

LRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
January 28, 2010
House Committee Room 1

I. Call to Order

Mr. David Volker the Chairman of the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board of Directors, called the meeting to order at 9:15 am in the House Committee Room 1 at the State Capital Building in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Mr. Chairman noted that Mr. Sean Reilly will act as the Vice Chairman while Mr. Walter Leger recovers. The Board wishes him a speedy recovery (*Notices to the public and new media of the time and place of ht meeting were given in compliance with the Louisiana Open Meetings Law*)

II. Prayer

Mr. Sean Reilly led in Prayer

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Sean Reilly led the Pledge of Allegiance

IV. ROLL CALL

The Chairman deferred the roll call until quorum was available

Staff Members Present

Mrs. Lynn Bankston
Ms. Stacy Bonnaffons
Mr. Dave Bowman
Ms. Krystle Beauchamp
Mr. JC Ceaser
Ms. Adrienne Duncan
Ms. Amanda Guma
Ms. Sandra Gunner3
Mr. Hugh Hyman
Mr. Wil Jacobs
Ms. Kimberly Jupiter
Ms. Robin Keegan

Ms. Janice Lovett
Mr. Darin Mann
Mrs. Kristen Parnell
Mr. Dan Rees
Mr. Brian Roberts
Ms. Marisa Robertson
Mr. Eric D. Shaw
Ms. Christina Stephens
Ms. Angela Vanveckhoven
Mr. Kris Van Orsdel
Mr. Carl Williams

V. Executive Director's Report

Ms. Keegan began with the Washington Update: FEMA Arbitration Panel which was set up by Sen. Landrieu and held Jan 11-16th hearing on January 27th which awarded \$474 Million dollars for damages for Charity Hospital in New Orleans. We will be working with FEMA.

Vice President Biden visited New Orleans and Grand Lake January 15, 2010 and announced the forgiveness of Disaster Loans. Community Disaster Loans: Local Governments that received Special Community Disaster Loans following hurricanes Katrina and Rita can apply for FEMA Loan forgiveness. The details of the process will be released in March. 52 Applicants drew down CDL Funds. Municipalities must have had operating deficits for three fiscal years following the storms. Applicants cannot begin to apply for loan forgiveness until March 20th. FEMA will hold Technical Assistance Workshops February 22-24.

Federal Disaster Recovery Working Group: Created at the request of Pres. Obama Led by the head s of Homeland Security and Housing and Urban Development. Seeks to provide guidance on long term recovery operations and make suggestions for improving the federal government's role in the recovery. Making sure the federal responsibilities are known. Presenting a report to the White House this spring with suggested improvements to how our nation recovers from disasters. LRA, OCD DRU and GOHSEP staff offering insight about lessons to be learned on recoveries from hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Gustav, Ike. Staff is working on a white paper to submit to the Working Group in February. Ms. Keegan noted that once the draft was completed then it would be brought to the board for their comments.

Some of the LRA Recommendations include: Improvements to the Stafford Act: including creating an "annex" with special rules for catastrophes the size of Hurricane Katrina and requiring that disaster aid always allocated based on the level of damage of state needs. The Appointment of federal coordinators with experience and authority to coordinate across agencies and make decisions will be helpful. Placement in the disaster region of experienced, high level, senior agency staffers from all responding agencies including HUD, to facilitate quick decisions on recovery issues in the weeks and months following an event.

Disaster Recovery Protocol: Working with partner agencies in the state to develop a recovery protocol for the housing, economic development and infrastructure sectors. Purpose is to identify functions that are not immediate emergency response but affect immediate, short and long term recovery. This will compliment the states' preparedness and emergency response plans. Team's goal is to finish the plan in April and bring before the board in May. The plan is to be in place before the 2010 Hurricane season.

Ms. Keegan stated that FEMA Trailer deactivation process is going smoothly: 1213 households in FEMA trailers. Sales and Donations Programs: 643 sold, 41 sales pending, 30 donations in process. In 2009, the number of households in FEMA trailers reduced from 5562 to 1213. Emergency Rental Assistance Program: 813 families have been referred, 333 completing the application process, 88 families who are currently receiving assistance. This helps them to move into permanent housing.

Ms. Keegan added that the state has taken over the DCMPP (Disaster Case Management Pilot Program) which ended this summer. 1739 households have received case management services, 1059 clients have developed long term recovery plans, 7 families have completed all of their long term recovery goals, 81 families have completed their primary long term recovery goals, 1950 referrals made.

DHAP Case Management 5667 housing choice vouchers issued, 2047 clients receiving case management services. February 28th is the final deadline for DHAP transitional program. The LRA is closely working with providers to ensure all clients' needs are met before program closure.

Gustav/Ike I Temporary Housing: FEMA Trailers 436 total in Louisiana the numbers are going down quickly; one year extension approved by FEMA and the program will end March 31, 2011. There are

DHAP IKE 3541 families in Louisiana. No housing choice vouchers have been allocated for DHAP – Ike Families. One year extension requested by the LRA and the Program will now end March 31, 2010. This is under consideration from HUD.

Ms. Keegan noted that the board has seen Gustav/ Ike I Recovery Funding: Action Plan Amendments 2 and 3 which have been approved by HUD. APA 2 requests placement of 408.3 million second allocation into state and parish implemented recovery programs. APA 3 requests the approval of \$112 million for statewide unmet needs.

The LRA is working with GOHSEP to revise funding options for the interoperability program as HUD disallowed the \$22 million expenditure to fund radios. Parish Technical assistance training was held on Dec.10 in Lafayette for all parishes receiving funds. This training focused on steps for implementing parish managed projects. 43 parishes were represented. Parish Grants Management Training will be held Feb. 10 in Baton Rouge. This training will review compliance of details and guidelines for parishes' management of HUD funds for recovery projects in infrastructure, housing and economic development.

30 Parish Recovery proposals have been received which account for 90% of the total parish allocation or \$503 million. 20 of these have been approved.

Parish Level Recovery: 5 parishes have submitted project-specific applications. Assumption (Napoleonville Community Center) Cameron (Cameron Loop Dredging) East Baton Rouge (comprehensive master plan and City of Baker Fire Truck acquisition) Grant Parish (Parish Master Plan) Terrebonne – they are here today to speak on other items which are needed in recovery (Upper DuLarge East Levee Project, Shrimpers Row Levee, Suzie Canal (north) Levee Extension, Lower 4-1 Levee improvements, Ashland North Levee Improvements, First – Time Homebuyer program) The total value of these projects is \$59 million

Farmers Agribusiness Loan and Grant Program: The state department of Agriculture is holding the last 60 closings of the program. A second round of applications for agribusiness loans will be held to disburse the remaining funds. Governor Jindal met with Farmers and agribusiness owners receiving program funds on Dec. 8 in Monroe.

