

BREAUX ACT
Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act

TASK FORCE MEETING
19 January 2011

Minutes

I. INTRODUCTION

Colonel Edward Fleming convened the 77th meeting of the Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force. The meeting began at 9:40 a.m. on January 19, 2011, at the District Assembly Room, 7400 Leake Avenue, New Orleans, 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. Listed below are the six Task Force members who were present.

Mr. Jim Boggs, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
Mr. Christopher Doley, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
Mr. Jerome Zeringue (sitting in for Mr. Garrett Graves), State of Louisiana, Governor's Office of Coastal Activities (GOCA)
Colonel Edward Fleming, Chairman, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
Mr. Kevin Norton, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
Mr. William Honker, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

III. OPENING REMARKS

Colonel Fleming thanked everyone for attending and asked the Task Force members to introduce themselves. Colonel Fleming announced that Mr. Boggs has taken a job in Arkansas and will be leaving the Task Force. Colonel Fleming then presented Mr. Boggs with a Department of the Army Commander's Award for Public Service on behalf of the U.S. Army and the USACE. Colonel Fleming then presented Mr. Boggs with a Certificate of Commendation for exemplary service on behalf of the Task Force and commended Mr. Boggs for his work with CWPPRA and in support of coastal Louisiana.

Mr. Boggs expressed that it has been a pleasure and honor to serve with CWPPRA for the past three years. He added that one aspect he likes about the CWPPRA Program is that it puts words into action and makes people a part of the process.

Colonel Fleming opened the floor to comments from the Task Force regarding any changes or additions to the agenda. There were no comments.

Mr. Honker made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Mr. Norton seconded. The motion was passed by the Task Force.

IV. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 13, 2010 TASK FORCE MEETING

Colonel Fleming asked for any changes or comments on the minutes from the October 13, 2010 Task Force meeting. There were no comments. Colonel Fleming stated that the minutes for the October 13, 2010 Task Force meeting are adopted.

V. TASK FORCE DECISIONS

A. Agenda Item #6 – Report/Decision: Public Outreach Committee Report and Request for Approval to Change the CWPPRA List Server Name from “Breux Act Newsflash” to “CWPPRA Newsflash”

Susan Testroet-Bergeron, United States Geological Survey (USGS), presented the Public Outreach Committee Report and request for approval to change the CWPPRA list server name. During the October 13, 2010 Task Force meeting, Colonel Fleming requested feedback from the Outreach Committee about changing the CWPPRA list server name from “Breux Act Newsflash” to “CWPPRA Newsflash.” The change has been requested to stay consistent with the Outreach Committee’s current branding efforts. Ms. Bergeron shared the Outreach Committee’s feedback and presented the quarterly report.

Since the last report, a dedication ceremony was held and the 20th Anniversary celebration was held, where awards were presented to those who have been serving CWPPRA for the past 20 years. The Partners in Restoration Book has been completed and copies are available at this meeting; however, the books are mainly intended for legislative education, libraries, and parish governments. Louisiana House Representative Joe Harrison recently contacted the Outreach Committee and asked them to speak to the coastal communities and their legislative delegates in December to discuss CWPPRA funding. They are very happy with CWPPRA projects, but are concerned about future funding and are in discussions to see how they can help.

The Outreach Committee is continuing with ongoing efforts and currently working with Audubon on their wetlands exhibit and with the Science Museum of Minnesota which is looking at using CWPPRA as a model for people in urgent scientific situations. CWPPRA is now also on YouTube. The Outreach Committee has created the first of five videos entitled Marsh Creation: Step by Step. Ms. Bergeron thanked Jim Fields who created the video. She then played the video for the Task Force.

