

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
NATCHITOCHEES LEVEE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT
APRIL 11, 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 April 11, 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
Billy Giddens, Member
Mark Swafford, Member
Rayburn Smith, Member
Terry Sklar, Member
Charles Brazzel, Jr., Member

Absent were:

Doris Rogé, Member

Also present were:

Billy Dunn, Maintenance Superintendent
Brad Sticker, DOTD Engineer
Jeremy Gilbert, Edko, Inc.
Ford Stenson, Edko, Inc.

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, 2017 meeting were read and discussed. After public comments offered and none received, a Motion was made by Janet Jones, and seconded by Terry Sklar, to approve the March, 2017 minutes. The Motion passed unanimously.

The March, 2017 financial statement was reviewed and discussed. After public comments offered and none received, a Motion was made by Rayburn Smith and seconded by Marck Swafford to approve the March, 2017 financial statement. The Motion passed unanimously.

The maintenance report was given by Maintenance Superintendent, Billy Dunn. Mr. Dunn advised that there was a place north of Billy Giddens where his crew had done work on the toe of the levee. They were able to use the dirt that was there in repairing the toe of the levee and consequently did not have to make any purchases of material.

Mr. Dunn also advised that the L-4 ditch had been cleaned so that water could flow out better. His crew also sprayed all of the concrete structures to kill the weeds. Mr. Dunn advised that the employees would probably start bushhogging in the next week or two. They will work six days a week and need to cut the grass three times before the Court's inspection this summer. Mr. Dunn further advised that a few trees had fallen in the Powhatan area after the big wind. These trees have all been picked up and the area has been cleaned up, and there is no debris on the levee.

Mr. Dunn advised that the gates discussed at the last meeting had been placed. The structures at Cloutierville have logs backed up in the pipe and they are unable to close the gates at the present time. Finally, Mr. Dunn reminded the group that the Corps of Engineers will inspect the Natchitoches side of the levee July 31-August 3, and the Cmapti-Clarence side between August 14-17.

The DOTD report was given by Mr. Brad Sticker, DOTD engineer. Mr. Sticker advised that Mr. Talley had three wells that he is drilling on his property and all are within 1500' of the toe of the levee. He does not currently have a permit on any of the wells. Mr. Talley has been advised that he will need a permit and he intends to apply for an After-the-Fact permit on each well.

Mr. Sticker also advised that the non-federal levees had been inspected by the State and the report for the Powhatan levee showed that it was in excellent condition. The Cloutierville levee report indicated that it was also in good shape except for some overhanging limbs.

Karlton Methvin led a discussion regarding the need for a new trackhoe. Billy Dunn advised that our current trackhoe is 20 years old and is worn out. The Board discussed two bids that had been received for a trackhoe and Mr. Sklar noted that we did not have enough information to know if we were comparing apples and oranges or apples and apples. Mr. Sklar suggested that the Board needed a lot more information before making a decision on what

trackhoe to purchase and suggested that we take the two bids under advisement. President Methvin appointed a committee of Sklar, Rayburn Smith and himself to study the bids and make a recommendation at the next meeting.

Under new business, the adoption of the millage rage for the tax year 2017 was opened for public comments. After public comments offered and none received, a Motion was made by Janet Jones and seconded by Rayburn Smith to adopt the millage rate as set forth in the Resolution attached to these minutes. Brazzel, Jones, Methvin, Sklar, Smith, Swafford and Giddens voted in favor of the Resolution. There were zero nay votes, with Doris Rogé being absent.

In other business, the Board reviewed an invoice from Meyer, Meyer, LaCroix & Hixsen for engineering services in the amount of \$13,917 related to Project 007119.00 (Bayou Rachel Basin). Following public comment and none received, a Motion was made by Giddens and seconded by Swafford to approve payment of the invoice. The Motion passed unanimously.

Ronald Corkern then advised the Board that the Financial Disclosure Statements and online training must be completed by May 15, 2017. Thus far financial Disclosure Statements have been received and filed by Jones, Swafford, Giddens, and Smith. The online training has been completed by Swafford and Giddens. The Board was reminded to complete their Financial Disclosure Statements and online training before May 15 if they had not already done so.

Corkern then discussed with the Board the annual workshop sponsored by the Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana in Baton Rouge on May 4-5, 2017. Corkern advised that he had registered Methvin, Rogé, and Jones. However, he intended to cancel Mrs. Rogé's registration because of her illness and Mrs. Jones also advised that she would be unable to attend.

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

Approved on the 9th day of May, 2017, at Natchitoches, Louisiana, at a regularly held meeting.

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