Ms. Keegan noted the numbers for Katrina/ Rita Public Assistance (applicants 2163, projects 18094, 8.1 billion, obligated 8.1 b and 4.6 paid) we expect an increase. For Gustav and Ike the PA numbers are: Gustav (applicants 1079, Projects 5,456, Obligated 635 Million, Paid \$418 Million) Ike (applicants 416, Projects 1343, obligated 158 million paid 78 million) The LRA expects to bring RSD and FEMA/ GOSHEP completion in February.

Ms. Keegan stated that for the Road Home Program there are 126,000 families who have closed and 8.23 billion dispersed. The average award is \$64,000. 1500 families left to close. For Appeals, 310 appeals cases left with HGI and 64 in progress within the state.

Ms. Keegan added that in November, the Additional Compensation Grant Cap removal was brought to the board. To date there are 11,575 letters mailed to eligible applicants and 9,000 were returned with applicant interest. To date there are 3,833 homeowners who have received \$137.2 million dollars.

CDBG/ Road Home Elevation program has dispersed 850 million. There are 29,966 homeowners interested in and eligible for the elevation program. To date there have been 29,350 elevation disbursements awarded.

Ms. Keegan stated that HMGP was stalled and worked internally to hire the contractor. Now 235 homeowners have received \$4.5 million dollars in funding. There are 30,002 applicants and over the next month and 6 months the LRA will be closing at 500 a month and we are looking forward to this. Included in this is the individual homeowner elevation process.

For Louisiana Land Trust, there are over 10,000 properties. Our staff is working with the parishes and at the state level and we are doing the slab removal before it goes to the parishes and we can get them out of the LLT and into the parish's hand

The Small Rental Program has closed 1,300 properties and expended 14 million. This has produced 2,231 affordable units. The Piggyback Program has 57 awarded projects and 13 under construction 17 completed and 27 left and we make sure that as many as can close have closed.

For Alternative Housing Pilot Program, there are people living in Katrina Cottages, in Baton Rouge and in Lake Charles. There are 135 completed units. For AHPP case management we have received 3,769 calls to the contact center and 1,628 applications mailed and 434 household applications completed.

VI. Presentations/Updates

Presentation from Bayou District Foundation: Gerry Barousse, Jr. Chairman of the Board, JT Hannan, Director of Public and Governmental Affairs

Mr. Barousse began by stating that he will be giving an overall Bayou District Master Plan update and he noted his appreciation for the work the LRA has done today. The BDF was created post Katrina and to redevelop former St. Bernard public housing. Lower Gentilly and City Park. This includes the Former St. Bernard housing projects which pre Katrina had 130 units and 900 occupied. The neighborhood was blighted pre Katrina and we are working to apply a model which was created in Atlanta which combines housing recreation education and community and bringing the 1325 units in the entire neighborhood to breakdown to 900 mixed income units, 125 senior housing 300 single family 300 public housing rental assisted units and Market rate units. The overall plan includes in addition to the 1325 units, 3 schools 1 YMCA recreational facility 2 18 hole golf courses, 1 junior golf learning center, and 1 supermarket and retail shops.

There are 466 completed (first tenants next moving in next week). The school will be the center of the community, focusing on the Earl Learning School from ages 0-5 and get them to arrive at Kindergarten on time and not 18 months behind. Next we are working on K-8 Charter School with RSD and a new McDonough 35.

The BDF is working with the Educare Early Learning Center and the Buffet Early Childhood Fund and Kingsley House to get these off the ground and this will bring something to New Orleans we have never had. Once they are successful with Early Learning then on to the K- 8 and to McDonough 35. The idea is to bring low income families a great education. Also adding a YMCA and have Y instructors as PE instructors allows the BDF to not have to build a gym. Also we are working with BRAF and their group to have a neighborhood drug store, pharmacy and drycleaner.

Mr. Barousse went on to state the Recreational opportunities for the entire city will be partnered with City Park to redevelop the golf course and will be the economic engine for the park and the golf revenues will go to help the education programming.

Mr. Barousse showed some slides which were aerial shots of St. Bernard Housing Projects after Katrina and then some of the new housing elements which have been built in its place. He noted that the layouts and landscape have been made to appeal to both low income and market rate families.

There are over 200 applicants for the low income and there are 60 market rate applicants that are ready. The perception has been great and working hard to make a community which will survive and the low income residents will work together

As a requirement of Section 106 the BFT was required to retain buildings and integrate the buildings into the Mixed Use Project. We have used them to provide an area of the early education building and it is a 10 million dollar project that we are working with the Buffet Early Learning Fund and construction is to start this summer and have it ready next summer (2011).

Mr. Barousse noted that the overall the project is \$430 million dollar project and has \$300 Million on housing \$ 80 Million on education \$45 Million on recreation. Of the \$300 Million for housing \$120 million has been to create 466 units through partial CDBG and piggy back. Of the \$430Million the BDF is looking to raise \$40 million and now have \$14 Million dollars raised already through private equity.

The strategic partnerships by working with city, state, HANO and HUD, RSD, Orleans Parish school Board, BRAF, GNOF, Buffett Early Learning Fund and Emeril Lagasse on edible school yard and a kitchen to harvesting the garden and healthy lifestyle and The advisory board is here we are making an effort across the community to have inclusion.

The BFD looks to work with the LRA on housing on housing and targeting residential and commercial blight and there has not been much done. 90% homes between the public housing and the bayou remain blighted. We are working with NORA to acquire properties and we are anxious to see it continue and we would like to expand the properties.

Acquiring the commercial blighted properties will provide and new wave to St. Bernard Ave and to move low income to market rate and to homeowners and looking to see how mix income funding and we are delivering as much as we can to do affordable

Education on early learning we are expanding and begin the K-8 school in 2010 and the early learning open school to open in 2011.

On the economic development efforts and in this neighborhood working to bringing in commercial operators such as a grocer and drug store so they grow into the community.

Finally for flood mitigation, we would like to implement a plan to create drainage in City Park and Bayou St. John to assist in providing protection to the surrounding neighborhoods from future flood events.

Mr. Reilly commented that he wanted to thank the BFD and that this by far one of the favorite recovery projects. Lamar was the original members of East Lake in Atlanta and we know this has not been easy politically or financially and talked about recovery victories and we have seen in charter schools and now we are seeing it in sustainable housing and I am convinced that the fight was worth it and the old model was broken and it created more poverty and it kept people in the condition and this allows for escape and we are ready to help. Mr. Reilly asked if there had been a Grand Opening yet.

Mr. Barousse responded that there had not been one yet but they are close to being ready for one and they would love to invite everyone down to take a tour etc...