The Outreach Committee will not be attending the Coastal Zone Conference this year, but instead will be attending the National Conference on Ecosystem Restoration in Baltimore, Maryland in August. The Outreach Committee hopes to meet with the legislative delegates before that time and then intends to have a follow up visit in August. The Outreach Committee would like CWPPRA to be represented at the conference so Ms. Bergeron solicited any scientists

that could attend the conference, or projects that could be submitted for presentation. She added that today's decision item is to change the Newsflash name from "Breux Act Newsflash" to "CWPPRA Newsflash" which was suggested by the Task Force at the last Task Force meeting and was met with enthusiasm by both the Technical and Outreach Committees.

Colonel Fleming opened the floor to comments from the Task Force.

Mr. Boggs thanked Ms. Bergeron and Mr. Fields for their outstanding work on the video project. Mr. Doley also stated that he enjoyed the video and looks forward to the others.

Mr. Honker pointed out that the EPA and NRCS co-sponsored this effort for a good example of agency coordination and cooperation.

Ms. Bergeron added that if an agency has a project that they would like highlighted in future videos, to let her know.

Colonel Fleming opened the floor to comments from the public. There were no comments.

Mr. Honker made a motion to approve the Technical Committee's recommendation to change the CWPPRA list server name from "Breux Act Newsflash" to "CWPPRA Newsflash." Mr. Boggs seconded. The motion was passed by the Task Force.

B. Agenda Item #7 – Report/Decision: Status of the Priority Project List (PPL) 1 – West Bay Sediment Diversion Project (MR-03) and Request for Approval to Continue Monitoring the West Bay Receiving Area

Travis Creel, USACE, provided a status on the West Bay Phase II Study and Closure Plans. The Technical Committee recommends setting aside \$15 million for the closure and \$100,000 for a performance study, including a survey of the receiving area. For the Phase II Study, field data was collected during the 2010 high water season. An additional study was planned for cold water temperatures, but that data was not collected so only the high water data will be used. The Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) is currently reworking the computer code for the 1D, 2D, and 3D models to include the new data collected and improve the dredging estimates. For the final report, ERDC is going to amend the Phase I report and then present all of the data mid-summer via a webinar. After that time, any final questions and comments will be submitted and included in the final report which is intended to be issued at the end of the summer.

The closure plan is also ongoing. There is a geotechnical boring contract under way to study the borrow sources and the results are expected in February. Preparation for additional surveys for the closure plan is also underway. The final engineering recommendation for closure is expected in March and will be presented to the Technical Committee, Task Force, and Mississippi River Commission (MRC) in April. Once the final engineering recommendation is complete, land rights acquisition will move forward and the Supplemental Environmental

Assessment will be issued for public review. The goal is to initiate closure during the low water season in October/November of this year.

The Technical Committee discussed the cost of closure during the December meeting. There are currently three closure alternatives being considered: earthen closure, rock closure, and an earthen plug (with rock revetment). The estimated cost range for the three alternatives is \$10 to \$15 million and will depend on dredge locations and the amount of material needed. The Technical Committee recommends setting aside \$15 million from the Fiscal Year (FY) 11 construction program budget to implement the closure and recommends a survey of the receiving area not to exceed \$100,000.

Melanie Goodman, USACE, added that though the final cost estimate has not been received, the survey is expected to cost less than \$100,000. The survey is recommended because this new data would show what conditions have changed in the receiving area since the submerged sediment retention devices (shreds) were added.

Colonel Fleming opened the floor to comments from the Task Force.

Mr. Zeringue asked that the State be included in the survey effort since the State has conducted surveys in this area in the past and has information to support this effort.

Colonel Fleming opened the floor to comments from the public.

Mitch Andrus, Royal Engineering, stated that he has studied this project for the past three years with the Coastal Studies Institute at Louisiana State University (LSU). He continued that the science shows that this project has the potential to be one of the best coastal restoration projects in south Louisiana, but not on a time scale that is fiscally responsible for the CWPPRA Program. He asked that if Congress finds a way to pay for the dredging in the Pilottown Anchorage Area, the Task Force reconsider closure, or at the very least, take the science gathered over the past seven years for this project and apply that information to future diversions planned upstream in the river.

