

BREAUX ACT
Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act

TASK FORCE MEETING
11 October 2018

Minutes

I. INTRODUCTION

Colonel Michael Clancy convened the 97th meeting of the Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force. The meeting began at 9:34 a.m. on October 11, 2018, in the Board Room of the Port Authority of Lake Charles, 1611 West Sallier Street, Lake Charles, LA. The agenda is shown as Enclosure 1. The Task Force was created by the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA, commonly known as the Breaux Act), which was signed into law (PL 101-646, Title III) by President George Bush on November 29, 1990.

II. ATTENDEES

The attendance record for the Task Force Meeting is presented as Enclosure 2. The Task Force members introduced themselves as follows:

Col. Michael Clancy (USACE), Chairperson
Mr. Jeffrey Weller (USFWS)
Mr. Chris Doley (NMFS)
Mr. Michael Ellison (CPRA)
Mr. Kevin Norton (NRCS)
Mr. Charles McGuire (EPA)

III. OPENING REMARKS

Colonel Clancy began with the American Pledge of Allegiance; he introduced himself, expressed appreciation for those in attendance, and asked that victims of recent hurricanes be remembered, as Louisiana is no stranger to catastrophic storms. He then asked Task Force members to introduce themselves, and acknowledged two new Task Force members – Mr. Ellison and Mr. Maguire. He asked Task Force members for any other opening remarks or comments. None were proffered.

IV. AGENDA and MINUTES

Colonel Clancy asked if the Task Force had any opening comments or changes to make to the agenda; none were proffered. Colonel Clancy asked Mr. Inman to present the minutes of the last Task Force meeting (May 2018); Mr. Inman indicated that the minutes had been provided to the Task Force previously for their review, and recommended that the Task Force adopt the minutes as provided; Colonel Clancy asked if the Task Force had any questions regarding or changes to the minutes; none were proffered. Colonel Clancy invited public comment; none was forthcoming, so he called for a motion.

Mr. Weller made a motion to adopt the agenda and the minutes as presented, which Mr. Norton seconded; the Task Force passed the motion without dissent.

V: TASK FORCE DECISIONS

1. Agenda Item #6 – Decision/Report: CWPPRA Draft 2018 Report to Congress (Kaitlyn Carriere, USACE)

Ms. Carriere gave an update on the draft Report to Congress, beginning with a reminder that the report is due every three years in order to provide CWPPRA project status. She began with an assertion that EPA and COE have been working on the draft report, and that EPA is responsible for the design & layout; the final draft is due by the next Technical Committee meeting in December 2018. Ms. Carriere further noted that the Technical Committee review of content has been completed. Since several agencies have committed or are committing resources to the report, she requested Task Force approval of the Technical Committee's recommendation to transfer funds between agencies for this effort. She pointed out that the agencies would not exceed the \$110,000 that was approved in the planning budget in May 2017.

Mr. Ellison asked about whether or not the \$110,000 amount was only for design. Ms. Carrier responded negatively, clarifying that \$110,000 was for the entire report effort and production, and the request today was simply for discretionary movement of funds between cooperating agencies.

Colonel Clancy called for a motion to accept the recommendation. Mr. Norton made the motion to approve the transfer of budgeted funds, which Mr. Weller seconded. The motion passed without dissent.

2. Agenda Item #7 -- Decision/Report: CWPPRA 20 Year Life Process Review (Brad Inman, USACE)

Mr. Inman began with a reminder that as a result of a decision made at the last Task Force meeting, the Technical Committee was tasked with reviewing the 20-year life process and identifying any improvements that could be made. As a result of consultations/ discussions between the Technical Committee and the P&E subcommittee, the Task Force was provided with the recommendations, and is hereby being asked to approve the suggested project evaluation matrix of the 20-year life process.

Colonel Clancy put forth a motion to accept the changes in the matrix with an amendment: that the Task Force be re-tasked to provide (a) a risk assessment of the projects completed, (b) a risk assessment as part of the 20-year closeout process (i.e. beginning at year 15), and (c) possible mitigation techniques/methodologies to reduce risks. Colonel Clancy reasoned that the purpose of such risk/ mitigation assessments might enable successful projects to remain in place with minimal risk.

