

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
NATCHITOCHEs LEVEE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT
November 14, 2017
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 November 14, 2017, 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
Rayburn Smith, Member
Mark Swafford, Member

Absent were:

Terry Sklar, Member
Casey Messenger, Member

Also present were:

Billy Dunn, Maintenance Superintendent
Brad Sticker, DOTD Engineer
Joe Stevenson

A Motion was made by Rayburn Smith and seconded by Billy Giddens to approve the minutes of the meeting for October, 2017. After public comments offered and none received, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the meeting for October, 2017.

A Motion was then made by Mark Swafford and seconded by Billy Giddens to approve the October, 2017 financial statement report. A discussion of the financial statement by the Board followed, and after public comments were offered and none received, the Motion passed unanimously.

President Methvin then introduced Mr. Joe Stevenson, owner and manager of JK Contracting Services, LLC. Mr. Stevenson gave

a presentation to the Board regarding a new product his company is offering in Louisiana for the first time. The product can be used for temporary or permanent flood prevention. Mr. Stevenson described to the Board how the product worked and the manner in which it was installed. He stated that the product had not yet been used in Louisiana, but had been used successfully in other states and offered endorsement letters from at least two states.

The maintenance report was given by Maintenance Superintendent, Billy Dunn. Mr. Dunn advised that his crew had cleaned Ditch L-4 all the way to Highway 1. He further informed the Board that when the State and the railroad cleaned their areas his crew would then finish cleaning all the way to Bayou Natchez.

Mr. Dunn also advised that his crew had cleaned the pipe out of the ditch at Allen. He also advised that downstream there was a lot of debris that they had cleared out as well. The crew had also cleaned out the W-1 Ditch as well.

Mr. Dunn also informed the Board that they had stated working on the installation of the gates at Marco. Ronald Corkern advised the Board that we had obtained from FEMA an extension of time until December 22, 2017 to complete this work. Dunn informed the Board that barring bad weather he felt certain they could complete the installation of the gates by the new deadline.

Brad Sticker, DOTD Engineer, reported that he had talked with the permit folks at the Corps of Engineers about getting a permit for an access ramp to the Cane River Lake Spillway. He will report further on the status of his permit request at the next meeting.

Mr. Sticker also advised the Board that he had received, but had not had an opportunity to review the video of the pipe inspections that were conducted on the Natchitoches side of the Red River. He will review those video inspections and report to the Board next month.

Sticker further informed the Board that the quarterly inspection by the State of the Federal levees would be conducted during the week of December 11.

President Methvin informed the Board that the video inspections of our pipes on the Natchitoches side of the river

had been sent to the Corps of Engineers. We will await a response from the Corps before making a determination as to what action, if any, the Board will take with regard to any of these pipes.

Mr. Methvin then lead a discussion with the Board regarding the annual inspection by the Corps of Engineers of the Campti-Clarence drainage channel and the Cane River drainage channel. The Corps of Engineers determined that these channels were "unacceptable" because of vegetation and growth. Of course, the Corps pointed out in its report that none of the vegetation or growth could be cut unless a wetlands permit was obtained. The Board discussed how it is really in a Catch-22. The drainage channel is determined to be unacceptable because of vegetation and growth, but the vegetation and growth cannot be removed because it is in a wetlands area.

In old business, Ronald Corkern reminded the Board of the Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana annual meeting which will be held in New Orleans December 6-7. At the present time, President Methvin, Board Member Messenger and Ronald Corkern have made reservations to attend.

In new business, Corkern discussed with the Board a claim by Ms. Kelly Carter for the value of a piece of fishing boat equipment that she believes was inadvertently hauled away during the cleaning of the ditch behind her house by SkyPlex Trucking, LLC. Corkern advised the Board that he had talked with Brian Jones, owner of SkyPlex Trucking, LLC and Mr. Jones had assured him that no one with his crew had either removed the piece of equipment or inadvertently hauled it off to the dump. COrkern also spoke with Ms. Carter who advised that the piece of equipment was leaning against a tree in her backyard the day before SkyPlex went on her property and during the cleaning of the ditch employees of SkyPlex placed debris and vegetation in the area of the tree and she believes it was inadvertently picked up and hauled away. Ms. Carter estimated the value of the fishing equipment to be \$350.00. Following further discussion, a Motion was made by Rayburn Smith and seconded by Mark Swafford to reimburse Ms. Kelly Carter the sum of \$350.00. The Motion passed unanimously and Corkern was instructed to issue a check to Ms. Carter in said amount.

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

Approved on the 12th day of December, 2017, at Natchitoches,
Louisiana, at a regularly held meeting.

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