Sean Duffy, Mississippi River Maritime Association, stated that the maritime industry is going to be watching this diversion and others that are planned. He added that this diversion is the flagship and that what happens is being carefully observed. He hopes that if this diversion is closed, the lessons learned are used such that future diversions are constructed in ways that do not shut down navigation or cause problems. He added that the navigation industry wants to see sediment diversions work to create marsh, but that ships must be kept on the Mississippi River since it represents approximately \$100 billion a year to the Nation. He stated that he would like to see the diversion work and in any future diversions would like to see the navigation industry more heavily included.

P.J. Hahn, Plaquemines Parish Government, invited everyone to come to the project site to see that West Bay is working. He added that it is one thing to look at maps and charts, but much different to put on boots and get on the ground. He stated that the receiving area is building new land and hosting many birds.

Mr. Norton made a motion to approve the Technical Committee's recommendation to set aside \$15 million, from the FY 2011 construction program budget, for the West Bay Sediment Diversion Closure and \$100,000 for a performance study, including a survey of the receiving area. Mr. Boggs seconded. The motion was passed by the Task Force.

C. Agenda Item #8 – Report/Decision: Status of Request for Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Incremental Funding and Budget Increase for the PPL 10 – Lake Borgne Shoreline Protection Project (PO-30)

Paul Kaspar, EPA, presented the request. During the September 28, 2010 Technical Committee meeting, the EPA requested approval for an O&M budget increase, in the amount of \$3,349,711, and Increment 1 funding increase, in the amount of \$3,356,181. The Technical Committee deferred making a decision until the project's alternatives have been analyzed. The Project Team continues to evaluate options for the scheduled maintenance lift. The Technical Committee recommends setting aside \$3 million for a future request of O&M Incremental funding and budget increase for the PPL 10 – Lake Borgne Shoreline Protection Project.

The original project included foreshore rock dikes to combat the existing shoreline erosion rates of five to nine feet per year. The project goal was to halt shoreline retreat, protect emergent marsh, and prevent further coalescence of Lake Borgne with MRGO and then reestablish a sustainable lake rim. Bayou Dupre has approximately 12,000 linear feet of rock dike and Shell Beach has approximately 17,000 linear feet of rock dike. The original design included a post-construction maintenance lift one year after project construction to allow the soils to gain strength. The additional rock lift was to bring the rock dikes to the desired elevation (+ 4.0 feet NAVD). Reach 2 of Bayou Dupre and Reach 4 of Shell Beach are constructible. However, Reach 3 in Shell Beach (approximately 750 linear feet) and Reach 1 at Bayou Dupre (approximately 3,700 linear feet) have rock dike failure in some sections and the soils are not strong enough to allow additional rock to be placed in the failure areas.

Slope stability analysis shows that hurricane effects have eroded and scoured out the overburden between the floatation channel and the rock breakwater, thereby causing slope failure and reducing the factor of safety. The State has evaluated various options, including a lightweight core material and using the existing stone. The recommended design is to place a battered sheet pile structure between the rock and shoreline in the failure areas. After additional environmental analysis is completed, the final cost will be determined and a formal O&M funding request will be made to the TC and TF in the near future. Construction bids will be solicited in late spring of 2011 and construction is expected this summer.

Colonel Fleming opened the floor to comments from the Task Force. There were no comments.

Colonel Fleming opened the floor to comments from the public. There were no comments.

Mr. Honker made a motion to approve the Technical Committee's recommendation to set aside \$3 million for a future request of O&M incremental funding and budget increase for the PPL 10 – Lake Borgne Shoreline Protection Project (PO-30). Mr. Boggs seconded. The motion was passed by the Task Force.

