

In The Matter Of:
COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION
COAST WIDE REFERENCE MONITORING SYSTEM PRE-PROPOSAL

PUBLIC MEETING
March 30, 2015

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3 COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION
4 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
5 COAST WIDE REFERENCE MONITORING SYSTEM
6 PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING
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12 The public hearing in the above titled
13 matter was taken at 617 North Third Street,
14 Baton Rouge, Louisiana, beginning at 10:00 a.m.
15 on March 30, 2015.
16
17 BEFORE: Jennifer Pickett, Certified
18 Stenomask Reporter, in and for the State of
19 Louisiana.
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22
23
24
25

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1
2 MS. WEIFENBACH:
3 I want to welcome everybody to
4 the Coast Wide Reference
5 Monitoring System Request for
6 Proposal Pre-bid meeting. I want
7 to give you some introductions,
8 I'm Dona Weifenbach, I'm the CRMS
9 Contract Manager for CPRA in the
10 Lafayette Regional Office. Todd
11 Folsie is the CRS supervisor for
12 CPRA in the Thibodeaux office.
13 Bill Boshart is the supervisor in
14 the New Orleans field office and
15 Leigh Anne Sharp is the supervisor
16 for monitoring in the Lafayette
17 Regional Office. Also, Stephanie
18 Horvath is CPR support services
19 section representative. Is David
20 Guidry here? David Guidry is the
21 administrative program director
22 for DNR where questions and
23 proposals will be directed. I'm
24 going to give you a brief overview
25 of the presentation. We're going

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1 to talk about administrative and
2 general information, the scope of
3 work in the contract, evaluation
4 criteria, performance standards
5 and sources for more information.
6 So here is the schedule of events,
7 the RFP was distributed on March
8 18th. Today is the pre-bid
9 meeting. The deadline for written
10 questions is April 6th. The
11 proposal deadline is April 17th
12 and the notice of intent to award
13 is May 8th. This contract will
14 begin August 1st of this year.
15 For the proposal you submit one
16 signed original and six copies
17 before 3:00 on April 17th. So the
18 scope of work for this RFP is
19 there are three main tasks, the
20 first is environmental studies and
21 reports. There are environmental
22 site assessments, description of
23 habitats and populations,
24 ecological analysis, programmatic
25 review and recommendations,

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1 literature reviews and evaluation
2 of restoration projects. The
3 second tasks are environmental
4 surveys and data collection and
5 this is a primary component of the
6 CPRA monitoring program which
7 includes CRMS and project specific
8 monitoring. So there are
9 environmental and biological
10 surveys, damage assessments after
11 storms or natural disasters and
12 data collection to include
13 vegetation, hydrological data,
14 surface elevation and accretion in
15 soil properties. And the third
16 task is statistical data analysis
17 and management. This also is a
18 primary component of CRMS and
19 project specific monitoring, which
20 is assembling data from a variety
21 of sources. Quality assurance and
22 quality control, this is a large
23 component of our program.
24 Statistical analysis of data,
25 developing conclusions and making

Page 5	<p>1 recommendations based on analyses. 2 And developing and operating 3 geographic information systems. 4 So here is a map depicting the 5 CRMS sites across the coast. And 6 there are about 381 total CRMS 7 sites to be covered in this RFP, 8 about 295 are herbaceous wetlands, 9 36 are floating and 50 are swamp. 10 And the quantity and class of 11 these sites is subject to change 12 as these habitats change across 13 the coast. This is a map of the 14 continuous recorders and discrete 15 stations for monthly sampling for 16 project specific monitoring. So, 17 above and beyond the CRMS sites 18 there is project specific 19 monitoring. Presently there are 20 34 hydro continuous stations and 21 29 discrettes and it also covers 22 vegetation sampling for five 23 projects in 2016 and three 24 projects in 2017. So, this is a 25 schematic of a CRMS site design.</p>	Page 7	
<p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25</p>	<p>1 different layers that we monitor. 2 Three plots are 20 by 20 meters 3 sampled every three years, July to 4 September. This will begin in 5 2015. Within the canopy layer 6 there is under story layer with 7 three nested six by six meter 8 plots, sampled every three years 9 in conjunction with the canopy 10 layer. And then there is a 11 herbaceous layer with three nested 12 two by two meter plots sampled 13 annually. So this design shows 14 you, I know it was a little 15 complicated to read over but you 16 can see the three large 20 by 20 17 meter plots and the 6 by 6 meter 18 plots nested within them and then 19 the two by two meter plots within 20 those. For hydrology continuous 21 recorders can be either open 22 water, marsh well or floating 23 marsh. Marsh wells if there is no 24 water within the kilometer square 25 and floating marsh can be either</p>	<p>Page 8</p>	
Page 6	<p>1 The graphic to the left is the 2 kilometers square which is for 3 spatial data collection and that 4 is covered by USGS every three 5 years. Within the kilometer 6 square is a 200 meter by 200 meter 7 square which is a wetlands 8 sampling area. It includes 10 9 vegetation stations, a rod service 10 elevation table and accretion 11 stations at a boardwalk and at a 12 nearby water body there is a 13 continuous recorder. So going 14 into a little more detail about 15 that data collection on the 16 schematic, emergent herbaceous 17 marsh consists of ten permanent 18 two by two meter square plots 19 along a transect sampled annually 20 from July to September. This is a 21 photograph of a vegetation plot 22 with the two by two meter square 23 outline and the label for the 24 camera. And then we go on to 25 swamp vegetation, we have three</p>	<p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25</p>	<p>1 true floating or static. The data 2 recorded hourly, the stations are 3 all have been surveyed to NAVD88, 4 Geoid 12A. The continuous 5 recorders must be serviced 6-12 6 times per year depending upon land 7 right restrictions. And 8 continuous recorders are supplied 9 by the contractors through this 10 contract. There are discrete 11 porewater salinity measurements to 12 be taken at the CRMS boardwalk 13 during the RSET sampling which is 14 twice a year and annually at the 15 vegetation sampling trip. 16 Porewater salinity is also 17 measured at each herbaceous 18 vegetation plot during the 19 vegetation sample. So here's a 20 photograph of a continuous 21 recorder open water set up where 22 the recorder is on the left hand 23 post and the staff gauge is on the 24 right hand post, they both have 25 warning lights. This is a</p>