Colonel Clancy asked for Task Force and public questions or comments. Mr. Doley asked for a time frame for this request. Colonel Clancy requested a response from the Technical Committee by the next CWPPRA Task Force meeting. No other comments were proffered.

Colonel Clancy called for a motion to accept the recommended changes to the project closeout matrix with the above stipulations. Mr. Doley made the motion, which Mr. Norton seconded. The motion carried without dissent.

3. Agenda Item #8 Decision: Request for a Change in Scope for the PPL 19 – LaBranche East Marsh Creation (PO-75) (Mike Nichols, NRCS)

Mr. Nichols initiated the presentation with a history of the PO-75 project (part of PPL-17), its location and its original scope. The original plan included marsh creation and nourishment of 715 acres within a semi-confined area adjacent to PO-17. He is now proposing fully contained marsh creation, which would omit some acreage due to dike placement restrictions. The new scope also includes the construction of interior ponds and tidal channels. Mr. Nichols summarized the project costs and benefits as follows: Costs are increased by about 34% from \$32,323,291 to \$43,365,132 (due largely to the change in construction); benefits are reduced by 10% from 715 to 643 net acres.

Colonel Clancy called for comments or questions from the Task Force and the public. Mr. Doley inquired about the reasons for the change in scope? Mr. Nichols declared that keeping sediments out of sensitive areas such as Lake Pontchartrain and Bayou LaBranche became a concern. He further stated that fully contained dikes are necessary to obtain the desired marsh platform elevation. Mr. Ellison questioned the increase in monitoring costs. Mr. Nichols asserted a general cost increase for monitoring according to comply with current protocol/ standards. Mr. Ellison further inquired whether or not the 34% cost increase was for construction only or for E&D. Mr. Nichols responded that most of it is indeed for construction, but also for additional mobilization & de-mobilization, and general inflation. Mr. Doley inquired about whether or not the reduction in O&M costs was due to the construction of containment dikes. Mr. Nichols asserted that the project team re-evaluated and reduced the number of O&M events in order to reduce overall project costs. Colonel Clancy asked for clarification about whether or not this proposed change was for Phase I only. Mr. Nichols responded affirmatively, reiterating that the project has not yet been approved for construction.

Colonel Clancy called for a motion to accept the recommended changes to the project scope and the budgetary increase. Mr. Maguire made the motion, which Mr. Norton seconded. The motion carried without dissent.

4. Agenda Item #9 Decision: Request of a Transfer of O&M to Monitoring for the Grand White Lake Land Bridge Project (ME-19) (Leigh Anne Sharp, CPRA)

The Fish and Wildlife Service and Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority request Task Force approval to transfer \$72,800 from the Grand-White Lake Land Bridge project (ME-19) O&M budget to the Monitoring budget to continue project monitoring requirements.

Ms. Sharp presented the request by explaining that another round of spatial analysis and assessment of the terraces and the land bridge is needed to inform the final report for the project. She referred to previously provided information in the Task Force binders. Ms. Sharp reported early project success, with accretion occurring within the inner terraces. The outer terraces were originally intended to be “sacrificial”, and have indeed eroded, but wave energy was not altered, so another monitoring event is required to determine the best path forward regarding the inner terraces.

Colonel Clancy called for Task Force comments or questions. Mr. Norton wanted to know if the transfer would leave adequate funding in the budget for another O&M event. Ms. Sharp responded with cautious affirmation, but pointed out that funds required in the next O&M event won't be known until the monitoring event occurs. Mr. Doley asked about whether or

not this monitoring event will be to gauge the status of the non-sacrificial terraces. Ms. Sharp responded affirmatively, asserting the need for assessment of the previously successful inner terraces prior to considering closeout. No further comments were proffered.