Sen. Murray also commented that it is in his district and the BDF has been very responsive and the community is very excited. In terms of development, a big part is the school. RSD has an idea that all the

schools should be city wide and if that is the case for the people who live in this development then they will not have automatic access to this school and that is something we should deal with and it is key to the development.

Mr. Barousse noted that is a great point. There have been discussions regarding this already. There is a process that would likely provide a priority to the slots in that school. For this school model the average school spends \$1,000 on a child on transportation which in this school could be spent on other items.

Ms. LeBlanc commented to the group that this is one small victory is the junior golf participation at City Park is great program and she is glad to see that is back and that it was not something that was just lost with the storm.

Mr. Barousse responded that they are glad it is back and they have expanded it to expose it to kids in the 7th ward who normally would not have even looked into golf.

Speaker Tucker asked about phase 1 and the numbers the \$120 Million on housing. What was this made up of?

Mr. Barousse answered that it was majorly Low Income Tax Credits and that the BDF was able to attract a Tax Credit Investor AGON who paid \$.88 on the dollar who committed and stuck with us until closing in December. Also, we received \$27 million CDBG funds and additional funds from HANO and HUD. This completed the 466 Units. Phase 2 is ultimately the next 100 units and we are working with low income tax credits and working to close summer 2010.

Speaker Tucker asked what is the total cost per unit in phase 1?

Mr. Barousse responded that it was \$240,000 a unit.

Speaker Tucker asked if it was the same on phase 2?

Mr. Barousse replied that it was roughly comparable.

Speaker Tucker asked if the other monies from HANO and HUD were a grant.

Mr. Barousse responded that the structure of the development is HANO is a partner with the group that was created with the Bayou Foundation and a group from Atlanta.

Speaker Tucker asked if most of the people who were in this community before the storm have preference to come back to the community.

Mr. Barousse responded that yes, we were pretty successful and were probably 1/3 that have moved out of town since the storm and 340 are on waiting list to come back (first priority goes to seniors and disabled in that group) However, some might not want to give up their housing in their new locations and do not want to give up their housing voucher and they have tough decisions on if to move back.

Speaker Tucker asked what the mix of low income to market rate is.

Mr. Barousse answered that it is 1/3 market 1/3 public housing 1/3 low income.

Speaker Tucker asked how many low income applicants can use section 8 housing vouchers.

Mr. Barousse responded that there is no limit

Speaker Tucker asked what the rent is on the units.

Mr. Barousse responded that the public housing is subsidized and the low income units were \$ 400-\$750 per month for 1-4 bedrooms and Market Rate will range from \$750-\$1100 (1-4 bedrooms) which is probably 75-80% of true market. We have to make people who are market rate comfortable to the mixed income idea.

Speaker Tucker asked if the CDBG funds were restricted to construction or was it used in other aspects of the community.

Mr. Barousse noted that it was all construction

Speaker Tucker thanked Mr. Barousse.

The Chairman noted that Sec. Moret will be moved up to discuss Action Plan Amendment Number 4.

Ms. Keegan asked Sec. Moret and Stacy Bonnaffons who is the new Chief of Staff and also over all of the Gustav/ Ike programs to join her at the witness stand.

VII. Items for Consideration

Discussion, Public Comment, and Consideration of Gustav/ Ike Action Plan Amendment No. 4 (Moret)

Ms. Keegan stated that APA 4 is the additional \$100 Million which was to be used for unmet needs across the state. We did receive legislation and we can use funds for Federal Cost Share such as FEMA Public Assistance Program and this was not allowed at first when the allocation was received. There is \$20 Million set aside for state match for FEMA Public Assistance. If there are remaining funds they will be looked to Parish needs. Parishes are able to use their allocations to meet their match obligations as well.

The second priority is interoperability. We had asked HUD to repair and harden infrastructure. We also had included radios in this. However HUD has declined this and we have gone with GOHSEP to work with them regarding the radios. Also, we are resubmitting the request for interoperability in this Action Plan Amendment.

Also, there is 80 Million in Economic Development for projects which will affect the most damaged parishes. This will bring economic stability to our parishes.

Finally, there is a non substantial amendment to the housing portion to clean up some of the language and added some tools to the portfolio.

Mr. Chairman asked for a vote. Mr. Reilly Moved Mr. Lasseigne seconded. The following resolution was unanimously adopted.

Approval for Discussion, Public Comment and Consideration of Resolution for Action Plan Amendment Number 4, for the allocation of Gustav and Ike Funds.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board does hereby approve for public comment Amendment No. 4 to Action Plan Number 1 to allocate the final \$100 million dollars worth of funds for the Gustav and Ike funding.

voting: Gautreaux, Guinn, Henning, LeBlanc, Lasseigne, Murray, Reilly, Smith, Tucker, Volker

VIII. Approval of the minutes

Mr. Chairman requested to now vote on the minutes.

Mr. Reilly moved to adopt the minutes

Mr. Guinn seconded

The minutes have been unanimously approved.

Final Approval of minutes and ratification of Actions taken at the November 12, 2009 meeting of the LRA Board

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the LRA Board held on November 12, 2009 as presented in this meeting are hereby approved and all actions taken by the board presented at such meeting set forth in such minutes, are hereby in all respects approved as actions by the LRA Board

voting: Gautreaux, Guinn, Henning, LeBlanc, Lasseigne, Murray, Reilly, Smith, Tucker, Volker

IX. Moved Back to APA 4 Discussion

Sen. Murray asked if the board can go through this APA again.

Ms. Keegan stated that APA 4 is the allocation of the remaining \$100 Million dollars for Gustav and Ike. Due to legislation we are allowed to do federal cost share match with these funds which was not allowed in the original legislation.

The 1st priority for the funds is at the state level to make sure we have the match met. The parishes can use their funds for the match as well. The majority of the parish's FEMA Public Assistance Obligation is debris removal. There was a waiver on this match with Ike however not with Gustav. Therefore this helps out with Gustav and brings down the burden. There is a 10% match on Gustav.

Speaker Tucker asked if the entire \$100 Million was for debris removal.

Ms. Keegan answered that the match portion will be \$20 Million and the other \$80 Million will be used for Economic Development programs in the recovering parishes to aid in retaining large corporations.

Tucker asked if this was for the Gustav/Ike Parishes.

Ms. Keegan replied that it was for the fifty three Gustav/Ike Parishes

Speaker Tucker asked for an explanation from Secretary Moret on the plans for the use of the \$80 Million.

Secretary Moret has a great relationship with LRA and thanks the LRA for their work with the Economic Development for the state. For these funds we are pursuing lots of companies which would bring in thousands of private sector jobs. There are two primary utilization port infrastructure and rail and public buildings. The second utilization would be in investment in academic de capacity public equipment. There are projects where we are offering to beef up the Research and Development part of our universities in support of these projects. These projects will be based on job creation and investment and we anticipate that the bulk of the dollars will be spent on the parishes which were most heavily hit by Gustav and Ike.

