



# St. Bernard Parish Council

8201 West Judge Perez Drive Chalmette, Louisiana, 70043  
(504) 278-4228 Fax (504) 278-4209  
[www.sbpsg.net](http://www.sbpsg.net)

**#20**

**Kerri Callais**  
*Councilmember  
at Large*

**Richard "Richie" Lewis**  
*Councilmember  
at Large*

**Gillis McCloskey**  
*Councilmember  
District A*

**Nathan Gorbaty**  
*Councilmember  
District B*

**Howard Luna**  
*Councilmember  
District C*

**Wanda Alcon**  
*Councilmember  
District D*

**Manuel "Monty" Montelongo III**  
*Councilmember  
District E*

**Roxanne Adams**  
*Clerk of Council*

EXTRACT OF THE OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST. BERNARD, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN AT A REGULAR MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE ST. BERNARD PARISH GOVERNMENT COMPLEX, 8201 WEST JUDGE PEREZ DRIVE, CHALMETTE, LOUISIANA ON TUESDAY, JULY 2, 2019 AT SEVEN O'CLOCK P.M.

On motion of Ms. Callais, seconded by Mr. Montelongo, it was moved to **adopt** the following resolution:

## **RESOLUTION SBPC #1960-07-19**

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE REQUEST SUBMITTED TO NOAA AND THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FROM THE LOUISIANA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE TO DECLARE A FISHERIES DISASTER IN LOUISIANA.

**WHEREAS**, the Mississippi River has been at a historic and unprecedented flood stage during 2019; and,

**WHEREAS**, today marks 248 days of the 2019 flood event and previous and expected rainfall events have and are expected to raise water levels statewide causing the 2019 flood event to surpass the 1973 event (225 days) as the longest flood fight in Louisiana history; and,

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) opened the Bonnet Carre Spillway for 44 days from February 27 through April 11, 2019 and opened it again for a historic second time in one year on May 10, 2019 and it is currently diverting 108,000 cubic feet per second into Lake Pontchartrain; and,

**WHEREAS**, this flood event marks the fourth time in 5 years that the Bonnet Carre Spillway has been opened due to flood events and the first time it has opened in subsequent years and twice in the same year; and,

**WHEREAS**, additional heavy rainfall across the region has led to uncontrolled and unprecedented flow of freshwater into all estuaries and coastal waters of the State and may have lingering effects, leading to the decline of valuable seafood products from throughout the coast to catch, process and sell; and,

**WHEREAS**, biological monitoring by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (Department) has indicated a notable reduction in the availability of crabs, shrimp, oysters, and finfish associated with the 2019 flood event; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Department continues to monitor the impacts of the 2019 flood event on coastal aquatic life and the associated impacts to all sectors of the commercial and recreational fishing industries, including fishermen, docks, processors, marinas, etc.; and,



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July 2, 2019

**WHEREAS**, invasive plants and fish species are a current problem within Louisiana; floodwaters can disperse invasive species into areas that have not previously been affected, thereby altering biological assemblages, habitat and hydrology, and limiting recreational and commercial opportunities; and,

**WHEREAS**, once the flood waters subside, additional impacts to freshwater fishery species may occur within the Atchafalaya Basin as well as to freshwater and estuarine areas outside of the Atchafalaya Basin, as low-oxygen water from flooded swamp areas and from dying algal blooms causes fish kills; and,

**WHEREAS**, boating and fishing infrastructure (i.e., docks, piers, ramps, etc.) in freshwater and marine environments are impacted by floodwaters with damage ranging from sedimentation to complete destruction and future impacts from the 2019 flood event are expected, but the extent cannot be determined until water levels recede to normal conditions.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the governing authority, St. Bernard Parish Council, hereby urges and requests the Department to continue its efforts to collect and analyze data regarding the impacts to fisheries in Louisiana as a result of the 2019 flood event, including analysis of fishery independent and dependent data to determine fishery disaster loss; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the governing authority, St. Bernard Parish Council, hereby supports the request submitted to NOAA Fisheries and the Secretary of Commerce from the Louisiana Governor's Office to declare a fisheries disaster in Louisiana and to request the U.S. Congress to authorize and appropriate funds to recover fishery disaster loss; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Secretary of the Department of Commerce, the Governor, and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

The above and foregoing having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereupon resulted as follows:

**YEAS:** McCloskey, Gorbaty, Luna, Alcon, Montelongo, Callais

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** None

The Council Chair, Mr. Lewis, cast his vote as **YEA**.

And the motion was declared **adopted** on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of July, 2019.

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at Large*

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## CERTIFICATE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of a motion adopted at a Regular Meeting of the Council of the Parish of St. Bernard, held at Chalmette, Louisiana, on Tuesday, July 2, 2019.

Witness my hand and the seal  
of the Parish of St. Bernard on  
this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of July, 2019.

Jennifer L. Imbraguglio  
JENNIFER L. IMBRAGUGLIO  
DEPUTY CLERK OF COUNCIL