Colonel Clancy called for a motion to approve the transfer of funds from the O&M budget to the Monitoring budget. Mr. Weller made the motion, which Mr. Doley seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

5. Agenda Item #10 Report/Decision: Request for Deauthorization of the Shoreline Protection, Preservation, and Restoration Panel Project (LA-0280) (Brandon Howard, NOAA)

Mr. Howard presented the request on behalf of NOAA and CPRA to begin the deauthorization process of the Shoreline Protection, Preservation, and Restoration Panel (LA-0280) demonstration project citing a cost increase of 59%. The project goal was to demonstrate a cost-effective alternative to rock typically used in shoreline protection. Mr. Howard described the product, which is a fiber-reinforced concrete installed in articulating panels, with holes to allow movement of aquatic organisms. Original site locations were changed due to accessibility issues and environmental concerns; finally areas along the east and west shores of White Lake (in Cameron Parish) were chosen. Notice of cost increases resulted in an adjustment of linear feet, but costs remain prohibitive, when compared to rock dike construction at the same height. Mr. Howard concluded by asserting that the Task Force is being asked to approve the initiation of the deauthorization process for this demonstration project, and that the project team will continue to work with the vendor/ inventor of the SPPR panels and other stakeholders during the public comment stage of the process.

Colonel Clancy opened the floor for Task Force questions or comments. Mr. Ellison inquired about the decision to evaluate this particular product. Mr. Howard responded that it went through the PPL-25 competition process. Dave Minton, SPPR panel system inventor, spoke to clarify confusion about costs. He confirmed post-Technical Committee meetings with CPRA and NOAA, which resulted in his recommendation of a 2.5-foot elevation at the sites, declaring that sub-surface stability is a factor. Mr. Doley asked for a comparison of SPPR panels to rock at the 3.5-foot elevation, which Mr. Minton said could be provided. Mr. Doley iterated a strong willingness to continue the conversation, thus, there is no need to table the deauthorization process at this time. Colonel Clancy further iterated that this deauthorization is about the project location and not necessarily the product to be demonstrated. Ralph Libersat, Vermilion Parish, spoke in opposition to the deauthorization process, citing on-going evaluation of the project and potential application of the product in critical areas. He also expressed dismay of CWPPRA's removal of successful demonstration projects in the past, citing Shark Island as an example. Mr. Norton requested clarification of the deauthorization process, which Mr. Inman described. Mr. Norton proffered his perspective – that the Task Force should defer to the recommendations of the sponsoring agency and CPRA, who are clearly committed to continuing the conversation. Mr. Ellison directed his question to the SPPR inventor, regarding optimal site conditions for his product. Mr. Minton admitted that some locales might be better demonstration sites. Mr. Weller inquired if SPPR was asking for a cost increase. Mr. Minton pointed out that the cost increase would be for the cost of the panels only, and that from the outset, his company has offered to provide engineering and design services at no cost on this project. Randy Moertle, Rainey Conservation land manager,

spoke in favor of tabling the de-authorization process pertaining to the SPPR project, citing the cost effectiveness of this product in areas where rock structures will sink, subsequently requiring replacement materials. Laurie Cormier of the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury spoke in opposition to deauthorizing the project, asserting that new ideas and innovation are the future of coastal protection and restoration. Colonel Clancy concurred in theory, but iterated that limited funds dictate whether or not to invest in known or unknown technologies. He then called for a brief recess (10:55 a.m.) for Task Force members to confer to determine the path forward on this decision.

Colonel Clancy re-convened the meeting at 11:08, asking for comments from the Task Force. Mr. Doley spoke on behalf of the Task Force with assurances that it is committed to innovative solutions to local challenges. The conundrum is how to proceed with the deauthorization process if project changes significantly in scope from that which was originally approved. He urged consistency and adherence to the deauthorization process, which (at this point) allows for further investigation and public input.

Colonel Clancy called for a motion to accept the Technical Committee's recommendation to begin the deauthorization process for demonstration project LA-0208. Mr. Doley made the motion, which Mr. Maguire seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Doley reiterated that this decision does not indicate the end of discussion regarding this project, but that the numbers dictate that the process must ensue. Mr. Ellison urged the Task force to consider the implementation of this technology at a more favorable location to demonstrate its best use.

6. Agenda Item #11 Decision: Request of a Transfer of Monitoring to O&M for the Humble Canal Hydrologic Restoration Project (ME-11) (Darrel Pontiff, CPRA)

Mr. Pontiff presented the request on behalf of the NRCS and CPRA for Task Force approval to transfer \$87,560.11 from the Humble Canal Hydrologic Restoration Project (ME-11) Monitoring budget to the O&M budget. He explained that the 20-year project life of ME-11 ends in 2023, but that land rights expire in August of 2019; therefore a transfer of funds from monitoring budget to the O&M budget is required to continue project activities through August 2019. There are no anticipated O&M activities after August 2019.

