

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
NATCHITOCHEs LEVEE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT**

August 9, 2011

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 August 9, 2011, with a quorum being present, and roll was called as follows, to-wit:

Board Members present were:

Janet Jones, Secretary
Doris Rogé, Member
Charles Brazzel, Jr., Member
Karlton Methvin, President/Administrator
Mark Swafford, Member

Absent were:

Adolph Sklar, Jr. Member
Billy Giddens, Member
Rayburn Smith, Member

Also present were:

Nick Verrett, DOTD Engineer
Robert Vercher

The minutes from the July 12, 2011 meeting were reviewed. On Motion by Mark Swafford, seconded by Janet Jones, the July minutes were unanimously approved.

The July, 2011 Financial Statement was reviewed and discussed. A Motion was made by Doris Rogé and seconded by Charles Brazzel, Jr. to approve the July, 2011 Financial Statement. The Motion passed unanimously.

Nick Verrett advised that Board that DOTD had interviewed an applicant for Gary Eldridge's position who they were very pleased with, and they are hopeful that this individual will be employed and at our next Board meeting. He also inquired as to whether the permit request received from the Natchitoches Port Commission had been forwarded to the Corps of Engineers and Ronald Corkern

advised that it had. He stated that DOTD had received the permit request and reviewed same and we should be receiving DOTD's approval shortly.

With respect to the lower Cane River structure replacement, Mr. Verrett advised that the contractor is approximately 35% complete with the Ross Lake site. Operations thus far include mucking approximately 5' unuseable material, placing 5' of stone embankment to replace the muck area, placement of a metal pipe which was joined to the existing pipe, and the placement of approximately 8' to 10' of backfill. He also indicated that the concrete head wall footing had been poured and the stone revetment placed. Pay Request No. 1 has been submitted and forwarded to FP&C.

Robert Vercher advised that his crew was currently bushhogging the Dale Valley Levee and the Campti Levee. He also indicated that Nathan Albritton had purchased the Dale Valley place and he would talk to mr. Albritton about clearing the property that the Corps inquired about last year, but we later received a letter from an attorney in Alexandria stating that this portion of the levee was not within the system administered by the Corps of Engineers. Mr. Vercher further advised that they would move the dozer this week to the end of Williams Avenue so that they could work on the slope of the levee in that area. The Corps had complained about the slope of the levee last year during the inspection, but Robert was not certain exactly what needed to be done. During this year's inspection, David Dupré told him what he would like to see done and they will begin work on that later this week or the beginning of next week.

Mr. Vercher further advised that there were cattle washers on Mr. Miller's property that needed to be addressed. His group will work on that as soon as they can get to it. Finally, he stated that the new truck had been taken to the local Ford place because of problems with the starter. They learned that a recall had been issued with respect to the starter and the starter was replaced at no cost.

Doris Rogé reported on the levee inspection recently conducted by the Corps of Engineers. She rode with the Corps on the first day when they inspected the Campti Levee system. In general, David Dupré was very complementary of our levees and the work we had done to maintain them. Corkern advised that he had talked specifically with David Dupré about Roger Collum's

waterline and Danny Matt's waterline. Repair work had been made to the levee by both Mr. Collum and Mr. Matt.

Ronald Corkern advised that the Legislative Auditor had spent two days reviewing all checks, minutes of meetings, etc. He believes that we will get a good report from the auditor and hopefully there will be no findings. The auditor did inquire as to why we had not either bid or obtained three proposals for gas purchases. The Board discussed the fact that we do not have gas tanks and do not want to purchase tanks. Consequently, we cannot purchase gas in bulk from any of the suppliers and past experience has indicated Valley Farmers is the cheapest gas we are able to purchase.

Corkern further advised that with respect to the lower Cane River flood gate replacement there had been four change orders. At least one of the change orders was necessary because of an error in design. State law provides that when there is an error in design the State will only pay a certain percent of the increased cost. It was later determined that the cost to the Levee Board would only be about \$3,000.00.

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

Approved on the 12th day of September, 2011, at Natchitoches, Louisiana, at a regularly held meeting.

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