

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

**July 8, 2014**

**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 July 8, 2014, with a quorum being present, and roll was called as follows, to-wit:

Board Members present were:

Janet Jones, Secretary  
Rayburn Smith, Member  
Billy Giddens, Member  
Charles Brazzel, Jr., Member  
Mark Swafford, Member

Absent were:

Karlton Methvin, President/Administrator  
Doris Rogé, Member

Also present were:

Brad Sticker, DOTD Engineer  
Alan Sheppard  
Terry Sklar

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Natchitoches Levee & Drainage District was called to order at 7:00 p.m by the Assistant Secretary, Ronald E. Corkern, Jr.

The minutes of the June, 2014 meeting were read and discussed. A Motion was made by Rayburn Smith, and seconded by Billy Giddens, to approve the June, 2014 minutes. The Motion passed unanimously.

The June, 2014 financial statement was reviewed and discussed. Following discussion, a Motion was made by Janet Jones and seconded by C. D. Brazzel, Jr. to approve the June, 2014 financial statement. This Motion passed unanimously.

Ronald Corkern advised that President Karlton Methvin was absent from this meeting because he was on vacation with his family. However, Corkern noted that he had visited with Mr. Methvin that afternoon and discussed several business matters, including the upcoming Corps inspection. Mr. Methvin also advised that he had talked with Maintenance Superintendent Billy Dunn, and that Mr. Dunn would probably not be in attendance at the Board meeting, inasmuch as it was his intention to work late in order to have the levees ready for the Corps inspection on July 14 and 15, 2014.

The DOTD report was given by Brad Sticker. Mr. Sticker informed the Board that he had been touch with the Maintenance Superintendent, Billy Dunn, and our crew was trying to finish mowing the Natchitoches side of the levee. The crew had also removed a lot of undergrowth and unwanted vegetation around the levee at the lower end near Marco. This is an area that the Corps criticized during its last inspection as containing unwanted vegetation. Mr. Sticker further informed the Board that he would accompany employees of the Corps of Engineers in their inspection on July 14 and 15. He is certain that they will find all of our drainage pipes to be unsatisfactory since we cannot show a video inspection of the pipes during the last five years. Mr. Sticker has previously made a request to DOTD for assistance in videoing these pipes, but thus far has not received a favorable response.

In other business, Mr. Sticker advised that the repair work to the Cloutierville floodgates was in the design process. He has been working with the design engineer a great deal over the last two weeks and as a result has had to put a couple of other issues (L-30 repair estimate and Channel L-20 remediation) on the back burner. DOTD still hopes that they will be able to let bids on repairs to the Cloutierville floodgates during the early part of next year.

Mr. Sticker further advised the Board that a Notice to Proceed with the lower Cane River repairs had been issued to the contractor on June 11, 2014. The contractor is currently working on the manufacture of the replacement gate. All of the work should be completed by next month's Board meeting.

The Cane River dams were inspected by the independent group hired by the State. Mr. Sticker indicated he was unaware of any significant findings that would be any different from last years findings.

Mr. Sticker also discussed with the Board a section on highway 6 near Clarence where the toe of the levee comes almost to the shoulder of the highway. Mr. Sticker did some research and determined that the area in question which the Board has previously noted contained unwanted vegetation was within DOTD's right of way. Consequently, he recommended that we apply to DOTD for a Vegetative Maintenance Permit which would allow us to clean all of the vegetation even though it lies within the State right of way.

In other business, Alan Sheppard addressed the Board and advised that except for spraying the area at Marco where our crew is currently cleaning the vegetation, they have completed all other spraying. He will spray the area near Marco as soon as our crew completes its work, which will be either Wednesday or Thursday of this week. Everything else contained in his company's contract has been completed with the exception of a second application on the drainage ditches which will occur in September.

Under old business, Mr. Sticker advised that he had not completed the L-30 repair estimate since he had been working the last couple of weeks with design engineers on the Cloutierville floodgates. Likewise, he had not completed his recommendation of work to be done on Channel L-20 and the cost associated therewith for the same reason.

Corkern advised the Board that the Corps of Engineers would begin their inspection at the substation near Campti next Monday at 10:00 a.m. Any Board member interested in being present during the Corps' inspection will be welcome.

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

Approved on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2014, at Natchitoches, Louisiana, at a regularly held meeting.

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