Colonel Clancy called for comments and questions from the Task Force and the public; none was preferred.

Colonel Clancy called for a motion to approve the Technical Committee's recommendation to approve the transfer of funds as iterated above. Mr. Norton made the motion, which Mr. Weller seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

7. Agenda Item #12 Decision: Request for a No-Cost Time Extension for TV-04 Cote Blanche Hydrologic Restoration (Britt Paul, NRCS)

Mr. Paul presented the request on behalf of the NRCS and CPRA for the Task Force to approve for a one year no cost time extension for Cote Blanche Hydrologic Restoration in order to continue working out the proposed final actions before closeout. He explained that

the project is nearing the end of its 20-year life; finalization was approved a “couple of years” ago. However, interim staff changes have resulted in delays.

Colonel Clancy asked for questions or comments from the Task Force and the public; none was proffered.

Colonel Clancy asked for a motion to approve the Technical Committee’s recommendation for the no-cost time extension. Mr. Ellison made the motion, which Mr. Norton seconded; the motion carried without dissent.

8. Agenda Item #16 Decision: Annual Request for Incremental Funding for FY21 Administrative Costs for Cash Flow Projects (Jernice Cheavis, USACE)

Ms. Cheavis presented the request on behalf of the USACE for funding approval in the amount of \$36,434 for administrative costs for cash flow projects beyond Increment 1, the list of which has been provided I Task Force binders.

Colonel Clancy called for Task Force and public questions or comments; none was proffered.

Colonel Clancy called for a motion to approve the Annual Request as iterated above. Mr. Norton made the motion, which Mr. Weller seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

9. Agenda Item #17 Decision: Request for Funding for the CWPPRA Program’s Technical Services (Michelle Fischer, USGS)

Ms. Fischer made the request on behalf of the USGA and CPRA for funds for technical services for the CWPPRA program in the amount of \$182,951. Ms. Fischer explained the various services provided to CWPPRA as related to Technical Services.

Colonel Clancy called for Task Force questions and comments; none were proffered

Colonel Clancy called for a motion to approve the request for a budget increase and funding for technical services as iterated above. Mr. Maguire made the motion, which Mr. Doley seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

10. Agenda item #18 Decision: Request for Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Incremental Funding (Kent Bollfrass, CPRA)

Mr. Bollfrass highlighted projects requesting incremental finding above \$100,000. The Task Force is asked to approve requests for total FY21 incremental funding in the amount of \$1,840,548.12 and O&M budget increases in the amount of \$150,000.

a. PPL 9+ Projects requesting approval for FY21 O&M incremental funding in the amount of \$1,665,053 and budget increases in the total amount of \$ \$150,000 for the following projects:

- Four Mile Canal Terracing and Sediment Trapping (TV-18), PPL-9, NMFS
Incremental funding amount: \$6,941.00
- Freshwater Introduction South of Highway 82 (ME-16), PPL-9, USFWS
Incremental funding amount: \$15,357.00
- Black Bayou Culverts Hydrologic Restoration (CS-29), PPL-9, NRCS
Incremental funding amount: \$35,563.00
- GIWW - Perry Ridge West Bank Stabilization (CS-30) PPL-9, NRCS
Incremental funding amount: \$7,208.00
- Timbalier Island Dune and Marsh Creation (TE-40), PPL-9, EPA
Budget increase amount: \$150,000.00
Incremental funding amount: \$150,000.00
- New Cut Dune and Marsh Creation (TE-37), PPL-9, EPA
Incremental funding amount: \$7,961.00
- Grand Lake Shoreline Protection (ME-21), PPL-11, NRCS
Incremental funding amount: \$8,109.00
- Barataria Barrier Island Complex (BA-38), PPL-11, NMFS
Incremental funding amount: \$11,154.00
- Little Lake Shoreline Protection (BA-37), PPL-11, NMFS
Incremental funding amount: \$3,620.00
- Pass Chalard to Grand Bayou Pass Barrier Island Shoreline Restoration (BA-35), PPL-11, NMFS
Incremental funding amount: \$6,909.00
- Coastwide Nutria Control Program (LA-03b), PPL-11, NRCS
Incremental funding amount (FY16): \$1,194,275.12
- Bayou Dupont Sediment Delivery System (BA-39), PPL 12, EPA
Incremental funding request: \$31,123.00
- South White Lake Shoreline Protection (ME-22), PPL-12, USACE
Incremental funding amount: \$8,825.00
- Whiskey Island Back Barrier Marsh Creation (TE-50), PPL-13, EPA
Incremental funding amount: \$42,156.00
- East Marsh Island Marsh Creation (TV-21), PPL-14, EPA
Incremental funding amount: \$15,730.00
- West Belle Pass Barrier Island Headland Restoration (TE-52), PPL-16, NMFS
Incremental funding amount: \$7,213.00
- Bayou Dupont Marsh and Ridge Creation (BA-48), PPL-17, NMFS
Incremental funding amount: \$10,780.00
- Grand Liard Marsh and Ridge Restoration (BA-68), PPL-18, NMFS
Incremental funding amount: \$7,130.00
- Coastwide Vegetative Planting (LA-39), PPL-20, NRCS
Incremental funding amount: \$7,826.00
- Oyster Bayou Marsh Creation and Terracing (CS-59), PPL-21, NMFS
Incremental funding amount: \$9,987.00
- Bayou Dupont Sediment Delivery- Marsh Creation 3 (BA-164), PPL-22, EPA
Incremental funding request: \$77,186.00

Colonel Clancy called for Task Force and public questions or comments; none was proffered.

Colonel Clancy called for a motion to approve Incremental funding and budget increases for PPL-9+ as iterated above. Mr. Doley made the motion, which Mr. Norton seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Bollfrass continued the request as follows:

- b. PPL 1-8 Project requesting approval for FY21 O&M incremental funding in the total amount of \$175,495 and no budget increases:
 - Cameron Creole Maintenance (CS-04a), PPL-3, NRCS
Incremental funding amount: \$104,209.00
 - Replace Sabine Refuge Water Control Structures at Headquarters Canal, West Cove Canal, and Hog Island Gully (CS-23), PPL-3, USFWS
Incremental funding amount: \$51,344.00
 - Black Bayou Hydrologic Restoration (CS-27), PPL-6, NMFS
Incremental funding amount: \$19,942.00

Colonel Clancy called for Task Force and public questions or comments; none was proffered.

Colonel Clancy called for a motion to approve Incremental funding for PPL 1-8 as iterated above. Mr. Doley made the motion, which Mr. Weller seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

11. Agenda Item #19 Decision: Request for Monitoring Incremental Funding (Kent Bollfrass, CPRA)

Mr. Bollfrass highlighted projects requesting incremental funding above \$100,000. The Task Force is asked to approve requests for total FY21 incremental funding in the amount of \$11,534,689 and budget increases in the amount of \$312,776.

- a. PPL 9+ projects requesting approval in the amount of \$865,369 and budget increases in the total amount of \$119,239
for the following projects:
 - Barataria Basin Landbridge Shoreline Protection (BA27c), PPL-9, NRCS
Incremental funding amount: \$5,169.00
 - GIWW – Perry Ridge West Bank Stabilization (CS-30), PPL-9, NRCS
Incremental funding amount: \$5,339.00
 - Black Bayou Culverts Hydrologic Restoration (CS-29), PPL-9, NRCS
Incremental funding amount: \$75,256.00
 - Freshwater Introduction South of Highway 82 (ME-16), PPL-9, USFWS
Incremental funding amount: \$11,000.00
 - Timbalier Island Dune and Marsh Creation (TE-40), PPL-9, EPA
Incremental funding amount: \$49,966.00
 - Grand-White Lakes Landbridge Protection (ME-19), PPL-10, USFWS