D. Agenda Item #9 – Report/Decision: Status of the PPL 15 –Lake Hermitage Marsh Creation Project (BA-42) and Request for a One-Year Extension of Phase II Funding

The Lake Hermitage Marsh Creation Project was approved for Phase II funding on January 21, 2009. The construction award will not occur within two years of Phase II approval. The USFWS and OCPR are requesting that the Phase II funds not be placed on a revocation list and that a one-year extension be granted to continue with project implementation. The cost estimate is two years old and could increase by \$5-8 million. The Technical Committee recommends approving the request for a one-year extension of Phase II funding for the Lake Hermitage Marsh Creation Project (BA-42).

Colonel Fleming opened the floor to comments from the Task Force. There were no comments.

Colonel Fleming opened the floor to comments from the public. There were no comments.

Mr. Boggs made a motion to approve the Technical Committee's recommendation to approve the request for a one-year extension of Phase II funding for the Lake Hermitage Marsh Creation Project (BA-42). Mr. Norton seconded. The motion was passed by the Task Force.

E. Agenda Item #10 – Report/Decision: Status of the PPL 11 – Grand Lake Shoreline Protection, Tebo Point (ME-21a) and Request for a One-Year Extension of Phase II Funding

The Technical Committee recommends extending Phase II funding for the project until December 2011.

Colonel Fleming noted that the USACE has a standard cost share agreement that they use for non-Federal sponsors and that the USACE has sent a deviation request to the USACE Headquarters for this project. He added that they expect an answer from the Assistant Secretary of the Army's Office in the next few months as to the deviation request.

Colonel Fleming opened the floor to comments from the Task Force.

Mr. Norton asked if a response is expected from Headquarters before the next Task Force meeting. Colonel Fleming replied that he will make every effort to get an answer before then.

Colonel Fleming opened the floor to comments from the public.

Chad Courville, the Miami Corporation, stated that a couple of years ago there was discussion regarding the problems with this project and investigating alternative options. He added that this is not a USACE project, but a CWPPRA project. He stated that he does not want to discount the work that has been done over the past two years, but that unfortunately he has been hearing the same speech. He added that the challenge is to change the policy and that while at the CWPPRA dedication ceremony, there was talk of how CWPPRA is founded on building projects, this project has been on hold for a long time due to the failure of the Corps and State to sign the cost share agreement. He asked the Task Force to consider another mechanism to build this project and to work out the cost share agreement on other future projects. He encouraged the Task Force to shift this project to another Federal agency, or to at least consider moving the project today. He added that though they have been patient, it is time to get this project built.

Mr. Norton responded that he appreciates Mr. Courville's comments and passion and agreed that this project has taken some time. He added that after discussion with Colonel Fleming, he believes that the Colonel very much wants to get the USACE re-engaged with the construction side of CWPPRA. He added that it seems to him, that in the last few months, the USACE has made a huge effort with the State to get this cost share agreement worked out and he cautioned that moving the project at this point may not advance the process any faster than trying to resolve the cost share agreement. He stated that, though he understands the request, from his perspective, they should wait until the June Task Force meeting to resolve this issue and then engage in serious discussion if an agreement can not be reached.

Mr. Courville agreed and stated that he does not want the Task Force to make a decision today that it is not prepared to make. He asked that the group at least agree that if the cost share agreement is not worked out by the June Task Force meeting, the project be shifted to another agency. He added that it is becoming more difficult to say that the CWPPRA Program is based on building projects when this project has been held up for so long.

Colonel Fleming highlighted that of the 42 deviations requested in the cost share agreement, 36 have been recommended for approval at this point and that the rest are being considered in light of what the USACE and State can do.

Mr. Honker agreed that this is definitely an issue that all members of the Task Force are concerned about, not just for this project, but for future CWPPRA projects and projects within other programs. He added that the Task Force will need to keep this on the front burner and revisit the status at the next Task Force meeting and at that time, make a decision.

Colonel Fleming added that the Technical Committee will meet between now and the next Task Force meeting as well.