Speaker Tucker stated that as far as the approval process goes the board will grant the use of \$100 Million. Since it is an action plan it has to go before joint budget. Will the projects come back before joint budget? Will Joint Budget have to approve the individual projects?

Ms. Keegan stated that the action plan does not have specific projects listed.

Speaker Tucker stated that he would like to be supportive but want a specific list of the projects and would like to know what the procedure would be. The members of Joint Budget are going to want to know.

Secretary Moret stated that in terms of the procedure they would go through the normal LED process due diligence the development of detailed CEA with the companies and the state and the companies intended employment including salaries, health care etc and any additional approval requirements. I will defer to Ms. Keegan for any other process.

Speaker Tucker stated that once the LRA board makes this vote they are usually out of it. Is there some language we should we put in the resolution saying that each project has to be approved by Joint Budget. I cannot be in favor of writing a blank check and not knowing where we are spending it or have some say over the appropriation of the funds. How do we want to handle this?

Mr. Reilly commented that he would like to think out loud here. In the past, with allocations we approved money for a parish an action plan and it has gone to Joint Budget and then to HUD. These did not have project specific language and then when the parishes decided on the projects then the projects came back here and the Board would approved the specific list of projects. So the precedent that we are giving a big chunk of money as an allocation and then we will approve a plan once it is in place. The understanding is that Joint Budget would approve the plan and that would be it. Maybe it comes back here and maybe it goes to Joint Budget.

Speaker Tucker stated that the issue is that we cannot change what comes in Joint Budget very often and in the past we were handing money to another governmental entity and now we are handing it off to a private cooperation. This could be very beneficial to the state through a private entity. The only issue is

that there has to be some oversight on how the projects will be approved if we decide to approve them at the Joint Budget level.

Mr. Volker stated that the board will be sun setting and we have to have a legislative committee to look over this money.

Speaker Tucker stated that the Joint Budget will say you have \$80 Million to spend Mr. Secretary. The next step is what has to be in place. Mr. Secretary you are going to spend this on x y z and the legislature will oversee it and so the issue is deciding on the process we are going to follow with these funds. I would prefer to lay it out in the resolution and I have full confidence in the Secretary, however the legislature just needs some oversight on this.

Secretary Moret responded if this body and Joint Budget approved the \$80 Million and the use of it for economic development and the resolution indicated we have to come back on individual projects and we could use the process we used with the mega fund projects and Joint Budget will sign off on the projects individually.

Speaker Tucker stated that he would like that.

The chairman asked for a second to the change in the resolution.

Mr. Reilly seconded the change in the resolution.

Sen. Gautreaux stated that some of the areas do not get any money on Economic Development. No matter what projects are requested in his area they do not get done. Other projects get done in other parishes. Also Sen. Gautreaux told the Secretary that he thought the Secretary already had an idea of what projects he would do. Sen. Gautreaux then asked the Secretary if he did.

Secretary Moret stated that Economic Development will utilize the funds for ones for projects that they are perusing and currently are competing with other states. It would depend on which projects the state wins. Two years should be the time frame maybe 12 months. I am hopeful that we can come back to the Budget Committee in 2010 with the selections.

Sen. Gautreaux stated that he had a serious problem with writing a blank check and not knowing what projects it will go to. He also stated he knows that the Secretary knows which projects he will be using this funding for.

Ms. Keegan added that some of the projects that the Secretary is thinking he might use the funds for are not CDBG eligible and so that is why the Secretary does not have a list of the projects today. In the previous action plans there are other dollars which are allocated to a competitive economic development programs which the parishes can apply for to fulfill their economic project development.

Sen. Gautreaux responded and asked why not add the \$80 Million dollars to the competitive pools with I?

Ms. Keegan responded that there are different sized projects.

Sen. Gautreaux responded and asked again why not add the \$80 Million to the competitive pool. He then stated that getting the money into the hands of the parishes has worked well in the past and why are we not doing that this time. Also, Economic Development has not been the best to some of the parishes. Also, that his area has been very neglected by Louisiana Economic Development and they have not had projects funded. The people in the communities do not get to know what is worthy. He has his doubts on

if this will be spent correctly. Once the funds get to Joint Budget, they can get whatever they want done. The LRA has been able to get great projects done and that is not going to happen with Joint Budget. He believes it could be in the community pool and do just as good. He also believes that Economic Development already has too much money. The LRA has done a great job, and I have had my disputes with the Secretary. I would like to ask the Secretary if he knows how much money he has given to the Senator's region for projects. He would not be able to say because there is not much money in our region.

Secretary Moret stated he could get the Senator a list for Acadiana Parish.

Senator Gautreaux stated that he has been waiting for this list for two years.

Secretary Moret stated that this is a fairly simple choice. The state is in a fortunate position and is in the finals for some great projects and the state needs these funds to be successful. However you could make the choice to use the funds elsewhere. There is no question that our financial incentive capability is less today than it was a year ago and there are consequences in terms of this. This is not the whole game plan but this would make a big difference in attracting a large number of jobs to our state.

Ms. Keegan added that these projects have been identified by the parishes as priority.

Sen. Gautreaux responded that if the Secretary knows then it goes back to the secretive process and the legislatures in the areas are not going to know what is going on and their constituents are going to ask them. If there is a list then we should see it because we are voting on it now and it might as well be the final vote. The General public is going to know it as well. The cat is out of the bag that we know there is a list of the projects.

Speaker Tucker asked if there is a list. If so, the board does not have a list attached to the resolution.

Ms. Keegan responded that there are projects there is not a final list or complete list. There is just a CDBG eligibility list to see if they are eligible for the funding.

Speaker Tucker commented that he understands the Secretary has multiple deals juggling at the same time. If we follow the mega fund check and balance system on each dollar then we will have a good relationship and will have the correct insight. Your intent is to use it similar to a mega fund.

Secretary Moret stated he would intend to have the same documentation for approval of the grant. Eligibility would be similar however there are projects today that have an academic Research and Development side to project will be the one different and this will help in the future.

Speaker Tucker asked if Economic Development will do the IRR analysis to this money.

Secretary Moret responded that investing in the public facilities and research and development. There is not a way to have a direct return on this. In those investments we will look at the catalytic impact.

Speaker Tucker added that that brings it to a new level. You are getting around capital outlay for public facilities rather than the normal process. That again has to come back through Joint budget and have individual project oversight and then the normal channels are not there through mega fund. If there is money and it is going to capital improvements. If there is a company that wants to come to Baton Rouge but would like to have LSU do something then I would question that based on what is available in capital outlay is this best use of the funds.