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1	continuous recorder at a well site	1	land owners prior to accessing
2	which is located at the boardwalk.	2	their property and we have all the
3	Here's a floating marsh mat	3	land rights agreements available
4	recorder. And this is a static	4	for the contractor. Site access
5	marsh mat recorder. We also	5	is often restricted and in some
6	measure surface elevation, a rod	6	cases prohibited during hunting
7	surface elevation table was	7	seasons which may include
8	installed at each non-floating	8	alligator hunting, water foul and
9	site in the marsh. And float	9	deer hunting season. Staff will
10	marshes there is no RSET, a marsh	10	at times encounter lessees who are
11	mat is used to measure the	11	unaware of land owner agreements
12	movement. REST sampled twice a	12	so you may have to be able to be
13	year, March to April then again in	13	very diplomatic with these folks.
14	September to October. Sometimes	14	Land owner requirements can and
15	sampling outside of the seasons is	15	will change as people exchange
16	allowed either due to land owner	16	property. It's recommended that
17	restrictions or to water level	17	the contractor maintain at least
18	being too high. So this is a	18	one full time position to handle
19	photograph of our rod surface	19	land rights responsibilities.
20	elevation table which Todd Folse	20	QA/QC, all data must meet minimum
21	is notorious for modeling for this	21	daily quality standards that are
22	photo. Accretion is measured at	22	outlined in the CRMS standard
23	the boardwalk over a feldspar	23	operating procedures document.
24	marker horizon twice a year in	24	The contractor must adhere to
25	conjunction with the RSET sampling	25	field QA/QC procedures to the time
Page 10		Page 12	
1	March to April and September to	1	lines and data formats that are
2	October. The half meter by half	2	outlined. Procedures may change
3	meter accretion plots are	3	throughout the term of the
4	established in sets of three. In	4	contract. Final quality check
5	the spring of even years, so for	5	data in the proper format should
6	this contract it would be 2016 and	6	be uploaded remotely into our CIMS
7	2018. Plots are poured each year	7	database. Data analysis and
8	rotate according to a defined	8	management includes QA/QC in the
9	schedule and the number of plots	9	field and in the office. Data
10	will vary from three to nine sites	10	loading transferred to CIMS and
11	per sampling period. This is a	11	general documentation of field
12	photograph of the boardwalk to the	12	conditions, and this can account
13	left and it's hard to see but in	13	for up to 40-50 percent of the
14	the back around the boardwalk are	14	work for this contract. Reporting
15	some short PVC pipes that mark the	15	requirements are weekly emails
16	feldspar plots. And then to the	16	which detail services, site
17	right we have a feldspar core with	17	serviced and describe maintenance
18	the white layer for feldspar	18	issues or anything that was
19	measuring accretion above it.	19	encountered on the field trip and
20	Site access, this is very	20	this goes to the contract manager
21	important, we wouldn't have a	21	and regional office supervisors.
22	successful program if we didn't	22	Monthly status reports are to be
23	have the cooperation of our land	23	submitted with invoices indicating
24	owners. So the contractor must	24	the stations serviced and the data
25	notify or acquire permission from	25	transferred to CIMS. So now we'll

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1 talk about the overview of the
2 evaluation criteria, the proposal
3 review committee will evaluate and
4 rank the proposals according to
5 technical approach, which is worth
6 30 points to the project and
7 adequacy of proposal to achieve
8 the requirements of the scope in
9 sufficient detail. Cost is 30
10 points, lowest cost proposal will
11 receive 30, all other proposals
12 will be rated by 30 times the
13 lowest rate schedule divided by
14 the proposer rate schedule.
15 Relevant experience is worth 30
16 points. Qualifications of key
17 personnel also assigned to the
18 project and then number four is
19 the Hudsons Veterans Small
20 Entrepreneurship Program which is
21 worth 10 points. For performance
22 requirements we expect timely,
23 complete and high quality data
24 collection and deliverables that
25 meet all of our protocols and our