- Incremental funding request: \$72,800.00
- Delta Management at Fort St. Phillip (BS-11), PPL-10, USFWS
Incremental funding amount: \$42,396.00
- Raccoon Island Shoreline Protection and Marsh Creation (TE-48), PPL-11, NRCS
Incremental funding amount: \$37,287.00
- West Lake Boudreaux Shoreline Protection and Marsh Creation (TE-46), PPL-11, USFWS
Incremental funding amount: \$44,335.00
- Coastwide Nutria Control Program (LA-03b), PPL-11, NRCS
Incremental funding amount (FY16): \$87,638.00
- Dedicated Dredging on the Barataria Basin Landbridge (BA-36), PPL-11, USFWS
Incremental funding amount: \$12,409.00
- Mississippi Sediment Delivery- Bayou Dupont (BA-39), PPL-12, EPA
Incremental funding amount: \$20,000.00
- South White Lake Shoreline Protection (ME-22), PPL-12, USACE
Budget increase amount: \$119,239
Incremental funding amount: \$119,239
- East Marsh Island Marsh Creation (TV-21), PPL-14, EPA
Incremental funding amount: \$115,035.00
- Bayou Dupont Marsh and Ridge Creation (BA-48), PPL-17, NMFS
Incremental funding amount: \$30,663.00
- Grand Liard Marsh and Ridge Restoration (BA-68), PPL-18, NMFS
Incremental funding amount: \$73,517.00
- Coastwide Vegetative Planting (LA-39), PPL-20, NRCS
Incremental funding amount: \$63,320.00

Colonel Clancy called for Task Force and public questions or comments; none was proffered.

Colonel Clancy called for a motion to approve Incremental funding and budget for monitoring as iterated above. Mr. Doley made the motion, which Mr. Norton seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Bollfrass continued the request as follows:

- b. PPL 1-8 Project requesting approval for FY21 incremental funding in the amount of \$322,671 and budget increases in the total amount of \$193,537:
 - Isle Dernieres Restoration East Island (TE-20), PPL-1, EPA
Budget increase amount: \$30,000.00
Incremental funding amount: \$30,000.00
 - Cameron Creole Maintenance (CS-04a), PPL-3, NRCS
Incremental funding amount: \$76,870.00
 - Naomi Outfall Project (BA-03c), PPL-5, NRCS
Incremental funding amount: \$6,173.00

- Sediment Trapping at the Jaws (TV-15), PPL-6, NMFS
Budget increase amount: \$69,019.00
Increment funding amount: \$69,019.00
- Pecan Island Terracing (ME-14), PPL-7, NMFS
Budget increase amount: \$94,518.00
Incremental funding amount: \$94,518.00
- East Sabine Marsh Creation Cycles 4 and 5 (CS-28-4), PPL-8, USFWS
Incremental funding amount: \$46,091.00

Colonel Clancy called for Task Force and public questions or comments; none was proffered.

Colonel Clancy called for a motion to approve Incremental funding and budget increases for monitoring as iterated above. Mr. Doley made the motion, which Mr. Weller seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Bollfrass finalized the request as follows:

- c. Coastwide Reference Monitoring System (CRMS) requesting approval for FY21 incremental funding in the total amount of \$10,346,649.00:
 - Coastwide Reference Monitoring System (CRMS) (LA-30) USGS
Incremental funding amount: \$10,346,649.00

Colonel Clancy called for Task Force and public questions or comments; none was proffered.

Colonel Clancy called for a motion to approve Incremental funding for monitoring as iterated above. Mr. Norton made the motion, which Mr. Maguire seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

VI. INFORMATION

12. Agenda Item #3 Report: Status of CWPPRA Program Funds and Projects (Jernice Cheavis, USACE)

Ms. Jernice Cheavis, USACE, presented an overview of CWPPRA funds. The fully funded total Program Estimate since its inception to the present (PPLs 1 – 27) is \$2.797 billion. Total projected funding received since inception (through FY 2018 and in addition to projected Department of the Interior (DOI) funds) is \$2.095 billion, leaving a potential gap of \$702 million if the Program were to construct all projects to date. Current Task Force-approved budgets for projects in Phase I, Phase II, and O&M and Monitoring totals \$2.084 billion. Authorized funding for each agency as requested currently totals \$1.774 billion.

As previously mentioned the Program Estimate is currently \$2,797,729,632 for PPL's 1 – 27. There are several budget increases that will be brought to the Task Force for approval, which would potentially increase the total Program Estimate by \$11,504,617. The annual request for funding for Construction Program Technical Services would result in an increase

of \$182,951. If all are approved, these budget increases bring the total program estimate to \$2,808,417,200.