Secretary Moret responded with an example such as an Energy a manufacturing and we have a large facility and would hire 500 jobs and have a research component and need an research university near proximity and so their decision is not just based the location but on both the research and the location and it is part of the decision process of the company. With these funds we will have the incentive and the investment in the academic aspect will not lead to an IRI and that Research and Development allows us to attract business over other communities in the future.

Speaker Tucker stated that the best example is Pennington. There has been so much money to put into Pennington through one time funding and etc and Pennington is still not paying for itself.

Secretary Moret responded that this is not Pennington. This is company will contractually committed to deliver on all of the jobs and they have to reimburse with penalties if they do not meet the requirements. This is just an academic component. In each case I am confident when the committee sees what it is, there will be enthusiasm regarding this project. However, with this process if the committee does like the project then and you have the option to say no.

Speaker Tucker stated the option is the item he would like to preserve.

Secretary Moret agrees and added that is provides some clarity.

Speaker Tucker asked if this could be brought to a conclusion and they could move on. The language would be put in the resolution.

Ms. Keegan responded that the language was changed to state that following approval the specific economic development projects will be brought to Joint Budget following the mega fund documentation process for their approval.

Speaker Tucker asked the Secretary for a list of the Coastal Acadiana Parish projects so it can be passed along to the Representatives. Just a copy of the list for Senator Gautreaux would be great.

Sen. Murray asked if there is a list of parish specific projects could you give the list to the parish representatives so they know what they are.

Sec. Moret stated that he had to clarify. Sen. Gautreaux is insinuating that nothing has been done for his parishes.

Senator Murray stated no he did not want that. He wanted the list that Ms. Keegan mentioned that they would like to have considered . Why can't you send them to us if the parishes know about it then we should be able to know about it.

Sec. Moret stated that Ms. Keegan has received indication from the parishes that they are interested in the projects that we have as top priority. Currently, we have confidentially agreements on these projects.

Sen. Murray stated that why cannot you send the list if the parishes know about it. As the elected officials they know about it. Why shouldn't my colleagues know what is going on in their parishes.

Sec. Moret states that the list of potential companies and all who know about the projects have signed confidentiality agreements. Sen. Gautreaux has pointed out the difficulty in this and it is to the benefit of the state.

Sen. Murray asked if all of the projects were tied to economic development. That was not the list Ms. Keegan was discussing. The legislatures from those projects should be able to know.

Ms. Bonnaffons commented that these projects are in the design the parameters.

Sen. Murray responded that he understand that process and saw it in New Orleans after Katrina.

Ms. Keegan stated that she would get a list together.

Ms. LeBlanc stated that the frustrating thing for her is that the Board has enormous ability and opportunity to do great things; we need stay focus on spending wisely on what we are given. Ms. Leblanc referred to a table where \$700 Million dollars was allocated to various parishes. I want to see Jefferson Parish get the money but this states that \$19 Million out of the \$700 Million has been spent. All parishes are in there We are not doing a good job and I am not convinced that the way we have been allocating is the way to go and using what we have from the federal government in the best possible way and our job is to make it work. I don't want us to see become so tied up in our fusses and we need to use what we have been given and let's move forward.

Sen. Gautreaux added there are needs in his parishes and there have been projects that have been sent to the department of Economic Development that have been rejected. This is a blank check going to a department where they already know how they are going to spend this money yet they know how they are going to spend the money. I would like to see the whole example with the dollar amount. Joint Budget Committee votes what the Administration in charge wants and that is how it works and this is writing a blank check for \$80 Million. The list could be brought before us, and it would be a different story.

Ms. Leblanc stated that we have to look for the most efficient way to spend the money.

Mr. Reilly stated that Ms. LeBlanc brings up a great point. In the long range community dollars, the difficulties are getting them out of the door. However look at the amount that is related to contractual obligations and the bottleneck is capacity at local level and we are going to have an important discussion on this later on. Therefore, to the matter at hand the LRA is sun setting our previous check independent projects was to approve a blanket amount and have projects come back and now the process the Secretary and the Speaker worked out -- it makes sense. So we need three votes since this project was actually approved. We need to vote the amendment on and pass this. Move to the question.

The Chairman stated that the questions have been moved.

Mr. Lasseigne added the more people who know a project then a leak then there are potentials for the company to look to other states and other states making contact with the companies. So I believe in the need for confidentially and we want to know and we will find out and there is a need for confidentiality.

Sec. Moret clarified that there is not a single confirmed project. So if there were confirmed project then we would be happy to share

Speaker Tucker confirmed that the funds will the mega fund process but not the standards.

Secretary Moret confirmed that we will follow the mega fund process not the standards.

Mr. Reilly moved reconsider the vote by which the previous motion carried.

Mr. Chairman asked for a vote to reconsider the vote by which the previous motion carried. Speaker Tucker seconded the motion.

The vote to reconsider the vote unanimously passed

Approval to reconsider the vote by which the previous motion carried

BE IT RESOLVED, the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board reconsidered the vote by which the previous vote on Action Plan Amendment Number 4 allocating the Gustav Ike Funds.

voting: Gautreaux, Guinn, Henning, LeBlanc, Lasseigne, Murray, Reilly, Smith, Tucker, Volker

Mr. Reilly then moved to adopt the amendment as discussed between Sec. Moret and Speaker Tucker. Speaker Tucker seconded the motion

The vote

Yea : Guinn, Henning, LeBlanc, Lasseigne, Murray, Reilly, Smith, Tucker, Volker

Nay : Gautreaux

Approval move adopt the amendment as discussed between Secretary Moret and Speaker Tucker.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board moves to adopt the amendment as discussed between Secretary Moret and Speaker Tucker. The change in the amendment reflects as follows: “following approval the specific economic development projects will be brought to Joint Budget following the mega fund documentation process for their approval. “

Mr. Reilly moved to the Chairman for Final passage of the resolution.

Mr. Chairman noted that moved for Final Passage. Mr. Lasseigne seconded.

The vote

Yea : Guinn, Henning, LeBlanc, Lasseigne, Murray, Reilly, Smith, Tucker, Volker

Nay : Gautreaux

Approval for Discussion, Public Comment and Consideration of Resolution for Action Plan Amendment Number 4 to Action Plan Number 1 to allocate the final Gustav and Ike Funds.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board does hereby approve for public comment Action Plan Amendment Number 4 to provide the allocation of the final \$100 Million dollars worth of CDBG Funding for Hurricane Gustav and Ike

X. Presentations / Updates Continued

Presentation on Iberia, St. Mary, and Vermillion Parish Hurricane Funding Needs, Representative Simone Champagne, Tom Hymel, South Central Watershed and GIS Specialist LSU AG Center

Rep. Champagne stated that she appreciates what the LRA has done. She followed by naming her delegation named and noted that there are struggles are her delegation.

