

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
NATCHITOCHEs LEVEE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT
October 10, 2017
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 October 10, 2017, with a quorum being present, and roll was called as follows, to-wit:

Board Members present were:

Karlton Methvin, President/Administrator
Janet Jones, Secretary
Billy Giddens, Member
Rayburn Smith, Member
Mark Swafford, Member
Terry Sklar, Member
Casey Messenger, Member

Absent were:

Doris Rogé, Member

Also present were:

Billy Dunn, Maintenance Superintendent
Mike Defalco, CPA
Jeremy Gilbert, Edko, Inc.
Ford Stenson, Edko, Inc.
Sylvester Sers

A Motion was made by Terry Sklar and seconded by Rayburn Smith to amend the agenda to approve payment of the invoice from SkyPlex Trucking, LLC for cleaning the ditch in East Natchitoches. After public comments offered and none received, the Motion to amend the agenda passed unanimously.

A Motion was then made by Mark Swafford and seconded by Terry Sklar to amend the agenda to approve payment of those bills received from Murphy's Metal. After public comments offered and none received, the Motion to amend the agenda was passed unanimously.

A Motion was then made by Mark Swafford and seconded by Billy Giddens to approve the minutes of the meetings from August and September, 2017. After public comments offered and none received, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the meetings for August and September, 2017.

A Motion was then made by Rayburn Smith and seconded by Billy Giddens to approve the August and September, 2017 financial statement reports. A discussion of the financial statements by the Board followed, and after public comments were offered and none received, the Motion passed unanimously.

President Methvin then introduced Mr. Mike Defalco. Mr. Defalco is with the CPA firm that audited the Levee Board books for 2016-2017. Mr. Defalco reviewed in detail the audit report with the Board. He advised that the Levee Board had approximately 2.1 million dollars in reserves which was approximately \$160,000 more than last year. Our equity went up by about \$25,000.

Mr. Methvin then introduced Mr. Sylvester Sers. Mr. Sers discussed with the Board the drainage ditch that runs through his property. Mr. Sers was advised by the Board that the Corps of Engineers had been made aware of the ditch that runs through his property and an inquiry had been made as to whether this ditch would be considered wetlands. Mr. Sers was further advised that while we were waiting for a response from the Corps we would inspect the ditch and see what we could do to improve the drainage.

The maintenance report was given by Maintenance Superintendent, Billy Dunn. Mr. Dunn advised that they had finished cutting the grass on the Natchitoches side and the Campti side of the levee. They have mowed all the way up to Powhatan.

Dunn also advised that his crew had de-watered two areas so that the pipes could be videoed. The company the board contracted with to video all of our pipes has now completed its work and is preparing its report to the Corps.

Mr. Dunn also advised that he and Brad Sticker will set a date to hang the gates at Marco that have now been received. Corkern asked Mr. Dunn to let us know when that work is completed so that we can advise FEMA that we have timely completed that work.

Dunn also advised that his crew had now started cleaning L-4 ditch and would complete that work in the next few days.

President Methvin advised that Brad Sticker was ill and would not be present at the meeting. He further advised that he and Mr. Sticker are going to inspect the ditch and the pipes near Allen to see what can be done about the drainage in that area. That is part of Tapalcat Bayou drainage area.

In old business, Methvin discussed with the Board the 2017 annual inspection for the Natchitoches Levee segment of the Red River Levee System.

In new business, Ronald Corkern discussed with the Board the money recently received from FEMA as a result of the 2016 flood expenses incurred by the Natchitoches Levee & Drainage District. Corkern advised that two individuals from Baton Rouge had traveled to Natchitoches to meet with his assistant, Tina Coffey, to review our application for reimbursement of expenses and between the three of them they have completed all of the necessary paperwork and it is has been submitted.

In other business, a Motion was made by Rayburn Smith and seconded by Billy Giddens to ratify payment of Change Order No. 4 in the amount of \$22,534 and Change Order No. 5 in the amount of \$3,900.77 for the Cloutierville floodgates. Payment of these invoices had been approved unanimously at the August Board meeting, but there was not quorum present. Consequently, the purpose of this Motion was to ratify the previous action taken by those Board members present at the August meeting. After public comments offered and none received, the Motion was passed unanimously.

A Motion was then made by Janet Jones and seconded by Terry Sklar to change the meeting time beginning with the November 14, 2017 meeting to 6:00 p.m. After public comments offered and none received, the Motion was passed unanimously.

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

Approved on the 14th day of November, 2017, at Natchitoches, Louisiana, at a regularly held meeting.

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

