

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
NATCHITOCHEs LEVEE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT
December 13, 2022
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 December 13, 2022, with a quorum being present, and roll was called as follows, to-wit:

Board Members present were:

Karlton Methvin, President/Administrator
Rayburn Smith, Member
Mark Swafford, Member
Terry Sklar, Member
Jolley Nash, Member
Nolan Jones, Jr. Member

Absent were:

Casey Messenger Member
Mary Jones, Secretary

Also present were:

Billy Dunn, Maintenance Superintendent
Jonathan Lachney, DOTD Engineer
Jarmarquis Torrence, DOTD Engineer
Susan Douglas, DOTD Levee Safety Engineer
Paul Trimble, Meyer, Meyer, Lacroix & Hixson
Donald Forrester, Director of Public Works for City of
Natchitoches
Nick Verrett, City of Natchitoches Engineer

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

The November, 2022 minutes were read and discussed. Following public comment, a Motion was made by Swafford and seconded by Jones to approve the November, 2022 minutes. The Motion passed unanimously.

The October, 2022 financial statement was reviewed and discussed. Following public comment, a Motion was made by Smith and seconded by Swafford to approve the October, 2022 financial statement. The Motion passed unanimously.

The November Financial Statement was not ready and was deferred to the January meeting.

Nick Verrett, City of Natchitoches Engineer, advised the Board that the drainage ditch along Royal Street was overgrown with shrubs and bushes, and requested the Levee Board's help in cleaning this out. Mr. Verrett advised that the City was willing to commit dump trucks to haul away the sediment if the Levee Board could provide the equipment to remove the sediment from the ditch. Mr. Donald Forrester, Public Works Director for the City of Natchitoches, also explained to the Board the issues that they were having. Following further discussion, it was agreed that Donald Forrester, Nick Verrett, and Billy Dunn would inspect the ditch together, following which Billy Dunn would report to the Board on their findings and make a recommendation.

The maintenance report was given by Billy Dunn, Maintenance Superintendent. Mr. Dunn advised that his crew had fixed the Hampton gate, as well as all four gates located at the spillway, and all gates were now in good working order. He further advised that his crew had ridden all of the levees and fixed all of the swinging gates that needed to have work done on them. They have also worked the sluice gates which they do once a year.

At the present time the crew is working on the ditch in Natchez, which work was requested by the Mayor of Natchez. They are cleaning out the trash and debris from those areas they are able to get to.

Mr. Dunn further informed the Board that they had brought all of the Levee Board equipment into the shop and were serving it during the winter months.

Finally, Dunn advised that his crew will take off December 23, 2022 through January 8, 2023.

Jarmarquis Torrence, DOTD Engineer, advised that DOTD was going to do a survey of Cane River Lake up to Hampton Road. Following this survey they will be able to determine exactly where our levees are considered to be low. These findings will be reported to the Levee Board as soon as the survey is complete.

Paul Trimble reported on the projects his firm is currently dealing with. He advised that bids for the projects currently funded through Capitol Outlay have been advertised in the *Natchitoches Times*. Bid opening will be at the next Board meeting in January, 2023.

He also reported on the slip lining which was put in a year ago and which recent video revealed a crack. He spoke with the contractor who put in the slip lining, and he has agreed to fix the slip lining in the pipe that is cracked.

Finally, Mr. Trimble advised that the watershed initiative for East Natchitoches has been submitted to the Corps for their consideration.

Karlton Methvin advised that we had received two bids for repair/replacement of the handrails at the Hampton gates. The bids were opened and reviewed, and a Motion was made by Sklar and seconded by Jones to accept the bid from Johnny's Welding Service for repair/replacement of the handrails at the Hampton gates.

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

Approved on the 10th day of January, 2023, at Natchitoches, Louisiana, at a regularly held meeting.

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