

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE  
NATCHITOCHEs LEVEE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT**

**June 8, 2010**

**7:00 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 June 8, 2010, with a quorum being present, and roll was called as follows, to-wit:

Board Members present were:

Karlton Methvin, President/Administrator  
Ronald Corkern, Attorney/Assistant Secretary  
Janet Jones, Secretary  
Doris Rogé, Member  
Adolph Sklar, Jr. Member  
Mark Swafford, Member  
Rayburn Smith, Member  
C.D. Brazzel, Jr., Member  
Billy Giddens, Member

Absent were:

None

Also present were:

Gary Eldridge, DOTD  
Robert Vercher, Maintenance Superintendent  
Allen Shephard, Edko, LLC

The minutes for the May 11, 2010 meeting were reviewed. On motion by Doris Rogé, seconded by Mark Swafford, the May minutes were unanimously approved.

The May, 2010 Financial Statement was reviewed and discussed. On motion by C. D. Brazzel, Jr., seconded by Rayburn Smith, the May Financial Statement was approved.

The Maintenance Report was given by Robert Vercher. He advised that his crew was still bushhogging. They expected to finish the Cane River Levee this week and would then be moving to Powhatan. Everything has been cleared from the fence line on the

Hampton place. They still need to move some of the debris over the levee. He advised that Mr. Nugent is cutting hay on the levee. There was some discussion among the Board members as to whether the Board would have any liability if someone was hurt. The Board had no objection to adjacent landowners cutting hay from the levee provided we were not liable if an accident occurred, and also provided they did not do any damage to the levee.

Allen Shephard remarked that last year a farmer got pretty upset with him when he was spraying for thistle. He inquired as to how he should respond if this occurred in the future. Mr. Shephard was advised that allowing landowners to cut hay on the levee is a courtesy, but our mandate is to maintain the levees to prevent flooding and not to maintain the levees for the purpose of providing hay fields for adjacent landowners.

Rayburn Smith observed that the thistle spraying done by Edko, LLC this year had worked very well and suggested that we make a note of the time we sprayed for thistle and do it at exactly the same time next year.

Mr. Vercher advised the Board that the wench from the old truck had been placed on the new truck. Tony Lodridge welded a bracket on the new truck to hold the wench and everything seemed to be working well at present.

The DOTD report was given by Gary Eldridge. Mr. Eldridge advised that the DOTD inspection report had been completed for the State levees. A copy was made available to the Board members for inspection. All of the State levees were found to be in fair to good condition. He did not state that some of the limbs on the Cloutierville levee needed to be cut. There was discussion as to whether the Police Jury had a tractor with a saw capable of cutting these limbs. Someone in maintenance will check with the Police Jury to see if they have equipment that will do this, and if so, whether we can make arrangements to have them cut the overhanging limbs and branches on this levee.

Mr. Eldridge also advised that DOTD had issued a "no objection" with restrictions relative to the After-the-Fact Permit Request for Gottsch Cattle Company. He further pointed out that this is a federal levee and must be approved by the Corps of Engineers, and therefore the After-the-Fact Permit must be approved by the Corps of Engineers. As of this date we have not received a letter from the Corps of Engineers. Corkern was

asked to check to be certain the permit application had been filed with the Corps of Engineers.

Ronald Corkern advised that there was no "office activity" report other than those items contained in new business which would be discussed later.

Under new business Corkern presented the Board with the letter he had received from Attorney Chris Henry asking permission from the Board to use Levee Road to access property off of Hargis Road. On motion by Adolph Sklar, Jr., seconded by Rayburn Smith, the Board voted unanimously to authorize Corkern to write a letter to Chris Henry approving the use of Levee Road to access the adjacent property subject to restrictions to be defined in the letter from Corkern.

In other business, Corkern presented the Board with a Resolution to adopt the milage of 4.22 mills for the 2010 tax roll. On motion by Doris Rogé, seconded by Janet Jones, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the milage resolution and to authorize Karlton Methvin to execute all documents required by the Assessor.

In other business, Corkern advised that a review of our insurance revealed that we did not have in place Directors' and Officers' liability insurance coverage. Corkern requested a quote for this coverage from Cunningham Insurance Agency and was advised that the coverage could be purchased for \$1,000.00. On motion by Rayburn Smith, seconded by Adolph Sklar, Jr., the Board voted unanimously to approve the purchase of Directors' and Officers' liability insurance coverage for the stated amount.

A motion was made by Mark Swafford and seconded by Rayburn Smith to declare the 2001 Ford F-250 Truck as surplus property and authorized the sale either at auction or in the alternative, a private sale for no less than the appraised value. This motion passed unanimously.

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

Approved on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2010, at Natchitoches, Louisiana, at a regularly held meeting.

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

