

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
NATCHITOCHEs LEVEE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT
November 10, 2020
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 November 10, 2020, with a quorum being present, and roll was called as follows, to-wit:

Board Members present were:

Karlton Methvin, President/Administrator
Mark Swafford, Member
Terry Sklar, Member
Mary Jones, Secretary
Nolan Jones, Jr. Member

Absent were:

Rayburn Smith, Member
Jolley Nash, Member
Casey Messenger

Also present were:

Billy Dunn, Maintenance Superintendent
Jonathan Lachney, DOTD Engineer
Jarmarquis Torrence, DOTD Engineer
Ford Stinson, 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 October, 2020 minutes were read and discussed. Following public comment, a Motion was made by Sklar and seconded by Nolan Jones, Jr. to approve the October, 2020 minutes. The Motion passed unanimously.

The October, 2020 financial statement was reviewed and discussed. Following public comment, a Motion was made by

Swafford and seconded by Nolan Jones, Jr. to approve the October, 2020 financial statement. This Motion passed unanimously.

Billy Dunn, Maintenance Superintendent, advised that his crew was continuing to clip all of the levees and clean them up for winter. All of the debris from Hurricane Laura is off of the levees.

A discussion was held regarding disposal of the debris from Hurricane Laura. Ronald Corkern advised that he and Karlton Methvin had met with Susan Douglas, Levee Safety Inspector, and discussed our desire to simply push the debris into the edge of the woods and allow it to decay, as opposed to hauling the debris off and disposing of it at a landfill, the cost of which would be prohibitive, or burning 20+ piles of debris. Ms. Douglas suggested that we set up a meeting with DEQ and request a waiver that would allow us to dispose of the debris in the same manner we dispose of similar debris throughout the year.

A zoom conference was held on November 10, 2020 with Corkern and Methvin present on behalf of Natchitoches Levee District and Yolunda Righteous and Mia Townsel present on behalf of DEQ. Ms. Righteous had reviewed Corkern's letter of November 6, 2020 and felt as though our disposal request was reasonable. However, instead of a waiver from DEQ she felt as though we needed to file a Best Management Plan with the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and receive approval from them. Corkern advised that he would work on obtaining this approval.

Billy Dunn also advised that his crew had not done anything with the debris on the State levee at Dell Valley. This levee is adjacent to the railroad and to Nathan Albritton's property. Mr. Albritton apparently has cattle on his property and a very old fence that was in poor condition before Hurricane Laura. There are now a number of limbs and trees laying on the fence. Terry Sklar advised that he would call Mr. Albritton and offer for the Levee Board to clean the entire fence row if he would then build the fence back.

Mr. Dunn also advised the Board that there are drainage ditches within the City that have trees down from Hurricane Laura. The NLDD does not own the type of equipment necessary to clean these trees out of the drainage. Dunn advised that he had checked with Head & Enquist and it would cost \$1,200 a week to rent the necessary equipment to clean these ditches. Dunn estimated it would take two weeks to clean the ditches. After

further discussion, a Motion was made by Swafford and seconded by Sklar to authorize Billy Dunn to rent the equipment necessary to clean these ditches. The Motion passed unanimously.

Jamarcus Torrence, DOTD engineer, advised that he had been working on the Flat Bayou proposal, and expected to have this by the next meeting. He also advised that someone needed to check on the water pipeline that had been placed at Marco. Apparently, the pipe is in the slope of the levee. However, it has been the position of the Natchitoches Levee & Drainage District that this is not our levee and we do not have it listed in our inventory. It is our belief that the Parish Government accepted ownership of this levee a number of years ago, and there is a letter to that effect that Corkern advised he has not been able to locate. Jamarcus Torrence indicated he would look to see if he could find that letter.

The waterline in question was put in by the Lena Water System. Dunn advised that he would contact Steve Woods with Lena Water System. Someone needs to backfill where the pipeline was put.

In other business, Karlton Methvin advised that Scott Equipment had informed him it would be 8 to 12 weeks before the equipment we ordered was delivered. Methvin also inquired of Ford Stinson as to whether he had looked at the tall grass that had been sprayed, but was not dying. Mr. Stinson advised that he had looked at it that day and that Edko would spray the area the following day.

Corkern presented to the Board the invoice from Randy LaCaze for the 2021-2022 capital outlay application he had submitted on behalf of NLDD. After further discussion and following public comment, a Motion was made by Nolan Jones, Jr. and seconded by Swafford to approve payment of the invoice from Randy LaCaze in the amount of \$1,500. This Motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Board a Motion was made by Sklar and seconded by Nolan Jones, Jr. to adjourn. The Motion passed unanimously.

Approved on the 8th day of December, 2020, at Natchitoches, Louisiana, at a regularly held meeting.

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