

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
NATCHITOCHEs LEVEE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT
March 9, 2021
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 in the Natchitoches Municipal Building, 560 Second Street, Natchitoches, Louisiana, on March 9, 2021, 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
Rayburn Smith, Member
Nolan Jones, Jr. Member
Casey Messenger Member

Absent were:

Mary Jones, Secretary
Jolley Nash, Member

Also present were:

Jordan Lemoine, EDKO
Susan Douglas, DOTD Levee Safety Engineer
Jarmarquis Torrence, DOTD Engineer
Jonathan Lachney, DOTD Engineer

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.

The February, 2021 minutes were read and discussed. Following public comment, a Motion was made by Swafford and seconded by Messenger to approve the February, 2021 minutes. The Motion passed unanimously.

The February, 2021 financial statement was reviewed and discussed. Following public comment, a Motion was made by Sklar and seconded by Smith to approve the February, 2021 financial statement. This Motion passed unanimously.

The Maintenance Superintendent's report was given by Karlton Methvin. Methvin gave an update on the medical status of our Maintenance Superintendent, Billy Dunn. Dunn has an appointment on April 7, 2021 with his treating physician and hoped to find out at that appointment if he would be able to return to work. Methvin also advised that he had received a call from the Corps of Engineers advising that they were going to do their annual inspection on March 22, 2021. Methvin called Rodney Nordby and advised that we had only received last year's annual inspection report in February of this year and that it did not seem reasonable to allow the NLDD only 6 weeks to correct the deficiencies. The Corps agreed to push back this year's inspection to a later date.

Jarmarquis Torrence advised that he would be riding the levees during the upcoming week with Susan Douglas and addressing everything in the Corps' inspection report. He or Susan would be able to address those areas where corrective action needed to be taken at the next Board meeting.

Susan Douglas reported on her efforts to get the scope of work previously approved in Capitol Outlay changed since the scope of work approve in the Capitol Outlay bill was for the same work that is going to be funded by FEMA. Ms. Douglas advised that she talked with the State the week before who said that we would not get any money in Capitol Outlay and would not be able to make the changes we requested. Douglas remained persistent and eventually the lady said that she may have a way and would call back. Approximately an hour later the lady called Ms. Douglas and suggested we ask that all of it be put in P-1 money and included and included in House Bill No. 2. Douglas and Corkern will continue their efforts in this regard.

In other business, Corkern reminded the Board that financial disclosure statements were due by May 15, 2021. He also reminded the Board that each member needed to complete their online ethics training.

Methvin advised that Board that the current lease on our backhoe was due to expire. A discussion followed as to whether the Board should lease a new backhoe or purchase the existing backhoe. Methvin advised that he would get with Billy Dunn and check further into the pros and cons of a new lease versus purchase of the existing backhoe and report at the next meeting.

Corkern advised the Board that the inspection report received from the Corps of engineers in February, 2021 gave the Campti-Clarence levee system an "unacceptable" rating, which means we would be entitled to no federal funds in the event of flooding. The basis for the unacceptable rating is a bond on the landside of the levee that is adjacent to the toe of the levee. This pond is located on property owned by John Talley. Corkern was instructed by the Board to investigate further and meet with Mr. Talley regarding this encroachment. Rayburn Smith and Mark Swafford volunteered to attend the meeting with Mr. Talley.

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

Approved on the 13th day of April, 2021, at Natchitoches, Louisiana, at a regularly held meeting.

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