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1 standard operating procedures. We
2 require regular communication at
3 all levels to include frequent, at
4 least, weekly status reports and
5 you must follow all land owner
6 requirements. So for more
7 information you can go to the
8 website up here and all the
9 supporting documents, quality
10 management plans, standard
11 operating procedures, land owner
12 restrictions will be there as well
13 as the original CRMS
14 documentation. And then you can
15 go to the CRMS website at
16 lacoast.gov where all of our data
17 is displayed. So thank you and if
18 you have questions please state
19 your name and your affiliation for
20 the court reporter.
21 MRS. BROWN:
22 Actually your website says
23 page not found whenever you try
24 and access it. I don't know if
25 anyone else has had that problem.

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1 MRS. WEIFENBACH:
2 Have you had it recently?
3 MRS. BROWN:
4 Yes.
5 MRS. WEIFENBACH:
6 I can access it but we'll
7 look in to it.
8 MRS. BROWN:
9 And I've tried from multiple
10 computers, so it's not just one.
11 MRS. WEIFENBACH:
12 Okay. We'll definitely get
13 right on that.
14 AUDIENCE MEMBER:
15 I've got a question or you,
16 the vegetation stations that are
17 going to be added in 2016 and 2017
18 are those strictly for vegetation
19 sampling, there are not going to
20 be any hydrologic stations added
21 to those locations, not at this
22 time?
23 MRS. WEIFENBACH:
24 Not at this time. There's no
25 hydrologic associated with the

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1 vegetation, those are project
2 specific. And we may add or
3 subtract hydrologic stations as
4 needed as projects come on board
5 and expire. CWPPRA project lives
6 are 20 years so as those projects
7 expire we would take their project
8 specific signs out.
9 AUDIENCE MEMBER:
10 And your soil samples
11 currently you have just a few
12 scheduled for 2015 and the only
13 additional ones that would be
14 required would be if new projects
15 were to come on board?
16 MRS. WEIFENBACH:
17 Correct.
18 MR. TAMMINENI:
19 My first question is, has
20 there been any effort made to look
21 soil data distribution, but I know
22 CPRA has (inaudible), has there
23 ever been an analysis done as to
24 what kind of sort of soil it is
25 and how is it affecting the swamp

1 or the marsh growth?
 2 MRS. WEIFENBACH:
 3 Through this program, no, we
 4 have not. We have collected the
 5 data but have not analyzed it.
 6 MR. TAMMINENI:
 7 Is that part of any other
 8 program?
 9 MRS. WEIFENBACH:
 10 I can tell you our plan, the
 11 CPRAs planning section has several
 12 studies on board, feasibility
 13 studies, but I'm not aware of any
 14 particular program that's actually
 15 going to do that. So if there is
 16 no more questions you can submit
 17 your written questions to David
 18 Guidry as outlined in the RFP and
 19 then we will answer those
 20 questions as well as the ones that
 21 were asked today we will answer
 22 those and make it available
 23 through the website.
 24 (The meeting was concluded on or about 10:18
 25 a.m.)

1
 2 R E P O R T E R ' S P A G E
 3 I, Jennifer Pickett, Certified Court
 4 Reporter, in and for the State of Louisiana,
 5 the officer, as defined in Rule 28 of the
 6 Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and/or
 7 Article 1434(b) of the Louisiana Code of Civil
 8 Procedure, before whom this sworn testimony
 9 was taken, do hereby state on the record:
 10 That due to the interaction in the
 11 spontaneous discourse of this proceeding,
 12 dashes (--) have been used to indicate pauses,
 13 changes in thought, and/or talk overs; that
 14 same is the proper method for a Court
 15 Reporter's transcription of proceeding, and
 16 that the dashes (--) do not indicate that
 17 words or phrases have been left out of this
 18 transcript.
 19 Also, any words and/or names which could
 20 not be verified through reference material
 21 have been denoted with the phrase
 22 "(inaudible)."
 23
 24 _____
 25 Jennifer Pickett, C.C.R.
 # 29011

1
 2 C E R T I F I C A T I O N
 3 I, Jennifer Pickett, Certified Court
 4 Reporter in and for the State of Louisiana,
 5 Certificate No. 29011, which is current and in
 6 good standing, as the officer before whom this
 7 Settlement Statement was taken, do hereby
 8 certify that the above and foregoing was taken
 9 under the authority of R.S. 37:2554; that the
 10 foregoing was taken by the undersigned as
 11 hereinbefore set forth in the foregoing pages;
 12 that it was reported by me, was prepared and
 13 transcribed by me or under my personal
 14 direction and supervision, and is a true and
 15 correct transcript to the best of my ability
 16 and understanding; and that I have acted in
 17 compliance with La. Code of Civil Procedure
 18 Article 1434; that I am not related to
 19 counsel, I am in no manner associated with
 20 counsel for any of the interested parties to
 21 this litigation, and I am in no way concerned
 22 with the outcome thereof.
 23
 24 _____
 25 Jennifer Pickett, C.C.R.
 # 29011

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