The CWPPRA Program has \$9,033,393 of funding carried from the May Task Force meeting. The Program has received an estimate of DOI funding in the amount of \$75,674,836 (which will be allocated for the FY19 construction program.) Thus, the total available funds for requests presented at today's proceedings are \$84,708,229. The total of anticipated funding requests (presented individually at this meeting) is \$13,594,622. If all funding requests are approved, the Program will move forward into 2019 (for PPL-28) with available funds totaling \$71,113,607.

CWPPRA has authorized 214 projects. The 141 active projects including 26 in Phase 1 Engineering and Design, 15 in Phase 2 Construction. There are 95 projects, which have been constructed and are now in O&M phase, and 17 projects that have been closed financially. Additionally, CWPPRA has deauthorized 46 projects, transferred 8 projects, and placed 6 in the inactive category. There are 5 technical support projects comprised of the Coastwide Reference Monitoring System (CRMS), Storm Recovery, Construction Program Technical Services, and the Wetland Conservation Plan.

13. Agenda Item #4 Report: Construction Update (Brad Inman, USACE)

The CWPPRA agencies provided reports on projects that are currently under construction and projects that have recently completed construction.

Mr. Paul began with a report on the Coastwide Vegetative Planting project (LA-39), highlighting the project sites that have been completed, or are planned and under Phase I. He provided maps of planting areas and photos of projects completed for various sites along the coast. LSU AgCenter and DWF will conduct monitoring. He further provided details about the types of vegetation installed at each site, as well as proposed layouts and plans for awarded sites.

Mr. Clark presented an update for the Lost Lake Marsh Creation and Restoration project. He began with an overview of the project scope, which received expansion approval in May 2017. Five water control structures have been replaced with variable crest structures. Project features also include marsh creation, retention dikes and marsh nourishment features in various cells. He provided photos as illustration. Project completion is set for the end of October 2018. Total project costs are estimated at \$26.7 million. No questions or comments were proffered.

Mr. Clark then reported on the Cameron-Creole Grand Bayou Marsh Creation project. The project consists of two cells of located on the Cameron Prairie National Wildlife Refuge (south cell) and on lands owned by Miami Corp. (north cell). The north cell is complete as of June 2018; completion of south cell is expected in the spring of 2019. No questions or comments were proffered.

Patrick Williams presented the update for Cole's Bayou (TV-43). He began by acknowledging the CPRA & NOAA engineers and project managers by name, as well as primary subcontractors. Construction began in the summer of 2018 at an awarded cost of \$2.4

million; completion in expected by spring of 2019. The project consists of marsh creation cells and water control structures designed to restore hydrology into Cole's Bayou, and through the marsh cells to encourage marsh nourishment. Efforts also include signage and outreach to mariners, landowners and private-use stakeholders to avoid conflict regarding pipeline placement. Vermilion Parish has recently issued a temporary "idle-only" ordinance along a containment dike to aid in construction process. No questions or comments were proffered.

Donna Rogers presented an update of Oyster Bayou project, which she asserted is 95% complete; the primary remaining efforts are for Highway overlay. Expected completion is November 2018. Originally budgeted at \$23.5 million, the project consists of containment dikes and marsh creation; favorable bids resulted in an expansion approved last year. No questions or comments were proffered.

Ms. Rogers presented an update for the Rockefeller Shoreline Stabilization (ME-18) at a cost of \$18.9 million. Shoreline retreat is occurring, which requires on-going surveys and a necessary adjustment of breakwater placement, which she described as a 3-mile-long structure with fish-gaps. She described structural components, sub-surface and surface widths, and the reasons why tie-in to other breakwater structures is not feasible. An unidentified attendee inquired about the elevation of the rock dike, to which Ms. Rogers described as about 3.5' above water level under normal weather conditions. No other questions or comments were forthcoming.

14. Agenda Item #5 Report: Status of Unconstructed Projects (Brad Inman, USACE)

On behalf of the Planning and Evaluation subcommittee, Mr. Inman reported on the status of unconstructed CWPPRA projects. He asserted that the Technical Committee met with the P&E subcommittee via conference call in August 2018 to discuss and deem projects as challenged, on schedule, or delayed. No projects were selected for the "critical watch" list at that time. No Task Force or public comments were proffered.

