

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE  
NATCHITOCHEES LEVEE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT  
October 13, 2015  
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 13, 2015, with a quorum being present, and roll was called as follows, to-wit:

Board Members present were:

Karlton Methvin, President/Administrator  
Doris Rogé, Member  
Billy Giddens, Member  
Mark Swafford, Member  
Rayburn Smith, Member  
Terry Sklar, Member

Absent were:

Janet Jones, Secretary  
Charles Brazzel, Jr., Member

Also present were:

Brad Sticker, DOTD Engineer  
Billy Dunn, Foreman  
Alan Shephard, Edko, Inc.  
Jeff Bonial, H&E

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors 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 Terry Sklar and seconded by Doris Rogé to amend the agenda to authorize the purchase of a 6.5' disk. Following public comment, the Motion to amend the agenda passed unanimously.

The minutes of the September, 2015 meeting were read and discussed. Following public comments, a Motion was made by Rayburn Smith and seconded by Mark Swafford, to approve the September, 2015 minutes. The Motion passed unanimously.

The August and September, 2015 financial statements were reviewed and discussed. Following public comment, a Motion was made by Terry Sklar and seconded by Rayburn Smith to approve the August and September financial statements. This Motion passed unanimously.

The maintenance report was given by Maintenance Superintendent, Billy Dunn. Mr. Dunn reported that his crew had sprayed all of the State levees. They had received a quote of \$2,600 to disk the State levees. He advised the Board that we probably have approximately six miles of levees that would need to be disked. The proposal of \$2,600 included two passes with a 6.5' disk. Following discussion, the Board was of the opinion that two passes would not be enough to cover the area that needed to be disked, and that a 6.5' disc could be purchased for less than \$2,600 and we could do the work ourselves. Karlton Methvin advised the Board that he had obtained quotes from Goldman, Weeks Tractor and Patrick Miller for a 6.5' disk. Following further discussion, a Motion was made by Mark Swafford and seconded by Rayburn Smith to purchase the disk from Goldman at a cost of \$1,890. The Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Dunn further advised the Board that his crew had lost an engine in one of the tractors and that has caused them to be behind in mowing. The tractor had just gone out of warranty. However, because there was only approximately 1,000 hours on the tractor, John Deere agreed to pay for the parts and we pay for the labor. The labor cost was approximately \$6,000.

Mr. Dunn further advised that his crew had finished work at Marco involving Channel L-34 and other channels. The dirt in the area had been smoothed and planted.

Dunn advised that the crew was continuing to cut grass with one tractor and trying to finish cleaning up for the winter. This would be the last grass cutting until spring.

Dunn also advised that the crew was working on the pipes at Hampton. They now have all three of the pipes out of the ground. There was discussion regarding the need to rent a 12" bucket to go on our backhoe so that they could cut in between the pipes. Terry Sklar suggested that Dunn contact H&E to see if they either had a 12" bucket they would allow us to use, or if not, perhaps they had a mini hoe they would demonstrate for a day at no charge. If unsuccessful, the Board advised Mr. Dunn that he was

authorized to rent either a 12" bucket or a mini hoe for a day in order to complete the work at Hampton.

Dunn also advised that he needed to rent a Wacker Packer for a day and the Board authorized Mr. Dunn to rent this equipment for H&E.

In other business, Mr. Dunn advised the Board that he had met that day with Mr. Mark Serbanik at his home at 606 Keys Circle. Mr. Serbanik had contacted Ronald Corkern concerning trees in our ditch behind his home that were leaning over his garage and house. Mr. Serbanik was seeking permission to remove the trees or at least that portion that was in danger of falling on his home and was requesting assistance from the Natchitoches Levee & Drainage District. Dunn met Serbanik to view the property and reported to the Board that there were indeed trees that were in danger of falling on his home. The Board discussed the need to have these trees removed by a professional since the Board did not possess the necessary equipment to take down large trees from the top down. Following further discussion, the Board directed Mr. Corkern to advise Mr. Serbanik that he had permission to remove the trees in question and upon submission of the cost associated with the removal, the Board would consider sharing in that cost at its next monthly meeting.

Mr. Brad Sticker, DOTD Engineer, reported on the cost estimate on the East Natchitoches drainage ditches (L-30, etc.) He had forwarded this cost estimate to Ronald Corkern, who in turn had forwarded same to Senator Long, Mayor Posey and Parish Administrator, Rick Nowlin. Corkern advised that he was attempting to schedule a meeting between all of the parties concerned in an effort to obtain funding to perform the work outlined in Mr. Sticker's cost estimate.

Mr. Sticker also advised that he had updated Phase III of the capital outlay request. Corkern will meet with Randy LaCaze to determine if this request for capital outlay is already in the system, or if it needs to be filed again this year.

Sticker also advised that the contractor working on Highway 495 at Clourtierville will replace all of the sheet piling as a change order. The total cost of this change order is \$130,100, of which the Natchitoches Levee & Drainage District will owe 10%. After public comment, a Motion was made by Terry Sklar, and seconded by Doris Rogé, authorizing the payment of 10% of the

cost associated with this change order. The Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sticker also advised the Board that once Billy Dunn's group completed their work on the State levees he would then contact Baton Rouge to inspect those levees. This will probably take place some time next month.

Mr. Sticker also advised that the State would inspect the lower Cane River dam next month as well.

Ronald Corkern advised the Board that he had renewed, on behalf of the NLDD, Commercial Policy No. GWPKG0118305, and had rejected uninsured bodily injury coverage. Following further discussion, a Motion was made by Rayburn Smith and seconded by Doris Rogé to ratify Corkern's action in rejecting uninsured bodily injury coverage. The Motion passed unanimously.

The Board then discussed the lease of a dozer, and the quotes received from Doggett, H&E and Goldman. During discussion it was determined that the Board should accept the lease proposal from H&E. Although this monthly lease was slightly more than the monthly lease from Doggett, the proposal was better overall because it included all preventive maintenance during the three-year term of the lease. Following public comment, a Motion was made by Terry Sklar and seconded by Rayburn Smith to enter into a monthly lease with H&E for the lease of a dozer for a period of three years. The Motion passed unanimously.

Finally, a Motion was made by Doris Rogé and seconded by Terry Sklar to change the meeting time for the monthly meetings of the Board of Commissioners to 6:00 p.m., effective November 10, 2015. Following public comment, a Motion was made to change the meeting time. The Motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Board, a Motion was made by Doris Rogé and seconded by Terry Sklar to adjourn. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the Motion.

Approved on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2015, at Natchitoches, Louisiana, at a regularly held meeting.

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

