



P.O. Drawer 5548 • Thibodaux, LA 70302 • Telephone 985.446.8427
Thibodaux 800.834.8832 • Fax 985.446.8459 • Mathews 985.537.7603

Charlotte A. Randolph, *Parish President*

PRESS RELEASE

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For more information contact:

Name: Brennan Matherne

Phone: (985) 537-7603

Lafourche Parish Helps Fund Point-aux-Chenes Levee

Lafourche Parish Government has agreed to provide \$60,000 to help fund repairs to the Point-aux-Chenes levee which extends from Lafourche into Terrebonne Parish. With help from other agencies, a total of over \$1 million will be spent on improvements to the levee which was overtopped by floodwaters caused by Hurricane Rita in 2005 and more recently by Hurricane Ike in 2008. The levee will be raised to an elevation of nine feet above sea level.

The Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government will provide a bulk of the funding (\$675,000) for the project, while the State of Louisiana provides an additional \$175,000. The Terrebonne Levee and Conservation District (TLCD), which will oversee the project, will also contribute \$100,000.

At a meeting held on July 28, 2009, the Lafourche Parish Council approved the intergovernmental agreement with the TLCD as well as Lafourche's portion of the funding. Councilman Phillip Gouaux who represents the Pointe-aux-Chenes area said, "Bringing Terrebonne and Lafourche together as a team to enhance flood protection is such a positive. Helping to save lives and property in both Terrebonne and Lafourche is our top priority. Both parishes are so similar when it comes to tidal flooding that we must work together to be successful in overcoming this problem."

Parish President Charlotte Randolph signed the agreement this week citing the protection this levee will give to residents of *both* parishes.

"Even though most of this levee is technically located in Terrebonne Parish, it will help provide protection to the Lafourche residents who also live in the Pointe-aux-Chenes community," said President Randolph. "Also, this area of Terrebonne is directly south of a large portion of Lafourche parish, and anything we can do to help protect lower Terrebonne will, in turn, help protect Lafourche."

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