

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE  
NATCHITOCHEES LEVEE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT  
April 12, 2016  
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 April 12, 2016, 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  
Billy Giddens, Member  
Mark Swafford, Member  
Rayburn Smith, Member

Absent were:

Charles Brazzel, Jr., Member  
Terry Sklar, Member

Also present were:

Brad Sticker, DOTD Engineer  
Jonathan Lachney, DOTD  
Billy Dunn, Foreman  
Jeremy Gilbert, Edko, Inc.  
Ford Stenson, Edko, Inc.

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.

Following public comments a Motion was made by Mark Swafford and seconded by Rayburn Smith to supplement the agenda to consider a proposal for spraying submitted by Edko, Inc. The Motion passed unanimously.

A Motion was also made by Rayburn Smith and seconded by Mark Swafford to authorize payment to Allen Shephard for his work in preparing a request for proposal related to spraying and detailed

maps of the levee and/or ditches to be sprayed. Following public comment, this Motion to supplement the agenda was approved unanimously.

The minutes of the March, 2016 meeting were read and discussed. Following public comments, a Motion was made by Doris Rogé, and seconded by Mark Swafford, to approve the March, 2016 minutes. The Motion passed unanimously.

The March, 2016 financial statement was reviewed and discussed. Following public comment, a Motion was made by Billy Giddens and seconded by Mark Swafford to approve the March, 2016 financial statement. This Motion passed unanimously.

The maintenance report was then given by the Maintenance Superintendent, Billy Dunn. Mr. Dunn reviewed with the Board the various problems encountered during the recent flood, as well as problems that have been discovered since the water went down. Among the items discussed by Mr. Dunn was the fact that work needed to be done on the two pipes at Dell Valley. The structure holding these pipes washed away. This is a State levee that will need to be repaired because there is no structure to hold the flap gate up now. We will probably have to build a structure to hold up the flap gate. The Board requested Mr. Brad Sticker, DOTD Engineer, to inspect these pipes and make a recommendation relative to repairs.

Mr. Dunn also reported that an area at Flat Bayou had washed out in the area of the gates. We can repair with our employees, but may have to bring in additional rock and dirt.

Mr. Dunn also advised that we are now dry enough to start collecting debris left by the recent high water. His crew will start at Marco and work north. The crew will start working six days a week and continue until all of the debris is collected and repairs are made. Mr. Dunn advised that they had already filled up the hole at Flat Bayou. It took over 3,000 yards of dirt to make those repairs.

Mr. Dunn also discussed the tree on Highway 6 that he had brought to the Board's attention the previous month. They received two bids for removing the tree. The lowest bid was from Bynog for \$900. A Motion was made by Rayburn Smith and seconded by Mark Swafford to accept the bid from Bynog Tree Service in the amount of \$900. Following public discussion, this Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Dunn also discussed the need to look at a permanent levee where the temporary levee was placed last June in the Campti-Clarence area. Following further discussion, it was agreed that we needed input from the Corps of Engineers as to what was needed in that area.

Mr. Dunn and Mr. Sticker also discussed the need for video inspection of all of the pipes. Every pipe in our system needs to be video inspected.

There as additional discussion among the Board members and Mr. Dunn regarding whether to leave the plug in the Chivary Dam or take it out. Following discussion, the Board instructed Mr. Dunn to leave the plug at least until Brad Sticker was able to complete his analysis and a decision could be made as to what should be done in that area.

Mr. Brad Sticker, DOTD Engineer, reported that the pipes on the Campti-Clarence levee have to be inspected. We know that these pipes are in need of repairs. We also know that repairs will have to be made at Chivary and at Mr. Billy Gidden's place. Mr. Sticker advised that there are low spots in the levee. The Board has to decide what level of risk the Board wishes to protect against. In other words, do we wish to protect against the 100-year flood or the 1000-year flood. Mr. Sticker is going to request a survey of the levee in the Clarence area so as to get an updated profile in that section of the levee that is low and so that an analysis can be made as to whether the levee should be raised, and if so to what height. This will include obtaining data from the National Weather Service on how the March event measured up against historical data. Mr. Sticker will make an analysis and report back to the Board.

Mr. Sticker also advised the Board that as soon as possible we need to get to the structure at Chivary and de-water it so that we can assess what repairs are necessary. There was a dirt slide near the ramp in that area that has to be repaired as quickly as possible.

In other business, Mr. Corkern advised the Board that everyone's financial disclosures as required by the Louisiana Board of Ethics would be due May 15, 2016. Mrs. Rogé and Mrs. Jones provided Corkern a copy of their Financial Disclosures and he will file same on their behalf. Mr. Billy Giddens had already filed his Financial Disclosure.

Corkern also advised the Board that the Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Workshop would be held in Baton Rouge May 5 and 6. Karlton Methvin, Doris Rogé, Janet Jones and Mr. Corkern will attend that workshop.

There was additional discussion regarding the equipment owned by Natchitoches Levee and Drainage District and the insurance needed on that equipment. It was determined that the equipment that is under lease was insured under the terms of the lease and would not need additional coverage.

A discussion then followed regarding an application to FEMA for reimbursement for money spent during and as a result of the March, 2016 flood. Following public discussion, a Motion was made by Rayburn Smith and seconded by Janet Jones to contract with Tina Coffey to file an application with FEMA and all paperwork required to make a claim under Disaster 4263, including acting as liaison between Natchitoches Levee & Drainage District and FEMA personnel.

The Board then reviewed the job applications for Mobile Equipment 1 Operator/Heavy. Karlton Methvin appointed a committee of Mark Swafford, himself and Billy Giddens to review the applications and interview any applicants the committee wished to interview. A Motion was then made by Rayburn Smith and seconded by Doris Rogé to allow the Karlton Methvin to hire, immediately, any applicant which the committee recommended.

A Motion was then made by Mark Swafford and second by Billy Giddens to accept the spraying proposal from Edko, Inc. dated April 12, 2016 in the total amount of \$115,302.00. Following public discussion, Methvin, Rogé, Giddens, Swafford, and Jones voted in favor of the Motion. Rayburn Smith voted against the Motion. The Motion passed by a vote of 5 to 1.

Finally, a Motion was made by Rayburn Smith and seconded by Mark Swafford to approve payment of the invoice received from Allen Shephard for preparation of a request for proposal and maps for spraying during the calendar year 2016. Following public discussion, this Motion passed unanimously.

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

Approved on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2016, at Natchitoches,  
Louisiana, at a regularly held meeting.

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