Rep. Champagne noted that this is a reminder of Hurricane Rita. The Vermillion area was hit with Rita and Ike with the same storm surge and we hope the LRA can help with the unfunded needs.(elevation for homeowners, drainage, infrastructure, and debris removal) and there is not enough funding in the parishes to clear the debris which are now affected by heavy rains and 7 inches of rain put 11 inches of rain in homes. All of costal LA has these problems and we are bringing this to your attention they are state wide issues.

Mr. Hymel noted that for Hurricane Rita the flood mask Vermillion St Mary and Iberia has flood water and saltwater surge.

Rep. Champagne added that the crops sugar cane, cattle crawfish, shrimp. The Sugarcane farmers were devastated with not only had salt water but debris and it was very hard for them to re grow the crops.

Mr. Hymel the salt in the soil is very hard. Rice is very sensitive to the crop and is leading to a big economic problem

Rep. Champagne followed with the cattle loss. 10,000 cattle lost in Rita and 5,000 in Ike and the cattle farmers had to get the cattle to higher ground for Hurricane Ike however unfortunately what we lost still has not been replaced.

The Marsh where the water exited is in Vermillion Bay draws it in and now the deterioration of the marshland is not allowing the storms to slow down as they come in. Also, towns like Delcambre area are destroyed. Delcambre has lost the tax base twice with Katrina and with Ike.

Delcambre could not get a waste water system there and FEMA did not understand that the storms caused this. Delcambre did not receive any money on these issues from the LRA. DEQ gave Delcambre \$900,000 from the stimulus to get their wastewater system back up and running. Without the wastewater it was very hard to getting the town up and running. For Hurricane Rita, Fuel docks flooded as well as with Hurricane Ike.

The hurricanes have devastated the Shrimp Industry. Now the need is to dredge canals and clean out the canals. Some of the shrimp boats were stuck in them for long periods of time for a whole season because of the debris. Some still are not cleared and it hampers drainage flow etc

For Sycamore Point the damage reached 6-7 feet of water for Rita and a public boat dock and was used for safe harbor for inclement weather. The request has been placed for funding to fix this. This funding has not been granted.

Rep. Champagne then showed some pictures of Erath. Also, pictures Henry Hub which is the natural gas hub and they furnish 30% of energy for the nation and they have built a marine levee around the plant on their own which helped for Ike.

Rep. Champagne then showed some slides of Avery Island after Rita. The bottling plant almost was lost after Rita. Avery Island put ring levee after Rita and a Pumping system they did not flood for Ike

Rep. Champagne showed some references to the flooding from Ike and elevation in those areas.

Rep. Champagne then began discuss the HMGP money is flowing slowly and this home (referenced) will cost the homeowner \$160,000 and there are people who are falling in the cracks – people who did not apply for Road Home and they used insurance funds. and then here comes Ike and they flood again and they do not come to the elevation funding and this needs to be addressed and in Southwest/south central Louisiana there are no levees so first line of defense is elevation however there are people who cannot afford to elevate.

There are 3 projects which are being sent to Moret this afternoon. First, in Delcambre and they passed an ad volorem tax on themselves and use the funds for the blighted water front areas. With the dollars they are helping to support the shrimp industry. They used a Sea Grant came in and came in with the help of LSU and UL.

Mr. Hymel stated that there was a steering committee which was brought in and empowered them with meetings and this group worked with the parish port commission and developed a package on what could be done to develop the waterfront into a mixed use working water front and now most of the waterfront is vacant and now there are a lot of different ideas and the group went after fisheries recovery money and fish market will be there and a direct market program for the commercial fisherman through the internet for the 650 licensed commercial fisherman.

Rep. Champagne stated that most of these dollars have not been funded to the parishes yet. The needs are infrastructure and mitigation. Rep. Champagne then gave some statistics on the funding and stated that the bottom total is \$ 333million. \$200 million will be the state match for the vermilion Southwest Coastal Plan.

Rep. Jones stated that he represents St. Mary lower part of St. Martin and Iberia parishes. The long term recovery can be solved by \$250 Million. There is a levee district which Iberia and Vermillion are getting this and Rita and Ike came in and surpassed anything we have ever seen. Since 1938, St. Mary Parish has sunk 1 foot (or water is risen) and the protection is not working now and anything we can get would be great especially flood control and protection. St. Mary is a transitory parish between ½ between Houma and Lafayette. When the people leave Terrebonne Parish for a hurricane they block St. Mary Parish. St. Mary has 12 miles of hwy need to asphalt so we can evacuate and not disrupt the contra flow.

St. Mary received \$5.1 Million for a gate system on the Franklin Canal and the will help and not have to do the individual elevation that we thought we would have had to do. The off shore oil industry Morgan city etc. There is some economic development in the... and what we need now is the protection of these industries.

Parish President Paul Naquin St. Mary Parish thanked everyone and he thinks that he needs more than \$250 million \$300 – \$350 Million is what is needed for surge protection. We do have coast line erosion and in the early 1950's the state sold all barrier reefs and we have no protection and there is one reef and little and big rabbit island. All of the levees are federal and there are back water levees and the parish

takes care of 55 miles of levees and we just created a levee district which made the parish take in another 45 miles of levees we had to do and we are in a bind.

The representatives did put \$100,000 to do a study in south central part of the state for Cameron, Iberia, and St. Mary. There are 2 reps on CPRA board are from Cameron and St. Mary was left out on the coastline and we are behind. So they are doing the study with the \$100,000.

\$19.3 million from CDBG grant and there are projects on the books which are ready to go and working with the corps to go. HWY 90 flooded from both Rita and Ike and with the funds the parish will put a gate and elevate levees and any way the LRA Board can help us with the levees for about 10- 12 miles and we are working with Iberia Parish on this already.

Rep. Champagne added that the \$19 million to the parish and there are funds coming down from Ike and the parish has understood that elevation is the best option and taken the money to elevate and there are no dollars for drainage on the canals and dispute on the allocations and there is not enough funding for all of this. Rep. Champagne does not think that the allocations were done correctly.

Rep. Jones added that 75% of their districts flooded for a min of 3 feet.

Mr. Reilly stated couple of things and we are sun setting and we have learned a lot and we have billions of HMGP dollars and everyone is frustrated and lessons learned is that we should look to community mitigation instead of individual mitigation. We should also encourage that the HMGP be community dollars. I see that paving the levee road should fit every criterion in the HMGP area. You have the capacity to think on these things and use and get the projects on the drawing board.

