

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
NATCHITOCHEs LEVEE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT
February 12, 2019
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 12, 2019, with a quorum being present, and roll was called as follows, to-wit:

Board Members present were:

Karlton Methvin, President/Administrator
Doris Rogé, Member
Terry Sklar, Member
Billy Giddens, Member
Mark Swafford, Member
Rayburn Smith, Member

Absent were:

Janet Jones, Secretary
Casey Messenger, Member

Also present were:

Billy Dunn, Maintenance Superintendent
Brad Sticker, DOTD Engineer
Nick Verrett
Tom Tubre

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

A discussion was held regarding the January, 2019 meeting were read and discussed. Following public comments, a Motion was made by Sklar, and seconded by Swafford, to approve the January, 2019 minutes. This Motion passed unanimously.

The January, 2019 financial statement was reviewed and discussed. Following public comments, a Motion was made by Giddens and seconded by Sklar to approve the January, 2019 financial statement. This Motion passed unanimously.

Tom Tubre asked to address the Board regarding drainage along Hampton Road. Mr. Tubre explained that frequently when it rains Hampton Road is under water in places. If this condition is allowed to continue, the road will rapidly deteriorate and put additional stress on the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury to maintain the road. Mr. Tubre asked that he be allowed to cut a drainage ditch that would direct water from Hampton Road into Bayou Passion. Additional discussion occurred between Board members, Mr. Tubre and Brad Sticker (DOTD engineer) regarding the natural flow of water and whether redirecting the drainage to Bayou Passion would require the water to flow in a direction opposite to the natural drainage. Following discussion a Motion was made by Terry Sklar and seconded by Rayburn Smith to table the request by Mr. Tubre until the area could be inspected by Brad Sticker and Natchitoches Parish Director of Public Works, Richard _____. Following public discussion, the Motion to table passed unanimously.

The maintenance report was given by Maintenance Superintendent Billy Dunn. Mr. Dunn advised that the structure on the Miller levee was sinking. His crew added more rock to the area.

Dunn also advised that his crew was trimming limbs on the Natchitoches levee and were working south. His crew had previously helped the parish put in two pipes under the Bermuda Road in accordance with the Board's previous authorization.

Dunn also advised that the employees had done work on the Odra levee and added dirt where needed.

Dunn then asked the Board if we could clear L-36 and L-36A. These are the ditches that run through the Dale Valley property following discussion, the Board advised Dunn to clean the ditches whenever the equipment was available and weather permitted.

A discussion followed regarding information recently received from FEMA regarding accreditation of the levees in Natchitoches Parish. Mr. Sticker had seen an email from another levee district, but had not seen the email relative Natchitoches Parish. Corkern advised that he would forward the email he had recently received. Mr. Sticker advised he would review the email and interpret same for the Board at the next meeting.

Mr. Sticker also discussed the two unacceptable pipes on the Campti-Clarence levee. These were the two pipes the Corps advised were unacceptable following their review the video of the pipes. Mr. Sticker advised that he had talked with the Corps and inquired as to why the pipes were unacceptable. He explained that we need to know why the pipes are unacceptable in order to know how to fix the problem. A discussion followed regarding the potential fixes depending upon what the problem was.

Mr. Sticker further advised that the State would inspect the non-Federal levees on February 21, 2019 and he would report at the next meeting.

Mr. Nick Verrett then addressed the Board regarding the lower Cane River flood mitigation program. Mr. Verrett is an engineer working for the Parish as well as the City of Natchitoches. He is overseeing the lower Cane River flood mitigation program. Verrett advised that Phase 1 of the project had been approved last June by FEMA. Phase 1 was for design, plans, specs, etc. The Natchitoches Levee & Drainage District hired Myer, Myer & Hixon as its engineers to complete the Phase 1 work. All of their work was submitted by the January deadline. He also advised that the Parish has applied for capital outlay funds to cover 80% of the 25% of the \$1,000,000 cost of the project. The project includes replacement of structures under the road and a flapgate at Bayou Rachel, and also replacement of the structure at Red Bayou.

We have been successful in getting Federal funds to put crushed stone on the Odra levee. The Parish is currently in the process of executing documents regarding this project and he expects the work will be accomplished in the spring.

Ronald Corkern reminded the Board that the Red River Valley Association annual convention would be held in Shreveport February 20-21. Karlton Methvin advised that he would not be able to attend and Mark Swafford indicated he would attend.

Corkern then reviewed with the Board the proposal from Edko for spraying services for the calendar year 2019. Following a discussion of the proposal, a Motion was made by Smith and seconded by Sklar to accept the proposal of Edko for professional spraying services. Following public discussion, the Motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Board, a Motion was made by Rogé and seconded by Giddens to adjourn. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the Motion.

Approved on the 13th day of March, 2019, at Natchitoches, Louisiana, at a regularly held meeting.

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