Mr. Norton made a motion to approve the Technical Committee's recommendation to extend Phase II funding for the PPL 11 - Grand Lake Shoreline Protection, Tebo Point Project (ME-21a) until December 2011. Mr. Honker seconded. The motion was passed by the Task Force.

F. Agenda Item #11 – Report/Decision: Request for Approval for Final De-Authorization of the South Pecan Island Freshwater Introduction Project (ME-23)

The OCPR, the local sponsor, and NMFS, the Federal sponsor, requested approval for final de-authorization of the South Pecan Island Freshwater Introduction Project (ME-23) based on a significant decrease in the project’s cost effectiveness. No comments were received from the public notice. The Technical Committee recommends approving the final de-authorization.

Colonel Fleming opened the floor to comments from the Task Force. There were no comments.

Colonel Fleming opened the floor to comments from the public. There were no comments.

Mr. Doley made a motion to approve the Technical Committee’s recommendation to approve the final de-authorization of the South Pecan Island Freshwater Introduction Project (ME-23). Mr. Honker seconded. The motion was passed by the Task Force.

G. Agenda Item #12 – Discussion/Decision: 20th Priority Project List (PPL)

Ms. Goodman presented an overview of the five candidate projects being recommended by the Technical Committee for PPL 20 Phase I approval. The Technical Committee does not recommend the funding of a demonstration project for PPL 20 since all of the demonstration projects nominated are eligible to compete in the existing NRCS sponsored alternative to rock shoreline protection demonstration project. The Technical Committee recommends the following PPL 20 projects for Phase I funding approval in the total amount of \$10,363,337:

- Bayou Bonfouca Marsh Creation Project, \$2,567,244
- Coast-wide Planting Project, \$156,945
- Cameron-Creole Watershed Grand Bayou Marsh Creation, \$2,376,789
- Kelso Bayou Marsh Creation and Hydrologic Restoration, \$2,360,609
- Terrebonne Bay Marsh Creation-Nourishment Project, \$2,901,750

Colonel Fleming opened the floor to comments from the Task Force. He added that this vote is the result of a year worth of meetings and discussion on these projects.

Mr. Honker reiterated that the Technical Committee is recommending five projects and in the past, four projects have been approved. He stated that he whole heartedly supports funding five projects for Phase I since there may be additional funding sources from other programs that could build projects designed within CWPPRA (shovel-ready projects). He added that he would even be inclined to fund more than five projects for Phase I, but that it would be a massive departure from the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and he senses hesitant support from his fellow Task Force members. He suggested re-visiting the SOP and sequencing procedures for future years due to potential changes in funding for CWPPRA and other programs to capitalize on opportunities and impacts by increasing engineering and design within CWPPRA.

Colonel Fleming opened the floor to comments from the public.

Phil Precht, Louisiana Land and Exploration and ConocoPhillips Companies, spoke in support and appreciation of the Terrebonne Bay Project. He offered help with any transportation for tours since a large portion of this project is on their property.

Al Levron, Terrebonne Parish Manager, also spoke in support of the Terrebonne Bay Project. The local Coastal Zone Management committee and Terrebonne Parish President support this project. He added that it is nice to speak after a landowner in support of the project and expressed appreciation for the Task Force's support.

Mr. Honker made a motion to approve the Technical Committee's recommendation for the PPL 20 Phase I funding in the amount of \$10,363,337, for the following PPL 20 Projects: Bayou Bonfouca Marsh Creation Project, \$2,567,244, Coast-wide Planting Project, \$156,945, Cameron-Creole Watershed Grand Bayou Marsh Creation, \$2,376,789, Kelso Bayou Marsh Creation and Hydrologic Restoration, \$2,360,609, and Terrebonne Bay Marsh Creation-Nourishment Project, \$2,901,750. Mr. Boggs seconded. The motion was passed by the Task Force.

