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| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | **TENSAS BASIN LEVEE DISTRICT**  **REGULAR MEETING** | | **Board of Commissioners** | | **Tuesday, October 10, 2023, at 9:30 AM** | | **505 District Drive Monroe, LA** | | **MINUTES** | | | In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations during this meeting should notify the Tensas Basin Levee District Board of Commissioners at 318-323-1130 at least three working days before the meeting. | | |  |
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**Roll Call**

Mr. Drew Keahey, the President, called the meeting to order and requested the Secretary call roll with the following present and answering:

PRESENT

Commissioner Antwain Downs  
President Drew Keahey  
Vice President Rodney Hutchins  
Commissioner Dick Zeagler  
Commissioner Robert Neal Harwell

Commissioner Ashley Peters

Commissioner Michelle Collum

ABSENT

Commissioner Mike Calloway

Commissioner Dustin Morris

Commissioner Kenneth Wilson

Commissioner Johnny Turner

Others in attendance were Mr. Brandon Waggoner, Executive Director, of Tensas Basin Levee District; Mr. Matt Varnell, Administrative Director, of Tensas Basin Levee District; Mr. Justin Holloway, Operations Superintendent, Tensas Basin Levee District; Mr. Dylan McIntosh DOTD.

**Prayer**

President Drew Keahey opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Comment on Agenda Items**

**Action**

**1. Minutes of the September 2023 Meeting**

Motion made by Commissioner Downs, Seconded by Commissioner Hutchins, and passed unanimously by the Board of Commissioners of the Tensas Basin Levee District, after President Drew Keahey called for public comments and there were none, to wit:

RESOLUTION

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Tensas Basin Levee District does hereby declare that the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting of Sept 12, 2023, is hereby dispensed with and declared approved as published in the official journal of this board, The News-Star.

Aundi Brown Drew Keahey

Secretary    President

**2.** **Bills for September 2023**

Motion made by Commissioner Peters, seconded by Commissioner Harwell, and passed unanimously by the Board of Commissioners of the Tensas Basin Levee District, after President Drew Keahey called for public comments and there were none, to wit:

RESOLUTION

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Tensas Basin Levee District does hereby approve paying of all bills reviewed and approved by the financial committee for September 2023.

Aundi Brown Drew Keahey

Secretary President

**3. Approve Aundi Brown as Secretary of the Tensas Basin Levee District Board**

Motion made by Commissioner Zeagler, seconded by Commissioner Peters, and passed unanimously by the Board of the Commissioners of the Tensas Basin Levee District, after President Drew Keahey called for public comments and there were none, to wit:

RESOLUTION

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Tensas Basin Levee District does hereby vote unanimously to name Aundi Brown the official Secretary of Tensas Basin Levee District Board of Commissioners this 10th day of October 2023.

Aundi Brown Drew Keahey

Secretary President

**4. Approve moving forward with the Davis Lake pump station project**

Mr. Waggoner states that Caldwell Parish has refused to issue an electrical permit for the Davis Lake Pump Station upgrades. Due to the nature of this project and its funding source. Mr. Waggoner has asked that the board approve moving forward with the project without a permit. FEMA is currently reviewing the request for a permit that was submitted by Caldwell Parish.

A motion was made by Vice-President Hutchins, and seconded by Commissioner Zeagler, to move forward with the Davis Lake pump station project.

RESOLUTION

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Tensas Basin Levee District does hereby approve moving forward with the Davis Lake Pump Station Project in Caldwell Parish.

Aundi Brown Drew Keahey

Secretary    President

**5. Approve Expanding the TBLD Drone Program**

The TBLD Team is actively using drones to help with the maintenance, construction, and levee upkeep projects along the levee system. They request that the board authorize purchases to expand that program and allow our drone pilot to purchase updated equipment to help expand the drone program totaling $25,000.00. A motion was made by Commissioner Zeagler & seconded by Commissioner Downs, to move forward with expanding the TBLD drone program.

RESOLUTION

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Tensas Basin Levee District does hereby approve the expansion of the TBLD drone program.

Aundi Brown Drew Keahey

Secretary    President

**6. Approve the Purchase of a Utility Trailer**

TBLD maintenance team has requested the purchase of a utility trailer to convert to a mobile command center to be used on maintenance projects, job sites, and flood fights.

A motion was made by Vice-President Hutchins, and seconded by Commissioner Harwell, to approve the purchase of a utility trailer.

RESOLUTION

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Tensas Basin Levee District does hereby approve the purchase of a utility trailer to be used as a mobile command center.

Aundi Brown Drew Keahey

Secretary    President

**6. Request Transfer of Campsite WBS-5 from E. David Morein (Executorship) Leasee Brian H. Morein desires to transfer the lease to Richard Barrett and Marsha Barrett.**

A motion was made by Vice-President Hutchins, and seconded by Commissioner Harwell, to approve the transfer of campsite WBS-5.

RESOLUTION

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Tensas Basin Levee District does hereby approve the transfer of campsite WBS-5 to Richard & Marsha Barrett.

Aundi Brown Drew Keahey

Secretary    President

**Public Comments**

**Presentations**

**Financial Statements**

Financial Statements were reviewed and discussed.

**Items for Discussion**

**TBLD will hold its annual ethics training after the November board meeting.**

**Levee Updates**

The Lee Lane project is complete, rock job is underway.

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:13 a.m.

Next Meeting November 14, 2023, 10:30 a.m.