Rep. Champagne added that all districts want to restore the quality of life on the coastline for the residents. That is the end goal.

Mr. Jones thanked him for the ideas.

Presentation from Terrebonne Parish, Michel Claudet, Parish President

President Claudet introduced Rep. Harrison and Senator Chabert.

Rep. Harrison stated the help is great that you all have given to the state of Louisiana. I am here look at position to take and revenue loss and we need revenue and probably largest area of the state which has (seafood, oil, gas, ship building etc) we are in jeopardy on the infrastructure we have lost and we need to rectify with some help. We are going to lose a major part of the revenue. It is important to look at levees and roads and outlets that have deteriorated and areas where the highway dropped 6 inches and 10 inches and numerous accidents and all flooded areas and we have evacuation routes that cannot be used and we are investing in revenue in this area to put the infrastructure.

President Claudet thanked the board for their attention

For Katrina the parish suffered wind damage and Rita brought on major flooding. The parish received limited allocations from Katrina Rita. The parish has major response needs and for the Rita portion we had water all the way to Houma and 8-9 feet in populated areas.

There are 2 main evacuation recovery roads which need to be elevated to 10 feet. Falgout Canal Road and lower hwy 57 roads and Falgout will cost \$17.43 million and Lower hwy \$ 5,735.81 to elevate

Terrebonne is the 5th largest area and there is a major energy part and shrimp and oyster production and with CDBG dollars and we know what to do with them. Terrebonne was the first parish to submit an approved Recovery plan and the parish needs the money for the roads and we are looking for funding.

We believe that there are some unused dollars from Katrina Rita and we were not as aggressive on the local level as we should have been to receive these funds. If there are finds then we can use them.

Sen. Chabert noted that the Board has the biggest allocation of funds which everyone wants a piece of. The advice I have is to look at restoration and importance to elevation and protection. This project and this will provide protection and will provide a corridor for protection for Terrebonne Parish.

Rep. Dove reiterated with his colleagues said. The parish needs the funding 12 miles of road to elevate to evacuate and recovery to get back to the areas and if one breaks down then you can't get out and or in and this is vital and emergency response and we are requesting 53 million dollars.

Mr. Reilly will look into and see if the elevation of the road qualifies for HMGP dollars.

Presentation on Louisiana Coastal Planning Project, Boo Thomas, CPEX

Ms. Thomas began and thanked the board for having her come before you and talk about a very important issue. It was interesting to see Rep. Champagne and we did a Delcambre plan through Louisiana Speaks and it is great to see it planned out with the help of UL and LSU. We are in the implemental phase of another phase in LA Speaks for the regional plan and the Coastal Protection Restoration Master Plan and it calls for local level plans to take land use and link to transportation and looking at the coastal parishes based on their needs and give them regulations on how and what to build. The parishes are very interested in it.

We do have funding CPRA to make a costal best practice manual with model ordinances that would protect resources and this is not HMGP.

We don't have the funding for implementing the model plan in two costal parishes In one parish the plan would be levee protected and one would not. The two communities would be chosen in an open process—this would provide a more accurate level then it could be repeated all across the coast.

Additional funds would be an opportunity for us to use the amazing resources and technology that have been formulated in Japan and the Netherlands. Therefore the CPEX is asking for \$500,000. CPEX will also be putting funding into the project. There is a detailed in the proposal in the packets. CPEX has been working to implement the plan in getting comprehensive plans done and we are road testing and we are well received across the state.

Ms. Keegan stated that the board should have funds in February and there should be funds available for this

The chair thanks Ms. Thomas for her coming to the board.

XI. Resolution from Housing Task Force

Ms. Keegan stated that at the Hosing Task Force in December the members requested a resolution to go to the LRA Board. The resolution was regarding three projects which have CDBG funding that have to go to bond commission for a vote. At the Bond Commission the Board agreed that they would do a market study which we are in the process of completing and which will be partially presented to the board during

the February Meeting. The Housing Task Force requested that the LRA Board would put a letter to the Bond Commission asking them to review the projects at the February Bond Commission Meeting.

Speaker Tucker stated that the reason that this bond stopped CDBG funds because they were too expensive and the chair (Kennedy) said stop and wait for the market study to verify. The commission is hearing from constituents that the market is changing and get a market study to see if the needs is still there and wait for the market study. So it took until the end of the year to get the study. I move to defer this until we have the study and puts us in a precarious situation

Ms.Keegan stated that she appreciates the comments and wanted to clarify. The agreement we have with UNO is that they will make a preliminary report which will focus on the homeless population and the 9th ward in then the rest of the report will be done in April.

Speaker Tucker stated that the resolution asks to take items to the Bond Commission now. The preliminary report is not a report to move on. I think we can hold off. Once the study is in place then we are fine to move forward with this. For these worthy causes will cause us greater problems down the road. At this time I move to defer this

Mr. Henning seconded the motion

Sen. Murray asked if there some reason for these three projects.

Ms. Keegan responded that these are the last three piggyback projects that are ready to go to the Bond Commission for approval. The concern presented The Housing Task Force asked to draft this in fear of the financing in the future.

Sen. Murray stated that all this resolution asks is if that Bond Commission will hear the items. Basically it is just for them to put on the agenda.

Ms. Keegan responded that the other challenge place and service date which an extension has been requested. Currently the date is December 2010 and then they will not make the deadline.

Speaker Tucker stated that at the Bond Commission we are trying to treat all with fairness in fear of legal implications and as soon as we have the report then we are okay to move forward.

Ms. Keegan stated that report should be out in April.

Tucker moved to defer the resolution to the next meeting. Mr. Reilly seconded. The board unanimously deferred the Resolution until the February Meeting

Approval to Defer the Housing Task Force Resolution until the February Board Meeting

BE IT RESOLVED, the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board does hereby approve to defer the Housing Task Force Resolution until the February Board Meeting.

Voting: Guinn, Henning, LeBlanc, Lasseigne, Murray, Reilly, Smith, Tucker, Volker

Update on Disaster Recovery CDBG Budget and Discussion of Reallocation Timeline

Ms. Keegan began with the budget update and reallocation on the status of Katrina Rita funding and finding and identify a path forward. As the board has heard there are great unmet needs throughout the parishes. The obligation is to the parish to spend the dollars and for those. There are about 5 infrastructure programs. The Long Term Community Program is a \$700 Million dollar project which the board approved in 2007. The idea is to allocate to the parishes for their recovery plans. They are community based priorities. The LRA Board approved the plans. In order to get here the Parishes had to have Public comment and the parish had to agree on how the funding was to be spent. Our staff has been working with tem over the years to implement their plans. The application plans did not move fast because there are a number of projects available. Once the parish plan is approve then they have to spend the money. The parish projects had to wait in a queue while there were a numerous obstacles with FEMA.

