it was accessed, and Mr. McFatter wants the District to pay to replace it. The Board Members instructed Mr. Hebert to ask Mr. Kleinschmidt what is the legal course to follow, now and in the future.

The issue at 4052 Paul White Road concerning the drainage across Lateral IB - 3 , in which the District sent a letter stating it could not do the requested work, was re-discussed. Mr. Hebert received word that the Parish received it. The board asked for an actual written letter stating that they received the letter and acknowledge the answer. Revisit next meeting.

An issue also tabled previously was to replace the large culvert in the DOTD right of way connected to L-6 at Highway 171 , north of Walgreens. It was not the District's right of way or culvert, but the District was protecting property and lives when it removed the crushed culvert blockage in May 2017. Therefore the District was not able to replace the culvert. Still waiting for the response to the letter.

The request for quote for the tree/brush mulching attachment for the Bobcat T 870 was delayed because the new skid steer has not been received yet. It may be July 21 before that is delivered.

The board members agreed to approve the process of application to the Calcasieu Parish Road and Drainage Trust Fund , Grant Year 2019, for L-15 Phase 3.

The District was informed that during the project to re-route drainage at 213 Debra Lane, a septic system was damaged and needs to be repaired. Mr. Hebert was instructed to contact legal counsel and DHH, as well as CPPJ Finance, as to the options. Mr. David Guidry motioned to give authority to Mr. Hebert to begin the process of finding out the cost to repair or replace, if legally allowed, the septic system, not to exceed \$10,000, to remediate emergency repairs. Mr. Lavergne seconded the motion. All members voted YEA in agreement.

Mr. Terry Barrett said the District needs to have clarification in the policy about what they are to be responsible for , going in or going out, on personal property.

The bills and invoices were unanimously approved after motions by Mr. Lavergne and Mr. Guidry.

There being no further items on the Agenda to discuss, Mr. Lavergne motioned to adjourn, Mr. Barrett seconded the motion, and all members voted YEA in agreement. Meeting ended at 8 : 00 pm.

Martin Thomas Benoit, President

Darby Quinn, Secretary-Treasurer

Terry Barrett, Vice President

David B. Guidry, Member

William D. Lavergne, Member