

19th Louisiana Levee District

Minutes of the Meeting
January 8, 2025

Call to order by President Gordon Smith
Members Present: Gordon Smith, Bill Dean
Absent: Fren Allen
Guests Present: Jarmarquis Torrence and Logan Monk DOTD
Also Present: Fran Demers, Clerk

President Gordon Smith called the meeting to order. Member Bill Dean moved to accept the minutes of the December 11, 2024 meeting as read, seconded by Gordon Smith.

Mr. Smith and Mr. Dean discussed current CD rates, and said Evangeline Bank had quoted 4.5% as its current rate. They then suggested contacting other area banks including Southern Heritage, Bank of Montgomery and Sabine Bank for rates.

Mr. Jamarquis Torrence of DOTD said he had nothing new to report from his agency.

Bill Dean said he received a report of water leaks on the levee in Colfax from GPSO Deputy Barney Eubanks, supervisor of the mowing crew. Mr. Eubanks said a resident had pointed out the problem. Mr. Dean said that the water lines currently running through the levee need to be relocated (going over instead of through). He also stated that he had seen plans drawn for the new water system in Colfax that showed new lines would be installed through the levee, and he advised Pan American Engineers, the firm designing and spearheading the project, that putting the lines in the levee was unacceptable, advising them they can't bore through the levee. He said the plans were sent back for revision and the contractor Womack & Sons was informed of the restrictions. He added that Brent Spier, inspector for Pan American, would be watching for any work done near the levee.

Mr. Dean also said the GPSO mowing crew needs to notify the levee board about any leaks observed while mowing.

Mr. Torrence said that improper installation of water lines on levees happens occasionally in other locations and if observed, the work would be stopped or a permit would be required to continue.

The members agreed that whenever water lines were placed on the levee, proper installation must be done. They also discussed that several trees were reported down in Colfax on the levee and should be taken care of.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.