

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
NATCHITOCHEs LEVEE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT
February 13, 2024
6:00 p.m.**

BE IT KNOWN that a Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Natchitoches Levee and Drainage District was called to order at Valley Farmer's Co-Op, 250 Rapides Drive, Natchitoches, Louisiana, on February 13, 2024, with a quorum being present, and roll was called as follows, to-wit:

Board Members present were:

Karlton Methvin, President/Administrator
Kay Foshee, Secretary-Treasurer
Mark Swafford, Member
Terry Sklar, Member
Casey Messenger Member
Jolley Nash, Member
Nolan Jones, Jr. Member

Absent were:

Rayburn Smith, Member

Also present were:

Billy Dunn, Maintenance Superintendent
Jarmarquis Torrence, DOTD Engineer
Logan Monk, DOTD
Paul Trimble, Meyer, Meyer, Lacroix & Hixson
Jordan Lemoine, Edko, LLC
Ford Stinson, Edko, LLC

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Natchitoches Levee & Drainage District was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by the President, Karlton Methvin.

A Motion was made by Sklar and seconded by Jones to amend the agenda to discuss the proposal from Edko, LLC for spraying during the calendar year 2024. Following public comment, the Motion passed unanimously.

The January, 2024 minutes were read and discussed. Following public comment, a Motion was made by Sklar and seconded

by Nash to approve the January, 2024 minutes. The Motion passed unanimously.

The December, 2023 and January, 2024 Financial Statements were reviewed and discussed. Following public discussion, a Motion was made by Jones and seconded by Foshee to approve the Financial Statements as provided. The Motion passed unanimously.

The maintenance report was given by Billy Dunn, Maintenance Superintendent. Dunn advised that his crew was still cutting limbs and removing debris from the right of way. They were also repairing the crown of the levee where necessary.

Jarmarquis Torrence, DOTD Engineer, discussed the ditch that runs near the Melrose and Roque properties that is in need of dredging. The ditch has been cleaned up to the point that it enters wetland property. The sediment and vegetation is such that the ditch is not draining and causing water to pool and flood nearby properties. After further discussion, the Board requested Paul Trimble to contact the Corps seeking permission to clean the ditch, and if necessary, determine the cost of obtaining a wetland permit.

Paul Trimble, Engineer with Meyer, Meyer, LaCroix & Hixson, advised that the Lower Cane River project was now completed and requested payment of the last invoice from Progressive Construction in the amount of \$4,031.00. This sum represents the retainage on the additional work done on the north end of the Natchitoches levee. A Motion was made by Sklar and seconded by Jones to pay the invoice from Progressive Construction in the amount of \$4,031.00. Following public comment, this Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Trimble also reported on the progress of the Bayou Rachal and Red Bayou project. The project is slowly moving forward and hopefully we will be in a position to advertise for bids by the end of the year.

Trimble presented the Board with two copies of the final draft of the Operation and Maintenance Manual for the Natchitoches Levee & Drainage District. A Motion was made by Swafford and seconded by Messenger to adopt the Operation and Maintenance Manual prepared by Meyer, Meyer, LaCroix & Hixson. Following public discussion, this Motion passed unanimously.

A Motion was then made by Sklar and seconded by Swafford approving the payment of the invoice from Meyer, Meyer, Lacroix &

Hixson in the amount of \$25,000.00 for the preparation of the O&M Manual. Following public discussion, this Motion passed unanimously.

In other business, Mr. Methvin led a discussion regarding the purchase/lease of two new John Deere tractors. Methvin reviewed the quote received from Goldman Equipment, LLC, a copy of which is attached to the February agenda. The quote is for two John Deere 6135E Cab Tractors. The price of each tractor is \$101,500.00, and a trade-in of our two existing tractors equal to \$76,500.00. The quote also included two John Deere Rotary Cutters. The balance due for the two tractors and two cutters, after trade-in of old equipment, totaled \$81,040.00. After further discussion, a Motion was made by Swafford and seconded by Nash to approve the purchase of the two tractors and two cutters as per the quote. Following public discussion, the Motion passed unanimously.

Ford Stinson with Edko, LLC presented Edko's proposal for spraying during the calendar year 2024 in the amount of \$186,889.68. A copy of the proposal is attached to the February agenda. A Motion was made by Sklar and seconded by Swafford to accept the proposal from Edko, LLC for spraying during the calendar year 2024. Following public comment, the Motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Board a Motion was made by Sklar and seconded by Swafford to adjourn. The Motion passed unanimously.

Approved on the 12th day of March, 2024, at Natchitoches, Louisiana, at a regularly held meeting.

RONALD E. CORKERN, JR.,
Attorney/Assistant Secretary