

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
NATCHITOCHEs LEVEE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT
December 9, 2014
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 December 9, 2014, 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
Charles Brazzel, Jr., Member
Mark Swafford, Member
Rayburn Smith, Member

Absent were:

Billy Giddens, Member
Terry Sklar, Member

Also present were:

Jonathan Lachney, DOTD Engineer
Alan Sheppard
Billy Dunn

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 November, 2014 meeting were read and discussed. A Motion was made by Doris Rogé, and seconded by Mark Swafford, to approve the November, 2014 minutes. The Motion passed unanimously.

The November, 2014 financial statement was reviewed and discussed. A Motion was made by C. D. Brazzel, Jr. and seconded by Mark Swafford to approve the November, 2014 financial statement. The Motion passed unanimously.

The maintenance report was given by the Maintenance Superintendent, Billy Dunn. Mr. Dunn advised that his crew had finished cutting the levees. All of the equipment has been brought in and serviced.

He further advised that he and Brad Sticker road all of the levees and Brad made notes on the repairs that had been made since the inspection by the Corps of Engineers in 2012 and 2013. Brad will provide a report to Corkern addressing the insufficiencies noted by the Corps of Engineers and Corkern will forward that report to the Corps.

Mr. Dunn further advised the Board that we have seepage below the levee in two places down around Marco. The two places are actually about a mile apart. Brad Sticker is going to check with the Corps to see if they have any soil borings in the area and if they will do some soil borings so that we can determine the extent of the problem and devise a plan for correcting same. We will probably have to drill more than one well to accumulate the water. The remedy is going to be expensive, but we cannot address the cost until we know exactly how bad the problem is and devise a plan for addressing the problem.

Mr. Dunn further advised the Board that we still have some poles and power lines on the Russell Cook place to take down. These poles and power lines belong to SWEPCO. We have already removed a number of poles and power lines pursuant to written authorization from SWEPCO. SWEPCO will give us another letter authorizing us to remove the remaining poles and power lines. They are approximately 25 poles that will need to be removed.

Finally, Mr. Dunn advised that his crew had worked through all of the flood gates. The gates were opened and closed and serviced. This was done to all of the gates with the exception of the Hampton flood gates who the Corps suggested we not open and shut unless we needed to do so to control the water.

The employees will be off December 19 until January 5. The Board agreed unanimously that it would be in the best interest of the Natchitoches Levee and Drainage District for the employees to take annual leave, in addition to holidays, during this period of time.

Mr. Jonathan Lachney, DOTD Engineer, addressed the Board in the absence of Brad Sticker. Mr. Lachney again reviewed with the

Board the seepage underneath the levee at two different locations in the Marco area. He also reviewed the possible fixes.

Mr. Lachney further advised the Board that he and Mr. Sticker had reviewed the inspection report with respect to the State levees from Chopin to Cloutierville. The main issue is the need to address overhanging vegetation. Brad and Billy will get together to determine what needs to be done in this regard. Mr. Lachney also discussed the inspection made by Brad Sticker and Billy Dunn of all of the levees and the fact that Brad had prepared an inspection sheet showing all of the deficiencies noted by the Corps and had made notes indicating what repairs and/or modifications had been made by the NLDD.

Lachney further reported that the Cloutierville/Highway 495 project was still moving forward. They are in the process of finalizing plans and only a few changes were made on the last set of plans. It is still expected that they will be able to bid the project next March or April, and hopefully will begin work by July or August.

In other discussion, Mr. Brazzel commented on Corkern's letter to Secretary LeBas with DOTD requesting that DOTD purchase video equipment and the Natchitoches Levee and Drainage District would assist in the maintenance of that equipment. Mr. Brazzel indicated that Board Member Terry Sklar had video equipment and had mentioned we could rent or use the equipment at a reduced price. Corkern advised that because Mr. Sklar was a Board Member we could not contract with him for any services, even if we realized a savings.

President Karlton Methvin and Board Member Doris Rogé reported on the Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana Annual Meeting in New Orleans.

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 Board voted unanimously in favor of the Motion.

Approved on the 13th day of January, 2015, at Natchitoches, Louisiana, at a regularly held meeting.

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

