

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
NATCHITOCHEs LEVEE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT
February 8, 2022
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 in the Natchitoches Municipal Building, 560 Second Street, Natchitoches, Louisiana, on February 8, 2022, with a quorum being present, and roll was called as follows, to-wit:

Board Members present were:

Karlton Methvin, President/Administrator
Mary Jones, Secretary
Rayburn Smith, Member
Mark Swafford, Member
Casey Messenger Member
Nolan Jones, Jr. Member
Terry Sklar, Member
Jolley Nash, Member

Absent were:

None

Also present were:

Billy Dunn, Maintenance Superintendent
Paul Trimble, Meyer, Meyer, Lacroix & Hixson
Susan Douglas, DOTD Levee Safety Engineer
Jarmarquis Torrence, DOTD Engineer
Jonathan Lachney, DOTD Engineer
Jordan Lemoine, Edko, LLC
Ford Stinson, Edko, LLC

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.

The January, 2022 minutes were read and discussed. Following public comment, a Motion was made by Sklar and seconded by Nolan Jones to approve the January, 2022 minutes. The Motion passed unanimously.

The January, 2022 financial statement was not available at the time of this meeting. It will be reviewed at the next meeting.

The Maintenance Superintendent's report was given by Billy Dunn. Dunn advised that his crew had been fixing holes in the levee and repairing the crown of the levee on the southern end of the parish. They also had cleaned L-4A and L-TB1 off of Highway 119 behind Natchez.

Dunn further advised that he had talked with the owner of Dell Acres about the vegetation growing along the fence row. The owner advised that he was okay with our crew cleaning all of the vegetation along the fence row and pushing it into a pile on his property. He will then bury the debris.

Dunn also advised that he would pick up the Long Reach next month that we are renting, and would start cleaning the ditch. With good weather he expects to complete this task in about a month.

A discussion followed regarding the repair of the lift gates. Dunn advised that the bid we had previously received is still good. Rayburn Smith advised that he had received a bid from K&H Trucking and Contracting, LLC in the amount of \$24,310.00. The K&H Trucking bid was lower than the previously received bid and a Motion was made by Swafford by Nolan Jones to accept the K&H Trucking and Contracting, LLC bid in the amount of \$24,310.00. This Motion passed unanimously.

Jarmarquis Torrence, Engineer with DOTD, advised that he had talked with Hanson about the ditch crossing on his property, and Hanson had advised that he would put in a cattle guard and rock around it. Mr. Torrence was satisfied that the work Hanson intended to do would be better than what exists at the present time.

A discussion followed regarding the repairs being made on Highway 71 near Billy Giddens house. The Corps has approved the DOTD's plan of work in this area.

There was further discussion among Board members about the manufacturer of nuts for the lift gates. Smith was advised that stainless steel nuts would not work. McMillan Mechanical gave a bid of \$2,370.00 to manufacture a nut out of marine bronze. Following further discussion, a Motion was made by Smith and seconded by Nolan Jones to buy two nuts from McMillan Mechanical.

In other business, Susan Douglas, DOTD Safety Engineer, gave a report on the status of the capital outlay applications and other safety initiatives implemented by FEMA and the Corps of Engineers.

Ford Stinson presented to the Board a proposal from Edko, LLC for spraying during the upcoming year. This year's proposal reflected a 7% increase over last year's proposal. Stinson advised that the 7% increase did not make Edko whole, but they were attempting to keep their prices as low as possible in order to share the pain. The cost of chemicals has gone up significantly in the past 12 months. Following further discussion, a Motion was made by Smith and seconded by Swafford to accept the Edko bid for spraying during the calendar year 2022. This Motion passed unanimously.

A discussion then followed regarding the leases on two of our tractors that was about to run out. The Board discussed the purchase of these tractors versus leasing new tractors. A Motion was made by Nolan Jones and seconded by Sklar to purchase the two tractors along with an extended warranty. Following further discussion, the Motion passed unanimously.

Corkern advised the Board that our employee, Travis Brossette, had resigned effective January 31, 2022. We are currently advertising to replace that position.

Paul Trimble reported that he will be delivering the H&H study to FEMA the following week. Everything appears to be on track. He is also working on a contract with Natchitoches Parish on the East Natchitoches drainage project.

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

Approved on the 8th day of March, 2022, at Natchitoches, Louisiana, at a regularly held meeting.

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