

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE  
NATCHITOCHEs LEVEE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT  
April 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 April 8, 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  
Billy Giddens, Member  
Charles Brazzel, Jr., Member  
Mark Swafford, Member  
Adolph Sklar, Jr. Member  
Rayburn Smith, Member

Absent were:

None

Also present were:

Brad Sticker, DOTD Engineer  
Billy Dunn, Foreman  
Jerry Longlois, Chairman of Cane River Waterway  
Alan Sheppard, Edko

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 President, Karlton Methvin.

The minutes of the March, 2014 meeting were read and discussed. A Motion was made by Adolph Sklar, Jr., and seconded by Charles Brazzel, Jr., to approve the March, 2014 minutes. The Motion passed unanimously.

The March, 2014 financial statement was reviewed and discussed. Following discussion, a Motion was made by Doris Rogé

and seconded by Rayburn Smith to approve the March, 2014 financial statement. This Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Jerry Longlois addressed the Board. Mr. Longlois advised that he is presently serving as Chairman of the Cane River Waterway Commission. His purpose for being at this meeting was to inform the Board of the progress of the Cane River Waterway Commission's project to pump water from Red River into Cane River Lake when necessary to maintain a stable water level. The water is going to be discharged initially into Bayou Poisson, and it may be necessary in the future to coordinate efforts to clean the Bayou. This may not be necessary, but he simply wanted to bring the Levee Board up-to-date as to the current progress and make them aware that there may need to be some work done in the future. There was further discussion regarding Bayou Poisson and the fact that depending on the work to be done, if any, wetlands permits may be required.

The maintenance report was given by Billy Dunn. Mr. Dunn advised that his crew was still cleaning right of ways and cutting grass. They had made the necessary repairs to the levee behind the sewer plant, and also had made repairs to the levee behind Mr. Solomon's place.

Mr. Dunn also advised that he had taken Mr. Hargis to look at the beaver dam on Mr. Sklar's place. Mr. Hargis hopes to be able to trap the beavers within the next couple of weeks, and following that they will break out the dam. There is no need to break out the dam until the beavers have been trapped because they would simply build it right back.

Mr. Dunn also advised that the annual inspection of the levees by the Corps of Engineers was scheduled to be in July. The exact date has not been determined.

The crew hopes to begin bushhogging all of the levees by May 13, 2014. They would like to be able to cut the levees twice before the Corps' inspection.

Mr. Dunn further advised that he would like for the Board to hire Mr. Jerry Nugent as a part time helper during the summer. Mr. Nugent is qualified to operate heavy equipment, and this would allow the other three employees, including himself, to cut grass. The Board requested Mr. Corkern to check on hiring temporary help and the rate of pay.

There was further discussion as to whether or not we should spray for thistles this year. Alan Sheppard with Edko advised that it was not too late to spray. Mr. Sheppard offered to spray for thistles and Johnson grass for the same price charged last year, i.e. \$126,500.00. A Motion was made by Billy Giddens and seconded by Mark Swafford to authorize Edko to spray for thistles and Johnson grass for the sum of \$126,500.00. The Motion passed unanimously.

The DOTD report was given by Brad Sticker. Mr. Sticker inquired as to whether we had received contract documents back from Regional Construction on the lower Cane River project. Corkern advised that we had not received the documents but would contact Regional Construction the next day.

Mr. Sticker further reported on Channel L-30. This is the channel that runs near Judge Harrington's newly constructed home. DOTD has completed the survey of the channel and Mr. Sticker is working on an estimate to remove the sediment. He expects to have the estimate ready for the next monthly Board meeting.

Mr. Sticker also discussed Channel L-10. He advised that he had inspected the channel and everything was okay expect some of the dirt needed to be spread.

Mr. Sticker also advised that the Larry Hampton contract had been completed. Everything is in alignment, but there is still a rub that has nothing to do with workmanship by the contractor. Mr. Sticker advised there were two possibilities as to what was causing the wear on the stem. Either the stem is bent; has improper threading, or there is a mismatch on the stem. He reported that a cast of the stem threads can be made and sent to an expert for this determination.

Ronald Corkern discussed with the Board the adoption of the millage rate which would come before the Board at the next meeting for final approval. There was further open discussion regarding the millage rate.

Corkern also presented the Board with the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement to be entered into between the Natchitoches Levee and Drainage District and DOTD for the repairs to Louisiana Highway 495/Cloutierville floodgate structures. A Motion was made by Doris Rogé and seconded by Rayburn Smith authorizing Karlton Methvin to execute the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement on

behalf of the Natchitoches Levee and Drainage District. This Motion passed unanimously.

A Motion was also made by Adolph Sklar, Jr. and seconded by Rayburn Smith to adopt Resolution No. 1 of 2014 authorizing President Karlton Methvin to issue final payment to the contractor upon receipt of the Clear Lien Certificate from the Natchitoches Parish Clerk of Court's Office with respect to the Larry Hampton floodgate repairs. The Resolution further authorized payment to the contractor at the present time of the amount due, less the retainage to be held until receipt of the Clear Lien Certificate. The Motion passed unanimously.

Corkern then reminded the Board of the annual workshop hosted by the Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana, which meeting will be held in Baton Rouge May 1 and 2. Doris Rogé and Janet Jones both advised that they would attend the meeting. Mr. Methvin indicated that he hoped to be able to attend the meeting, but it would depend on the weather and whether or not he could get away from planting.

In other business, Corkern was requested to write a letter to DOTD advising that they had permission to conduct a survey across landowners adjacent to Channel L-20. Corkern advised that he would write the letter the following week.

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

Approved on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2014, at Natchitoches, Louisiana, at a regularly held meeting.

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