

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
NATCHITOCHE LEVEE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT
October 14, 2008
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 October 14, 2008, with a quorum being present, and roll was called as follows, to-wit:

Board Members present were:

Karlton Methvin, President/Administrator
Janet Jones, Secretary
Doris Rogé, Member
Alfred Bruning, Member
Gary Anderson, Member
Billy Giddens, Member
Adolph Sklar, Jr., Member

Board Members absent were:

Rayburn Smith, Member

Also present were:

Robert Vercher, Maintenance Superintendent
Nick Verrett, DOTD

The minutes from the August 12, 2008 meeting were discussed. On motion by Doris Rogé, seconded by Janet Jones the Minutes were approved. The August 12, 2008 minutes had previously been presented to the Board for their consideration at the meeting held on September 9, 2008, but approval of the minutes was deferred at that time because the attorney and assistant secretary, Ronald Corkern, was absent.

The minutes from the September 9, 2008 meeting were reviewed and discussed. On motion by Doris Rogé, seconded by Janet Jones, the Minutes of the meeting of September 9, 2008 were approved.

The September, 2008 Financial Statement was reviewed and discussed. On motion by Adolph Sklar, Jr., seconded by Gary Anderson, the September, 2008 Financial Statement was approved.

The Maintenance Report was given by Robert Vercher. He reported that one of our bushhogs was not working properly. After further discussion he was authorized to take the tractor and bushhog to John Deere to be repaired. Mr. Vercher advised that his crew had finished all mowing on the levees and stated that they would now check the flood gates and begin inspecting and cleaning the canals and ditches.

The DOTD report was given by Nick Verrett. He reported that at the present time his office did not have a water resource engineer. They were in the process of interviewing to fill that position. He advised that until that position was filled he will continue to assist the Natchitoches Levee & Drainage District.

Mr. Verrett then reviewed with the Board his letter of October 10, 2008 to Mr. Karlton Methvin regarding the culvert crossing and lateral L-18 on David McGraw's property. It was DOTD's recommendation that, in the absence of an evaluation by a competent engineer showing that the structure would result in no potential for adverse upstream effects, that the Board refuse to grant a permit for this culvert.

David McGraw was present at the meeting and asked to speak on the issue. He informed the Board that the exact same culvert had been in existence for many years and had never resulted in any increased upstream effects. In fact, there were several other residents present at the meeting who presented the Board with an affidavit wherein they agreed with the practice of annually closing the gate on the tank car in the Bayou La Carp drain for a 2-3 day period in order to pool water to fill the adjacent crawfish ponds. The Board asked for a legal opinion and Ronald Corkern advised that even though the culvert had been in existence for a long time without incident, from a legal standpoint the Board should follow the recommendation by the DOTD or they would be faced with liability in the event an adverse situation occurred in the future. David McGraw agreed to obtain an engineer to study the situation and present his findings to the Board at a later date.

Karlton Methvin gave the Administrator's Report. He advised that he had ridden the Levees with the Corps of Engineers for their annual inspection. He further advised that the Corps of Engineers is going to strictly enforce the 6' right of way and any encroachments within that right of way they are going to require them to be removed. He further informed the Board that the contractor was nearing completion of the rock application on

the west bank, but that it appeared the Corps of Engineers was of the opinion in some places the rock did not meet the specifications.

Janet Jones made a motion to supplement the agenda by adding a motion to change the time of the Board meetings to 6:00 p.m. The motion to amend the agenda was seconded by Doris Rogé and passed unanimously. Janet Jones then made a motion to move the time of the monthly meeting of the Natchitoches Levee & Drainage District to 6:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. This motion was seconded by Doris Rogé and passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Adolph Sklar, Jr. and seconded by Alfred Bruning to supplement the agenda by adding to it the proposed sale of property owned by the Natchitoches Levee & Drainage District near Cloutierville. The motion to supplement the agenda was approved unanimously. A motion was then made by Adolph Sklar, Jr. and seconded by Gary Anderson to have the property at Cloutierville declared surplus property and advertise same for sale. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was then made by Jones, seconded by Rogé, to authorize Karlton Methvin to execute the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the State of Louisiana and the Natchitoches Levee & Drainage District in order to obtain the \$200,000.00 in funds necessary to begin engineering relative to the Marco Flood Gates. This motion passed unanimously

The Board reviewed the annual budget for 2008-2009. On motion by Adolph Sklar, Jr., seconded by Gary Anderson, the Operating Budget for July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 was approved and adopted.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Approved on the 11th day of November, 2008, at Natchitoches, Louisiana, at a regularly held meeting.

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