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AND YOUR FAMILY

The Board of Commissioners
OF THE
Pontchartrain Levee District

2204 ALBERT STREET • P.O. BOX 426 • LUTCHER, LA 70071
TEL: 225-869-9721 FAX: 225-869-9723 LA WATTS: 800-523-3148

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RESOLUTION

Support of the Multiple Lines of Defense Strategy to Integrate Flood Protection and Coastal Restoration

The following resolution was offered by Mrs. Geri Broussard Baloney and seconded by Mr. Tony Cunningham:

WHEREAS, coastal restoration and hurricane protection efforts have traditionally been planned separately in Louisiana, and

WHEREAS, due to leveeing of the Mississippi River, dredging navigation channels/canals through coastal wetlands, and other human induced changes in natural hydrology, the coast of Louisiana has been in a state of decline for over half a century, and

WHEREAS, due to the declined health of the coast and the impacts of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, land loss in the coastal zone of Louisiana was 200 square miles for 2005, and

WHEREAS, the impacts of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita demonstrated that depending on levees alone does not provide adequate protection from hurricanes, and

WHEREAS, historically, the natural features of the coast of Louisiana such as barrier islands, sounds, marshes, and ridges have been its primary lines of defense against storm surges from hurricanes and tropical storms, and

WHEREAS, the Multiple Lines of Defense Report developed under the auspices of the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation and the Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana proposes freshwater diversions, restoration of barrier islands, marshes, ridges, and other natural features of Louisiana's coast that enhance hurricane protection, and

WHEREAS, the Multiple Lines of Defense Report proposes to sustain the coastal lines of defense and wetland habitats by re-establishing a salinity regime to baseline conditions that existed when the coast was more naturally sustainable, and

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WHEREAS, the Multiple Lines of Defense Report proposes specific project recommendations to sustain the coastal lines of defense and wetland habitats within the jurisdiction of the Pontchartrain Levee District, and

WHEREAS, the Pontchartrain Levee District, representing the East Bank of St. Charles, St. John, St. James, Iberville, Ascension, and East Baton Rouge Parishes, all of which are directly affected by the lack of integration of Coastal Protection and Restoration Strategies with Hurricane Protection, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Pontchartrain Levee District urges Governor Jindal, the Louisiana Recovery Authority, the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, FEMA, the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration authority, and other appropriate government agencies to integrate the Multiple Lines of Defense Report recommendations into future coastal restoration and hurricane protection efforts for within the jurisdiction of the Pontchartrain Levee District.

This resolution was declared adopted this 18th day of February, 2008.

I, Susan M. Canatella, hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Pontchartrain Levee District at its meeting February 18, 2008, at which a quorum was present.

Lutcher, Louisiana, this day 19th day of February, 2008.


Susan M. Canatella, Secretary