GOHSEP Director Kevin Davis, Assistant Deputy Director of Hazard Mitigation, Casey Tingle along with Lafourche Parish President, Charlotte A. Randolph, and other federal, state and local partners held a groundbreaking on Monday, November 9, 2015 for the construction has of the new Industrial Floodwall along the Intracoastal Waterway in Larose.

The project designed by Larose based Angelette-Picciola Engineers has been awarded to Thibodaux based Sealevel Construction after a long awaited approval from FEMA. This project is being funded under FEMA’s Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) from Hurricanes Katrina/Rita.

“This project is one of the largest awarded HMGP projects for Hurricanes Katrina/Rita,” Director Davis said. “Mitigation helps reduce or eliminate long term risk to people and property and plays a major role in our states recovery process.”

The $5 million project will construct a new eight foot tall sea wall along 2,650 feet of Industrial Park road to protect area business and residents from flooding due to high water in the Intracoastal Waterway. The project will also include improvements to area drainage and the resurfacing of a portion of Industrial Park Road.

“As we have seen in the last few weeks, it does not take a hurricane or tropical storm to cause a problem,” Randolph said. “This project will protect 15 businesses and over 300 homes from flooding during weather events and high tide situations.”

GOHSEP hosted two (2) Procurement Seminars in early November. This seminar provided new and important information and new job aids to ensure proper procurement procedures are followed within federal grant funding guidelines.

Over GOHSEP’s ten (10) years is disaster management, we’ve learned that the number one (1) reason for de-obligation of FEMA grant funding was due to applicants not following proper procurement guidelines.
Nov. 16th - Tsz Lee
Nov. 18th - Austin Dixon
Nov. 19th - Teidra Clark
Nov. 20th - Shane Rauh & Steven Garcia
Nov. 21st - Kimberly Rodrigue & Marilyn Sibley
Nov. 22nd - Lenette Jones & Cameron Bass
Nov. 25th - Chris Guilbeau, Sulanda Lonnelt, Daniel Crothers & Tonette Trahan
Nov. 26th - Glenda Aceves
Nov. 27th - Daniel Marshall
Nov. 28th - Kimberly Barnett & Alfricka West
Nov. 29th - Kerry Demers & Chad Hargon
Nov. 30th - Tarnisha Spann & Derek Breaux

**GOHSEP Region 7 Coordinator Receives LA National Guard Medal**

Jennifer Reynolds was recognized for her efforts during the Red River flooding event from Adjutant General Glenn Curtis of the Louisiana National Guard, receiving the **Distinguished Civilian Service Medal**. General Curtis says Reynolds actions saved lives, stabilized the situation and protected critical facilities in the highest standards of a highly qualified emergency manager. The coordinated effort between state, Federal and local agencies she helped promote resulted in no deaths or injuries during this historic flood event.

**Tickets for the annual GOHSEP/FEMA Holiday Luncheon are now available. The luncheon will be held on December 8, 2015 at the FEMA/GOHSEP Joint Field Office, located at 1500 Main Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, from 11:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. The deadline is November 30, 2015.**

**Meet our NEW HIRES**

**Jamie Covington, Fleet Specialist – DR Management**

GOHSEP hosted a class in Shreveport on Nov. 19th concerning disaster management for water and wastewater utilities.

**Request For Articles**

If you would like to include your information/article in future issues of *The GOHSEP Focus*, please contact:

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