

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
NATCHITOCHES LEVEE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT
October 8, 2024
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 to order at Valley Farmer's Co-Op, 250 Rapides Drive, Natchitoches, Louisiana, on October 8, 2024, 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
Jolley Nash, Member
Nolan Jones, Jr., Member

Absent were:

Rayburn Smith, Member

Also present were:

Jordan Lemoine, Edko, LLC
Jarmarquis Torrence, DOTD Engineer
Susan Douglas, DOTD Levee Safety Engineer

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Natchitoches Levee & Drainage District was called to order at 7:00 p.m by the President, Karlton Methvin.

A Motion was made by Sklar and seconded by Jones to amend the agenda to adopt Resolution No. 3 of 2024 regarding appointing Ronald E. Corkern, Jr. to act on behalf of the Natchitoches Levee & Drainage District in all matters pertaining to FP&C Project No. 36-L26-24-01, including certifying requests for State disbursements. Following public comment, the Motion passed unanimously.

The August and September minutes were read and discussed. Following public comment, a Motion was made by Sklar and seconded

by Swafford to approve the August and September, 2024 minutes. The Motion passed unanimously.

The July, August and September, 2024 financial statements were reviewed and discussed. A Motion was made by Swafford and seconded by Jones to approve the July, August and September financial statements. The Motion passed unanimously.

The Maintenance Superintendent, Billy Dunn, was absent from the meeting and his report was given by President Karlton Methvin. Methvin advised the Board that the crew had been cleaning the ditches in Cloutierville and bush hogging the levees for the last time getting ready for the winter.

Jarmarquis Torrence, DOTD Engineer, gave an update on DOTD projects within Natchitoches Parish. Torrence provided a map of the Campti-Clarence levee elevations. He met with the Corps and was told that the Natchitoches levee would most likely be approved for accreditation, but the Campti-Clarence levee would not. Campti-Clarence has to be above 85%. The two mile stretch previously discussed has to be raised above 126'. The NLDD will need to do a permit to establish it was a high area and then became a maintenance problem. Even if declared maintenance problem the Corps will not pay for repairs. It is not going to be a cheap fix. The Corps is not looking at Black Lake at this point.

Torrence further discussed a permit received for a low water crossing. The property owner is wanting the low water crossing so that they can build a bridge in the area. The designs still have to be done for the bridge. Torrence wanted to know how much time the Board wanted to give the property owner to complete the bridge. Board requested that Torrence obtain the drawings for the briege so a decision could be made about approval of the permit. Board wants to be held harmless for any ownership and liability of the bridge.

Susan Douglas advised that the capitol outlay application had to be in by the end of the month. Board was previously given \$500,000 for Powhatan levee and 1.3 million for the Campti-Clarence levees. Corps doesn't care about Powhatan because it is not a federal levee. Additional money will be needed for the Campti-Clarence levees. She estimates it will cost about 1.2 million an acre and there are at least two acres that need to be restored. Previous cost estimate was just for the corners, but going straight across will cost more. Board doesn't believe just fixing the corners will be sufficient. Since the 2016 flood the

levee has probably lost about 15' because the revetment broke. She will prepare updated cost estimate.

Methvin advised the Board that the Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana annual meeting would be held in New Orleans on December 4 and 5. At the time of the meeting it was not known when the deadline for registering was, but knew it would be in November.

Methvin advised the Board that the Board was approved for Capital Outlay funding for the construction of Campti-Clarence levee setbacks for the Campti-Clarence Levee and the Powhatan Levee being FP&C Project No. 36-L26-24-01. For this project a resolution is necessary to appoint someone to act on behalf of the Natchitoches Levee & Drainage District in all matters pertaining to this project, including certifying requests for State disbursements. Following public comment, a Motion was made by Swafford and seconded by Sklar to adopt Resolution No. 3 of 2024 appointing Ronald E. Corkern, Jr., Attorney/Assistant Secretary, to act on behalf of the Natchitoches Levee & Drainage District in all matters pertaining to FP&C Project No. 36-L26-24-01, including certifying requests for State disbursements. This Motion passed unanimously.

Ronald Corkern, Attorney for the Board was not present for the meeting so the Board decided to defer discussion regarding Amendment No. 2 to the Professional Services Agreement with Meyer, Meyer, LaCroix & Hixon, Inc. until the next meeting.

The 2023-2024 Audit Report prepared by TWRU was reviewed and discussed. After public comment a Motion was made by Nash and seconded by Messenger to accept the audit report.

A Motion was then made by Jones and seconded by Nash to change the time of the monthly meeting from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. beginning with the November meeting. Following public discussion, the Motion passed unanimously.

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

Approved on the 12th day of November, 2024, at Natchitoches, Louisiana, at a regularly held meeting.

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