

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE  
NATCHITOCHEs LEVEE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT  
February 10, 2009  
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 in the Police Jury Meeting Room, Natchitoches Parish Courthouse, Natchitoches, Louisiana, on February 10, 2009, with a quorum being present, and roll was called as follows, to-wit:

Board Members present were:

Karlton Methvin, President  
Janet Jones, Secretary  
Doris Rogé, Member  
Adolph Sklar, Member  
Alfred Bruning, Member  
Gary Anderson, Member  
Billy Giddens, Member  
Rayburn Smith, Member

Also present were:

Gary Eldridge, Maintenance Superintendent, DOTD  
Melvin Hicks, Department of Transportation & Development  
Mr. and Mrs. David McGraw  
David Dupree, Corps of Engineers

The minutes from the January 13, 2009 meeting were reviewed. On Motion by Doris Rogé, seconded by Janet Jones, the Minutes were approved.

A Motion to supplement the agenda to approve travel by the Commissioners and the attorney to the Red River Association meeting in Colfax was made by Adolph Sklar and seconded by Gary Anderson. The Motion to supplement the agenda was approved unanimously. A Motion was then made by Adolph Sklar, seconded by Billy Giddens to approve travel to the Red River Association meeting in Colfax for Karlton Methvin, Doris Rogé, Janet Jones, and Ronald Corkern. The Motion passed unanimously.

The January, 2009 Financial Statement was reviewed and discussed. On Motion by Adolph Sklar, seconded by Doris Rogé, the January, 2009 Financial Statement was approved.

The Maintenance Report was then given by Robert Vercher. Mr. Vercher advised that his crew was still digging trees out on Laird Fletcher Road/Bayou Passon. He also discussed the need to purchase tires for their tractor. Mr. Vercher further advised that he had received a request from Thomas White to widen the road adjacent to his property to make a turn around for the school bus. Mr. Vercher also advised the Board that the Hampton Flood Gate needed some repair work and discussed the materials needed to repair the backside of the flood gate. He also advised that there was a sink hole next to the Cloutierville structure on Highway 495 and indicated that his crew would make repairs to this area.

The DOTD report was given by Gary Eldridge and Melvin Hicks. The Board was provided with a letter dated February 6, 2009 from Melvin Hicks to Karlton Methvin discussing the after-the-fact request by David McGraw for a structure lateral L-18. Mr. Hicks advised that based on the available data, it was DOTD's determination that the structure presently on Mr. McGraw's property had negligible impact on up to 50 year return interval design storms, and no impact on greater storms. It was the recommendation of DOTD that this structure be left in place.

Gary Eldridge stated that he had talked with the Corps of Engineers about channels that needed to be cleaned and the necessity for acquiring a Wetland Permit. The Corps advised they would have to look at the channels we wished to clean in order to know whether or not a Wetland Permit would be necessary. Mr. Methvin suggested that we make a list of the ditches and/or channels we want to clean and then schedule a meeting with the Corps to look at them.

Mr. Eldridge further advised that last month the Board had discussed the possibility of doing some work on Bayou Passon through the Statewide Flood Control Program. Unfortunately, the application for this program is due by May 1, 2009 and DOTD simply did not have enough time or personnel to complete the application. He suggested that the Board of Commissioners set up a meeting with the City and the Police Jury to coordinate efforts.

Mr. Eldridge further advised that he had received a call from Mike Wolff regarding a permit for a crossing on his property. He had sent Mr. Wolff some material and expected to receive an application from him in the future.

The office activity report was given by Ronald Corkern. He advised that the revenue recently received from the Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office had been deposited into existing insured accounts. He also reported on the need for Karlton Methvin, Robert Vercher, and him to review the inspection reports prepared by the Corps of Engineers and determine which items that did not meet inspection could be addressed without the necessity for going on the adjacent landowner's property or removing any fences or trees belonging to adjacent landowners. These items should be addressed by Mr. Vercher and his crew as quickly as possible. In addition, it is necessary to identify the landowner with respect to each other finding by the Corps of Engineers of an encroachment, so that the landowner could be notified and given a specific period of time in which to remove the encroachment.

Karlton Methvin gave the Administrator's Report. He reported on the meeting of the Red River Valley Association at Colfax wherein the Corps once again advised that with the exception of three (3) districts for which work had already begun by the Corps, the Corps did not have funding to assist in gathering and providing to FEMA the necessary paperwork to verify that the levees were designed and constructed in such a manner as to meet current requirements.

Under new business, Dennis Antee's PPR Form was reviewed and approved. Additionally, bids were opened for the sale of property located at Cloutierville, Louisiana. The high bid was from Johnny Byone, Sr. in the amount of \$7,100.00. On Motion made by Adolph Sklar, seconded by Doris Rogé, the Board voted to sell the property to Johnny Byone, Sr. By quitclaim deed for the purchase price of \$7,100.00.

Under other new business, Ronald Corkern advised that the ALBL Annual Workshop would be held May 7 and 8. Registration is due by April 15, 2009. Anyone wishing to attend this workshop in Baton Rouge should let Corkern know by April 1, 2009 so that reservations can be made.

In other business, Rayburn Smith made a Motion to purchase levee signs to mark the various stations along the levee. This Motion was seconded by Gary Anderson, and approved unanimously. The Corps of Engineers will place the signs once they have been purchased.

Under old business, the Board discussed the letter from the Department of the Army regarding the 2008 inspection reports.

Additionally, the Board discussed the Bayou Passon drainage system with Gary Eldridge making comments as indicated above. Finally, the request by David McGraw for an after-the-fact permit was approved as indicated above.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Approved on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2009, at Natchitoches, Louisiana, at a regularly held meeting.

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