REGION 6 STEERING COMMITTEE

MEETING #24 MINUTES

Date: September 27, 2023 **Time:** 10:00-12:00pm

Location: City of Donaldsonville Parish Courthouse, 300 Houmas St , Donaldsonville La 70346

Call to Order – 10:00

I. Welcome:

- Mart Black welcomed everyone to the twenty-fourth meeting of the Watershed Region 6 Steering Committee. Pat Gordon stated the purpose of the meeting with an overview of the meeting agenda
- Roll Call:
  Present Committee Members (13/17)- **David Weil, Leroy Blanchard, John Clark, Michelle Gonzales, Mitch Bergeron, Earl Matherne, Marril McKarry, Dov Block, Kasey Courville, Theo Sanders, Mart Black, Kevin Durbin**
  Absent: **Andrew Barron, Mark Ward, Tim Matte, Scott Saunier, Randi Ezell, Megan Dufrene**
  Other: **Pat Gordon, Cassie Parker, Jennifer Gerbasi (Zoom)**

- Mart Black requested a motion to approve a new letter of intent and to move public comment up the agenda. Motion by Kevin Durbin, second by Dov Block.

II. Public Comments

No public comments were made.

III. State Watershed Plan Update

- Pat Gordon discussed comments sent to OCD by August 31 and updates to the master plan.

IV. Review and Adoption of Meeting Minutes

- Mart Black went over the minutes from last meeting of August 23.
- Motion by Kevin Durbin, seconded by David Weil. Minutes were accepted by unanimous vote.

V. HMGP LWI Benefit Cost Analysis (BCAs)

- Pat Gordon discussed and took questions on the $3.5 million in grant funding allocated to the region under the Louisiana Watershed Initiative, as well as the Benefit Cost Analysis method.

VI. Review Letters of Intent

- Iberville Parish added their letter of intent and BCA into the ones already submitted. Terrebonne, Lafourche, Jefferson, Ascension, and Iberville Parishes have submitted their BCAs. Iberville and Jefferson are the two highest rated.

VII. Results and Recommendations to GOHSEP and OCD

- Pat Gordon recommended the following prioritization based on BCA scores and cost of:
    - Iberville - 1.5M – 1.5 BCA
    - Jefferson - 1.6M
    - Ascension - 1.9M – 2.2 BCA
    - Lafourche - 3.5 – 1.57 BCA
    - Terrebonne – 1.0
    - Assumption – Needs to submit project
- Following Pat Gordon's recommendation, discussion ensued.
- Mart Black a motion to recommend the two highest-rated projects to GOHSEP but submit all the rest as "alternate projects" in the hopes of utilizing remaining funds.
- Motion by Kevin Durbin, second by David Weil.

VIII. Committee Comments

- Michelle Gonzales mentioned that Louisiana Local Management Association has an open management workshop on October 20th.
- David Weil commented on perspectives of regional projects.
- Mitch Bergeron expressed gratitude for the opportunity to submit a letter of intent.
- Dov Block shared that St. John the Baptist is currently working on a master drainage plan.
- A member of the public requested higher ratings for Ascension at this time, to no objection from the board.

IX. Next meeting date and location undecided.

X. Adjourn

- Motion by Mitch Bergeron, seconded by Michelle Gonzales to adjourn. Unanimously approved.