

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
NATCHITOCHEs LEVEE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT
September 12, 2023
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 at Valley Farmer's Co-Op, 250 Rapides Drive, Natchitoches, Louisiana, on September 12, 2023, with a quorum being present, and roll was called as follows, to-wit:

Board Members present were:

Karlton Methvin, President/Administrator
Mark Swafford, Member
Rayburn Smith, Member
Casey Messenger Member
Nolan Jones, Jr. Member

Absent were:

Terry Sklar, Member
Jolley Nash, Member

Also present were:

Jordan Lemoine, Edko, LLC
Ford Stinson, Edko, LLC
Jarmarquis Torrence, DOTD Engineer
Susan Douglas, DOTD Levee Safety Engineer
Paul Trimble, Meyer, Meyer, Lacroix & Hixson

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Natchitoches Levee & Drainage District was called to order at 7:00 p.m by the President, Karlton Methvin.

The August minutes were read and discussed. Following public comment, a Motion was made by Swafford and seconded by Jones to approve the August, 2023 minutes. The Motion passed unanimously.

The July, 2023 financial statement was reviewed and discussed. The August, 2023 financial statement was not available at the time of the meeting and will be presented for review at the meeting in October. A Motion was made by Smith and

seconded by Messenger to approve the July financial statement. The Motion passed unanimously.

The maintenance report was given by Maintenance Superintendent, Billy Dunn. Dunn advised his crew had finished cutting all of the Federal levees, and were currently repairing the crown of the levee at Shivery Dam. The crew was also working on the L-20 ditch, including cleaning and removing debris. They have also removed trees and limbs on all of the levees that resulted from the storm that passed through the parish a couple of weeks earlier.

Jarmarquis Torrence, DOTD Engineer, advised that DOTD had not inspected the State levees, and he is not sure when that will get done because they are working shorthanded. He also discussed information requested from the Corps of Engineers relative to drainage in Natchitoches Parish. He advised that the LWI is doing a statewide drainage project that will include Natchitoches Parish, and DOTD intends to wait for that project to be completed and at that time will provide the information to the Corps of Engineers.

Susan Douglas, DOTD Levee Safety Engineer, and Paul Trimble, Engineer, discussed the recent meeting held at Grand Ecore with representatives from the Corps of Engineer. Apparently, the Corps has indicated that with a small amount of work on the levee near Hargis Road the Natchitoches levee can be FEMA certified. There is a small section of the levee that needs to be raised approximately four inches. Trimble gave an estimate of \$115,000.00 to raise this portion of the levee with dirt. If the levee is raised with dirt and then capped with stone, the cost will be in the neighborhood of \$295,000.00. Trimble further advised that there is \$295,000.00 left in the Lower Cane River project funding. A discussion followed as to whether we might be able to get the State to allow us to amend that Capital Outlay Project so that the money can be spent on raising the levee near Hargis Road approximately four inches so as to qualify for FEMA certification. The Board asked Corkern to check with Senator Bernard and try to arrange a meeting with the appropriate individual(s) in Baton Rouge to determine if it is possible to amend this Capitol Outlay Project.

In other business, Corkern advised the Board of the annual meeting of the Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana to be held in New Orleans December 6-7. Corkern informed the Board that the deadline for registering is November 2, 2023 and that

anyone that wished to attend should notify Tina so that she can register them for the conference.

Corkern distributed a copy of the audit prepared by Broussard & Company, Certified Public Accountants. The audit was discussed and approved by the Board.

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

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

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