H. Agenda Item #13 – Report/Decision: Request for Scope Change to Combine PPL 8 – Sabine Refuge Marsh Creation Project, Cycles IV & V (CS-28-4&5), New Fully Funded Estimate Approval, and Construction Approval and Funding

The USACE requested an administrative scope change to combine the PPL 8 – Sabine Refuge Marsh Creation Project Cycles IV and V for financial accounting purposes, and approval of the combined current fully funded estimate for Cycles IV and V in the amount of \$8,111,705. Also, the USACE, with concurrence from the State and USFWS, is requesting construction approval and Increment 1 funding in the amount of \$7,952,795 to construct both Cycles IV and V during the Calcasieu Ship Channel FY11 maintenance cycle in winter 2010/2011. The Technical Committee recommends approving the requested fully funded cost estimate, contingent upon execution of a cost share agreement by the June 2011 Task Force meeting, and approving the requested scope change to combine Cycles IV & V.

Colonel Fleming opened the floor to comments from the Task Force. There were no comments.

Colonel Fleming opened the floor to comments from the public.

Darryl Clark, USFWS, pointed out that the Technical Committee recommendation also includes a request for construction funding. Ms. Goodman re-read the Technical Committee recommendation, including approval for the project to move into construction. The Task Force re-affirmed the motion to approve the Technical Committee's recommendation.

Mr. Norton made a motion to approve the request for the fully funded cost estimate in the amount of \$8,111,705, contingent upon execution of a cost share agreement by the June 2011 Task Force Meeting, to approve the requested scope change to combine Cycles IV and V for the

PPL 8 – Sabine Marsh Refuge Marsh Creation Projects (CS-28-4&5), and to approve the project to move into construction. Mr. Boggs seconded. The motion was passed by the Task Force.

I. Agenda Item #14 – Discussion/Decision: Request for Phase II Authorization and Approval of Phase II Increment 1 Funding

The Technical Committee reviewed project information and took public comments on requests for Phase II approval on the two projects shown below. The Technical Committee recommends approving Phase II authorization and Increment 1 funding for the Bayou Dupont Ridge Creation and Marsh Restoration Project. There is not sufficient funding within the construction program to approve both projects for Phase II funding.

Recommended Approval by Tech Committee	Agency	Project No.	PPL	Project Name	Total Fully Funded Cost Est.
	EPA	TE-47	11	Ship Shoal: Whiskey West Flank Restoration	\$65,355,775
X	NMFS	BA-48	17	Bayou Dupont Ridge Creation & Marsh Restoration	\$38,539,615

Colonel Fleming opened the floor to comments from the Task Force. There were no comments.

Colonel Fleming opened the floor to comments from the public.

Phil Precht, Louisiana Land and Exploration and ConocoPhillips Companies, spoke on behalf of the Bayou Dupont Project. He stated that a small portion of the project is on their property, but that they are in full support of the project since it will help protect the refinery to the east. He added that refinery property was used to route the pipeline for the initial project and that they are more than willing to help again.

Marnie Winter, Jefferson Parish Government, asked the Task Force to act on the Technical Committee’s recommendation since the Bayou Dupont Project will restore part of the landbridge that runs from the Mississippi River through Plaquemines, Jefferson, and Lafourche Parishes and will provide flood protection to those areas.

Mr. Honker made a motion to approve the request for Phase II authorization and Increment 1 Funding for the PPL 17 – Bayou Dupont Ridge Creation and Marsh Restoration Project (BA-48) in the amount of \$38,539,615. Mr. Boggs seconded. The motion was passed by the Task Force.

VI. INFORMATION

A. Agenda Item #3 – Report: Status of Breaux Act Program Funds and Projects

Gay Browning, USACE, briefed the Task Force on the status of CWPPRA accounts in the Planning and Construction Programs and overall available and projected funding in the CWPPRA Program. The anticipated Department of Interior FY11 funding had been \$79.6 million, but the updated amount is approximately \$2 million less at \$77.4 million. The current approved Planning Program budget is \$5.1 million with a current surplus of approximately \$600,000.