15. Agenda Item #13 Report: Outreach Committee Report (Mirka Zapletal, USGS)

Dr. Mirka Zapletal provided the Outreach Committee report, beginning with a local news video of the dedication ceremony held October 10, 2018 at the Rockefeller Refuge. She then provided pictorial and anecdotal evidence of multiple outreach efforts that have been conducted since May 2018. She finalized her presentation with a report on recent publications – i.e. Landmarks, Watermarks issues. She also reported collaborative efforts regarding high school curriculum development. Mr. Norton commended Dr. Zapletal and her associates for their efforts, as did Mr. Doley and Colonel Clancy.

16. Agenda Item #14 Report: Coastwide Nutria Control Program – Annual Report (Catherine Normand, LDWF)

Ms. Catherine Normand with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries presented the annual report on the Coastwide Nutria Control Program (LA-03b). She began with a reminder that the program is in its 16th season, which coincides with the trapping season, typically in winter months. As usual, the tails are collected via mobile collection station,

(subcontracted to CEI) along with specifics about where and how the nutria were harvested. The most recent results were compiled in April 2018 as a result of the November 20, 2017 – March 31, 2018 season. Tails collected within the latest season are much lower than the average of 340,000 per season, and the original project goal of 400,00 per season. Ms. Normand provided survey data indicative of trends in participation, available acreage, and damaged land area. She then provided possible strategies to increase awareness and participation.

Mr. Doley inquired about damaged areas being targeted to attain access. Ms. Normand explained that often, landowners are reluctant to allow airboats onto floating marsh areas (which nutria seem to prefer). Mr. Doley further inquired about if areas of high harvest are seeing lower marsh-loss rates. Ms. Normand responded in the negative, indicating that loss rates do not always coincide with nutria density.

Colonel Clancy asked for Task Force comments or questions. Mack Wade with the Morgan City Port Authority asked about bounty rates. Ms. Normand reported a reimbursement fee of \$5 per tail. He also asked about a bounty for hog population; Ms. Normand replied that hogs are out of the prevue of this project.

17. Agenda Item #15 Report: Coastwide Reference Monitoring System (Leigh Anne Sharp, CPRA)

Ms. Leigh Anne Sharp presented the report on CRMS, beginning with a note about the updated website. Training on the website is available for all agencies. She asserted that CRMS is closely involved with the CMAP program (part of the RESTORE Act) to provide relevant data. The 2018 Coastwide flights begin this month (a 3-year process). Data from the last analysis is available this month, and O&M and M reports are being provided to the Task Force for review. Ms. Sharp highlighted project CS-27 to demonstrate how CRMS data is being utilized. Data collection technologies within this project area (which pre-date CRMS) have been deemed redundant, and subsequently removed. Other results regarding land-loss were presented, as were project-specific observations such as salinity, and vegetative regeneration. More generally, flooding and impoundment trends were illustrated. No comments or questions were proffered.

VII. ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

Colonel Clancy called for additional agenda items; none was proffered.

VIII. REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

Colonel Clancy announced the end of formal agenda items, and called for any additional questions or comments of the CWPPRA Task Force or the public. None were proffered.

IX. CLOSING

A. Announcement: Dates of Upcoming CWPPRA Program Meeting

Brad Inman (USACE) was called upon to iterate upcoming CWPPRA meetings and business, which he did as follows:

The next Technical Committee Meeting will be held December 6, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. at Department of Natural Resources, LaSalle Building, 617 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana (LaBelle Room).

B. Announcement: Scheduled Dates Of Future Program Meetings

December 6, 2018	9:30 a.m.	Technical Committee	Baton Rouge
January 2018	9:30 a.m.	Task Force	TBD
January 2018	1:00 p.m.	Region IV RPT	TBD
January 2018	10:00 a.m.	Region I&II RPT	TBD

*Dates and locations are subject to change. Please check back with lacoast.gov for the latest calendar.

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Colonel Clancy called for any additional public or Task Force comments or questions regarding upcoming business or the schedule: none was proffered.

C. Adjournment

Colonel Clancy called for any closing remarks from the Task Force members; none were proffered. With no further business, Colonel Clancy made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Norton seconded. The motion passed without dissent. The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.