

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
NATCHITOCHES LEVEE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT
January 14, 2025
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 to order at Valley Farmer's Co-Op, 250 Rapides Drive, Natchitoches, Louisiana, on January 14, 2025, with a quorum being present, and roll was called as follows, to-wit:

Board Members present were:

Karlton Methvin, President/Administrator
Mark Swafford, Member
Terry Sklar, Member
Casey Messenger Member
Nolan Jones, Jr. Member

Absent were:

Rayburn Smith, Member
Jolley Nash, Member
Travis Tyler, Member

Also present were:

Billy Dunn, Maintenance Superintendent
Jarmarquis Torrence, DOTD Engineer
Susan Douglas, Meyer, Meyer, Lacroix & Hixson
Jordan Lemoine, Edko, LLC
Ford Stinson, Edko, LLC
Grant Bryant

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Natchitoches Levee & Drainage District was called to order at 6:00 p.m by the President, Karlton Methvin.

The December, 2024 minutes were read and discussed. Following public comment, a Motion was made by Sklar and seconded by Jones to approve the December, 2024 minutes. The Motion passed unanimously.

The November, 2024 financial statement was not available at the last meeting and thus was reviewed and discussed. Following

public comment, a Motion was made by Swafford and seconded by Sklar to approve the November, 2024 financial statement. The Motion passed unanimously. Corkern advised that the December, 2024 financial statement was not ready at the time of the Board meeting and would be presented at the February, 2025 meeting. The Board then reviewed and discussed the check register for December, 2024. No action was required.

Mr. Grant Bryant introduced himself to the Board and explained that he was the son-in-law of former Board Member, Billy Giddens. He is farming the Giddens land on Highway 71. At the present time, the DOTD is relocating a bridge over Saline Bayou near where he crosses the highway with his farm equipment. They're elevating the bridge so that it goes over the levee. He explained to the Board that he was very concerned about crossing the highway with his equipment because the elevation of the bridge makes it impossible for him to see traffic coming over the bridge until that traffic is five seconds from where he crosses.

Jamarquis Torrence, DOTD Engineer, reviewed the plans for the work in this area and discussed with the Board and Mr. Bryant what the final construction in the area would be, and how this might be tweaked in order to move the area where Bryant crosses the road with his equipment further from the bridge. Mr. Methvin advised that this was a DOTD issue that the Levee Board had no control over, but certainly we did not providing input. Torrence advised that he was going to be meeting with an inspector for the project the following day and invited Mr. Bryant to attend this meeting on site.

The maintenance report was given by Billy Dunn, Maintenance Superintendent. Dunn advised that his crew had been working on L-25 ditch removing the trees and debris from that ditch. He further informed the Board that he had been in discussion with the Natchitoches Parish Administration regarding cleaning the ditch near the bridge on Blanchard Road. The Parish had agreed to provide trucks for all of the debris if Natchitoches Levee & Drainage District would provide the equipment and manpower to remove the debris and trees from the area of the bridge and load that onto the trucks. Mr. Dunn advised that they intended to perform this work the following Tuesday.

Susan Douglas, Meyer, Meyer, LaCroix & Hixsen, discussed FEMA certification with respect to that portion of the levee located inside the Natchitoches Port. Apparently the roadway within the Port used to be a part of the levee which was apparently taken out whenever the Port was built. It is

estimated that the roadway would have to be elevated one and a half to three feet in order to meet the requirements for FEMA certification.

Douglas also advised that she had received communication from Representative Mike Johnson's office advising that Natchitoches Parish was no longer in Representative Johnson's District. Natchitoches Parish is now in Representative Cleo Field's District. Douglas was advised that the need to repair the rock jetties near Powhatan had been forwarded to Senator Bill Cassidy's office, and his office is going to submit this repair work as an earmark in the next Legislative Session.

In other business, Karlton Methvin advised the Board that he had talked with Nick Verrett who had the responsibility for maintenance of the road on top of the levee that ran through the wildlife preserve near Marco. Nick advised that in the agreement entered into between the Parish and the wildlife preserve it states that the Parish has the responsibility for maintaining this road. Mr. Verrett was going to try to obtain a copy of this agreement and provide to NLDD, following which Corkern was requested to write a letter to Present John Salter reminding him that it is the Parish's responsibility to maintain this roadway and that we have been receiving complaints from citizens regarding the condition of the roadway.

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

Approved on the 11th day of February, 2025, at Natchitoches, Louisiana, at a regularly held meeting.

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