Ms. Browning then discussed the current Construction Program funding. Total Federal funds from FY92 to FY10 are \$962.2 million, which does not include the expected \$77.4 million for FY11. Total obligations to date are \$925.4 million; total expenditures to date are \$658.1 million. The program is receiving high expenditures this year because of large construction projects that are invoicing. At present, there are 146 active projects: 88 are completed construction, 15 are currently under construction, and 43 have not yet started construction. In FY10, there were originally 13 projects scheduled for construction, six began construction and four completed construction. There are eight projects scheduled to begin construction in FY11; of those eight, two are non-cash flow, which are fully funded, five are cash flow projects with funding already in place, and one is a cash flow project requesting Phase II approval today.

The current unencumbered Federal funding balance as of today is negative \$31 million, which is the Federal work allowance minus the Federal cost share. The FY11 Federal funding is expected to be \$77.4 million and there is a potential return of \$24.9 million back into the Construction Program. Therefore, the total FY11 available funding, including the non-Federal cost share and return of construction funds is \$79.4 million available for today's meeting. Today's requests total approximately \$71.9 million, which would leave \$7.5 million remaining.

The current unobligated balance is \$129.5 million, which is funds that are programmed, but not obligated. The current work allowance is \$1 billion \$141.6 million; program funds are \$1 billion \$172 million; and unencumbered funds are negative \$30.5 million. Right now, through FY20, the current funding (total funds into the Program) will be \$2 billion \$308 million. The total cost, at present, if all projects were constructed at the current estimates, for all projects currently on the books is \$2 billion \$387.1 million, showing a need of approximately \$78.3 million. Including approval of today's recommendations, the current estimate becomes \$2 billion \$472 million, showing a shortage of approximately \$163.7 million. The current approved estimates are \$1 billion \$417.1 million and with today's approvals would be \$1 billion \$449.8 million.

Colonel Fleming opened the floor to comments from the Task Force.

Mr. Honker asked for clarification if these numbers are based on the amount expected for FY11, which have not been received and are currently under resolution. He asked if the money is expected, but not in the bank at this point and if there is a question as to when, and maybe if, the money will arrive. He also asked if today's decisions are being based on money not yet received. Ms. Browning replied that the money should be coming, but has not yet been received. She added that the totals presented today already include the fax votes.

Colonel Fleming clarified that there is a verbal indication that the funds are coming, but that they have not been received. He asked when these funds are typically received. Ms. Browning answered in April. Colonel Fleming asked if CWPPRA is spending money they do not have or if there are any Antideficiency Act violations. Ms. Browning replied no.

Colonel Fleming opened the floor to comments from the public. There were no comments.

B. Agenda Item #4 – Report: Task Force Email/Fax Vote Approvals

- a. **Change in Scope and Construction Funding for the PPL 6 – North Lake Boudreaux Freshwater Introduction and Hydrologic Management Project (TE-32a):** During the October 13, 2010 Task Force meeting, the USFWS and OCPR requested approval for a change in scope and Phase II construction funding for the North Lake Boudreaux project. The Task Force approved holding additional construction funds in reserve, including three years of O&M, but deferred making a decision until a recommendation was provided by the Technical Committee. The Technical Committee voted via email on October 18, 2010 to make a recommendation to the Task Force to approve the requested change in scope and fully funded cost estimate, with a funding increase of approximately \$7.8 million. The Task Force subsequently voted to approve the change in scope and Phase II construction funding by email on October 27, 2010.
- b. **CWPPRA FY11 USGS Construction Program Technical Support Services Fund:** During the September 28, 2010 Technical Committee meeting, the USGS and Planning & Evaluation Subcommittee requested approval for the CWPPRA FY11 USGS Construction Program Technical Support Services Fund for project information database maintenance, CWPPRA website maintenance, and core GIS tasks in the amount of \$186,018. The Technical Committee voted via email to make a recommendation to the Task Force to approve the requested funding. The Task Force subsequently voted to approve the funding by fax vote on December 7, 2010.
- c. **O&M Incremental Funding for the PPL 9 – Black Bayou Culverts Project (CS-29):** During the December 8, 2010 Technical Committee meeting, NRCS and OCPR requested approval for the use of the remaining Increment 1 and "out-year" O&M and monitoring funding in the amount of \$805,986 to address the Black Bayou culverts leakage problem. The Technical Committee voted to recommend to the Task Force to approve the requested funding. The Task Force subsequently voted to approve the funding by fax vote on January 6, 2011.