First Snapshot there are 19 parishes and 160 projects have been approved which is more than 80 % of the funding about \$500 Million. In Jefferson they have 31 projects approved. There are examples in the board binders which Ms. Keegan is referring to.

For Orleans parish, there have been 76 approved projects totaling \$324 Million dollars and mentioned a few projects which were referenced in the slideshow.

The documents show that there is a lot of activity in Jefferson Parish. We are working with the parish to make sure they know when the project is ready and when it is eligible for CDBG funding and putting it into contract and making sure the contracts are done and the construction timeline is out.

Mrs. LeBlanc asked about the RSD \$85 Million approve and spent \$58. It seems that they know how to move the money. Look at Plaquemines they have allocated \$44 Million and drawn down nothing and there is a frustration there, only \$537 Million out of \$ 700 to approval stage. What is going to happen when the board sunsets?

Ms. Keegan replied that everyone frustrated. The LRA office is trying to find ways we can a way to help ease this process.

Ms. LeBlanc asked we have allocated \$3.5 Million and they are not approved for anything. Where is it?

Mr. Reilly stated RSD Was granted the blanket settlement with FEMA over their PA projects and so we can move forward.

Ms. Keegan added that there was a global match that can be reimbursed.

Mr. Reilly stated that the Big One has been settled. (referring to Charity Hospital.) Can we do a blanket settlement that the parishes can rely on for other projects.

Ms. Keegan responded that she has had conversations with Tony Russell and we can move projects as systems rather than piece by piece. So we are working on how this can work.

Mr. Reilly asked if we can do parishes.

Mr. Forbes added that uncertainty regarding FEMA PA is what has made the parishes paralyzed. FEMA PA amounts went from \$ 2-3 to 8 Billion just in the last year this is changing priorities on what to do with CDBG funds.

Ms. Keegan commented will work with FEMA on this.

Mr. Reilly asked what the Board could do to help.

Ms. Keegan added that part of the struggle is the PA process is so difficult and making sure that our dollars are as flex as CDBG can be. We have discussed putting together a voluntary project management team for those parishes who want the assistance and now we are going to move from grant management to project management.

Mrs. LeBlanc stated anything we can do to help them spend their money and we need to act on this.

Speaker Tucker asked Mr. Smith to come up to give his input on the local level.

Mr. Kenya Smith stated he is from the City of New Orleans Director of the Office of Community Development. Dr. Blakely left he segregate the responsibilities and product delivery Unit and division set up to deal with disaster programming and technically I don't have this program on my list but some parts I do work with.

Mr. Smith also commended Robin Keegan and Paul Rainwater on working with the city because it is a very convoluted process and Mr. Smith can only imagine what the smaller parishes would be going through. The City of New Orleans has had to start and stop programs because HUD stopped them and then reissue it before we could put it on the street.

Speaker Tucker asked that \$410 and \$325 approved by HUD including the project you are referencing and then it kicked it back.

Mr. Smith confirmed.

Ms. Keegan stated that the state approves the projects. HUD came back with something that they thought was delaying and we argued on the part of the city and HUD came back with a clarification.

Speaker Tucker asked is the state's interference part of the problem?

Ms. Keegan stated that one of the challenges was that we asked HUD to direct Grant to the city of New Orleans early on. HUD did want to do this made the state the intermediary.

Speaker Tucker clarified that HUD did make that statement.

Mr. Smith stated that HUD gave me the funds but still kept the state on the hook for the compliance.

Speaker Tucker stated that \$324 million approved projects is not a true statement.

Mr. Smith replied yes.

Speaker Tucker asked on the expended is the city drawing money down or getting reimbursed?

Mr. Smith replied that it was both. The city has done a dry closing before the reimbursement process happens.

Speaker Tucker asked if there a way to make this money move faster?

Mr. Smith responded we would have to have full HUD cooperation and it has gotten better over time and it is to where it we would like it to be.

Speaker Tucker asked if the city has contemplated a RSD full blanket.

Mr. Smith noted that it has been requested and Mr. Russell is looking at it and we are working on it.

Ms. Randolph stated that their dilemma is the federal partners as well and the biggest obstacle is we have been allotted the Katrina Rita monies and we had to be realistic on what is going to be able to be spent. Gustav/Ike funding is coming and the dilemma with Katrina Rita and the issue is if we got Katrina Rita funding then we also include it in Gustav/ Ike funding and we don't want to duplicate either and with the federal lack of time is put is to where do we go with the funding. The questions is to we remain the projects in Katrina Rita or do we push in CDBG and them move forward ?

Mrs. LeBlanc asked if you drew your money in disaster loans?

Ms. Randolph replied yes for Katrina Rita and in the process with Gustav Ike Funds.

Mrs. LeBlanc replied that if there is a fair amount of money that will not be drawn down and if there a way to reallocate then we should

Ms. Keegan noted we are in discussion with FEMA.

XII. Public Comments

Marla Williams – LA Housing Alliance

Ms. Williams stated she is a state wide Housing Alliance and supports and have partnered with Louisiana Recovery Authority and we provide case management. As you consider the reallocation dollars we ask that you engage the nonprofit community. The non profits are the stalwarts on those and we support the housing dollars to stay where they are and we would like to continue to support.

Kalimah Rose Policy Link:

Ms. Rose stated that Policy Link opened offices post Katrina and we work on housing recovery resources and our concerns are the Housing Task Force only meet twice in the last year and that the Housing Task Force did ask to come and present at your next meeting that should be honored and they should present so you all can hear the issues. In 2007 Policy Link evaluated Road Home Goals and at that time only 38 % of the affordable rental would be replaces and if all resources were used. The original LRA goals had 9500 units for low income and homeless and ultimately the money would only fund 3100 units and to date only 1200. So in the tax credit projects now the ones which are specific to those populations and they are getting held up because the bond commission is not hearing them and the board is not hearing why the Housing Task Force asked to have these presented at the Bond Commission. In the Small Rental Repair Program Policy Link is working with the LRA and OCD to eliminate bottleneck sand the programs are now aligned with blight remediation programs and they are and therefore no money should be removed from the small rental program.

Seth Weingart :

Mr. Weingart stated he is the Interim co director Greater New Orleans fair housing Action Center. We promote fair housing laws. We work with homeowners and renters and we want to reiterate that we believe money that has been allocated for affordable housing in Road Home small rental and piggyback low income tax credit program and to remind the state of their obligations under the fair housing act to affirmatively promote fair housing.

Jessica Venegas comments have been entered in the record

XIII. New Business

There was no new business

XIV. Announcements

There were no new announcements

XV. Adjournment

The Chairman moved to adjourn. Ms. Pat LeBlanc seconded