

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
NATCHITOCHEES LEVEE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT
March 7, 2018
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 March 7, 2018, with a quorum being present, and roll was called as follows, to-wit:

Board Members present were:

Karlton Methvin, President/Administrator
Janet Jones, Secretary
Doris Rogé, Member
Billy Giddens, Member
Mark Swafford, Member
Terry Sklar, Member
Casey Messenger

Absent were:

Rayburn Smith, Member

Also present were:

Billy Dunn, Maintenance Superintendent
Brad Sticker, DOTD Engineer
Jeremy Gilbert, EDKO
Ford Stenson, EDKO

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 minutes of the February, 2018 meeting were discussed. Following public comments, a Motion was made by Sklar, and seconded by Giddens, to approve the February, 2018 minutes. The Motion passed unanimously.

The February, 2018 financial statement was reviewed and discussed. Following public comment, a Motion was made by Swafford and seconded by Sklar to approve the February, 2018 financial statement. This Motion passed unanimously.

The maintenance report was given by Maintenance Superintendent Billy Dunn. Mr. Dunn advised that his crew had been fighting the flood. Mr. Dunn advised that he personally had been driving the levees and monitoring the water level and the gates on a daily basis. He advised that all of our flap gates, as well as three sluice gates were closed. He indicated that he was hopeful that he would be able to open the gates behind Mr. Crooks place the next day.

Brad Sticker, DOTD Engineer, reported that Red River crested on March 4 and was following. Coushatta crested on March 5, 2018 and Grand Ecore crested the day before at 37.67'. Grand Ecore had fallen 1/10th of an inch since yesterday. He noted that in 2015, Grand Ecore crested at 42.03'. In 2016, it crested at 41.89'.

Sticker advised that he had checked two structures that day on lower Cane River and both were flowing out good.

A discussion followed regarding the new permit request required by the Corps of Engineers. A copy of this new permit request should now be sent to FEMA.

A discussion regarding the slide on Highway 495 followed. There is another slide on 491. Sticker advised that DOTD may survey the areas of the slide again after the water goes down because the dirt may shift. He will advise the Board at the next meeting what repairs are needed.

Mr. Sticker also advised that he had talked with Paul Bergeron with Delta Land Company. Mr. Bergeron advised that a drainage servitude had been granted to Cane River Levee District many years ago. There is no description of the servitude. Delta Land offered to pay for a survey to define the servitude. Following further discussion by the Board, it was agreed that Brad Sticker would continue to communicate with Mr. Bergeron regarding this issue.

In other business, Karlton Methvin advised the Board that our lease of two tractors was up and both tractors are now out of warranty. Mr. Methvin had checked prices under the State contract and determined that the purchase price would be \$142,886.08 for both tractors, with each tractor receive a trade-in value of \$42,000.00. This sum could be paid in two annual installments. A motion was made by Sklar and seconded by Giddens

to purchase two new tractors. After public comment the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Methvin also advised that he had priced two new bushhogs. The State contract price was \$33,044.80, with a trade-in of \$16,522.40 for our old bushhogs. A motion was made by Sklar and seconded by Giddens to purchase two new bushhogs. After public comment, this motion passed unanimously.

A discussion followed regarding the purchase or lease of a backhoe. The quote previously given by Doggett was for 1,000 hours of usage. It was agreed that Methvin would obtain a quote from Doggett based upon 500 hours of usage.

A discussion followed regarding the Odra Levee. It is believed that a grant had been awarded to Red River Waterway Commission to fix this levee.

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

Approved on the 10th day of April, 2018, at Natchitoches, Louisiana, at a regularly held meeting.

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