Colonel Fleming opened the floor to comments from the Task Force. There were no comments.

Colonel Fleming opened the floor to comments from the public. There were no comments.

C. Agenda Item #5 – Report: Weeks Bay Marsh Creation and Shore Protection/Commercial Canal Freshwater Redirection (TV-19) Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) Feasibility Study Efforts

Michael Somme, CSRS/OCPR, provided an overview of the project and a status on the Vermilion and Iberia Parishes' draft alternative analysis feasibility study being conducted under CIAP. The Vermilion Parish CIAP funds have been approved so all funds have been received. Alternatives are being evaluated based on cost, constructability, and effectiveness. The reconnaissance phase has been completed and the preliminary study will be finished at the end of this month. The final study is expected to be completed in March/April.

Colonel Fleming opened the floor to comments from the Task Force. There were no comments.

Colonel Fleming opened the floor to comments from the public. There were no comments.

VII. ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

There were no additional agenda items.

VIII. REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no additional public comments.

IX. CLOSING

A. Announcement: Priority Project List 21 Regional Planning Team (RPT) Meetings

Ms. Goodman announced that the PPL 21 RPT Meetings will be held as follows and that public notices have been made and reminders will be sent via the CWPPRA Newsflash:

January 25, 2011	1:00 p.m.	Region IV Planning Team Meeting	Abbeville
January 26, 2011	9:00 a.m.	Region III Planning Team Meeting	Morgan City
January 27, 2011	9:00 a.m.	Region II Planning Team Meeting	New Orleans
January 27, 2011	1:00 p.m.	Region I Planning Team Meeting	New Orleans
February 22, 2011	10:00 a.m.	RPT Coastwide Voting Meeting	Baton Rouge

B. Announcement: Dates of Upcoming CWPPRA Program Meetings

Ms. Goodman announced that the next Technical Committee meeting will be held in April 2011 at 9:30 a.m. at the USACE, 7400 Leake Ave., New Orleans, Louisiana, in the District Assembly Room (DARM). She added that the original date of April 19, 2011 is being reviewed and may change. She added that the June Task Force meeting date may also change.

C. Announcement: Scheduled Dates of Future Program Meetings

2011

January 25, 2011	1:00 p.m.	Region IV Planning Team Meeting	Abbeville
January 26, 2011	9:00 a.m.	Region III Planning Team Meeting	Morgan City
January 27, 2011	9:00 a.m.	Region II Planning Team Meeting	New Orleans
January 27, 2011	1:00 p.m.	Region I Planning Team Meeting	New Orleans
February 22, 2011	10:00 a.m.	RPT Coast-wide Voting	Baton Rouge
April 19, 2011	9:30 a.m.	Technical Committee	New Orleans
April TBD, 2011			
June 1, 2011	9:30 a.m.	Task Force	Lafayette
June TBD, 2011			
September 20, 2011	9:30 a.m.	Technical Committee	Baton Rouge
November 16, 2011	7:00 p.m.	PPL 21 Public Comment Meeting	Abbeville
November 17, 2011	7:00 p.m.	PPL 21 Public Comment Meeting	New Orleans
October 12, 2011	9:30 a.m.	Task Force	New Orleans

C. Adjournment

Colonel Fleming called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Honker so moved and Mr. Zeringue seconded. Colonel Fleming adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m.