

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
NATCHITOCHEES LEVEE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT**

December 14, 2021

6:00 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 December 14, 2021, with a quorum being present, and roll was called as follows, to-wit:

Board Members present were:

Karlton Methvin, President/Administrator
Mary Jones, Secretary
Mark Swafford, Member
Rayburn Smith, Member
Jolley Nash, Member
Nolan Jones, Jr. Member

Absent were:

Terry Sklar, Member
Casey Messenger Member

Also present were:

Billy Dunn, Maintenance Superintendent
Jarmarquis Torrence, DOTD Engineer
Susan Douglas, DOTD Levee Safety Engineer
Jonathan Lachney, DOTD Engineer
Jordan Lemoine, Edko, LLC
Heidi Stewart
Paul Trimble, Meyer, Meyer, Lacroix & Hixson, Inc.

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Natchitoches Levee & Drainage District was called to order at 6:00 p.m by the President, Karlton Methvin.

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

The November, 2021 financial statement was reviewed and discussed. Following public comment, a Motion was made by Smith and seconded by Nolan Jones, Jr. to approve the November, 2021 financial statement. The Motion passed unanimously.

Heidi Stewart was present and recognized by President Methvin. Ms. Stewart spoke to the Board regarding the Louisiana Watershed Initiative, the project approved in the Natchitoches area and what could be expected in the future.

Paul Trimble, engineer with Meyer, Meyer, Lacroix & Hison advised regarding the current status of the project his firm was working on. Mr. Trimble advised that they had advertised for engineering purposes relative to the capital outlay project and his group was the only one who responded. The State advised that they would have to re-advertise, and if after advertising three times and receiving only one bid the State might make the award to the single bidder.

The Maintenance Superintendent's report was given by Billy Dunn. Dunn advised that his crew had finished cutting limbs and brush overhanging the right of way. He also advised that they had cut the top bank of all of the ditches.

Dunn further informed the Board that they had replaced the Cloutierville flood gates with stainless steel bolts and had worked all of the fluece gates. There are four gates on the Cane River Lake south end that need to be replaced. They previously de-watered everything and got a welder (Johnny Carney) to measure and give a bid of \$25,700 to replace all four gates. After further discussion, the Board asked Dunn to get another bid. Rayburn Smith advised that he knew a welder who might be interested and said he would contact the welder and have him get in touch with Billy Dunn.

Dunn also advised the Board relative to the holiday schedule for each of the employees.

Jarmarquis Torrence, engineer with DOTD, advised that the bridge on Highway 71 at Saline Bayou is back on the radar. The State is looking at it again. When this work is completed they will be able to close the gap.

Susan Douglas, DOTD Safety Engineer, informed the Board relative to the meeting held at the Red River Waterway Commission with employees with the State and the Corps of Engineers. It is expected that the Red River Flow Line will be completed some time

this spring. Corkern advised that he had previously been advised that the Corps would not be able to pursue certification of our levees until the Flow Line was completed.

In other business, a Motion was made by Swafford and seconded by Nolan Jones, Jr. to approve payment of the invoice from Randy LaCaze for the work he had done preparing and submitting the capital outlay application on behalf of the Natchitoches Levee & Drainage District. Following public comment, this Motion passed unanimously.

In other business, Karlton Methvin advised that after consultation with other Board members he had committed to purchase the dozer we had been leasing. The purchase price was \$67,534.50. The dozer has an insurable value of \$121,000.00. Following further discussion it was agreed that the purchase of the dozer we have been leasing made more economic sense than leasing a new dozer. A Motion was made by Smith and seconded by Swafford to approve the purchase of the dozer. Following public comment, this Motion passed unanimously.

Corkern then advised the Board that the Red River Valley Annual Convention would be held in Shreveport February 23-24, 2022. Corkern advised that any member wishing to attend this meeting should contact his secretary, Tina, so that she can register them for the Convention.

Corkern also advised the Board that the Natchitoches Levee & Drainage District had finally received final payment for the expenses incurred related to clean-up following Hurricane Laura. The total amount received from FEMA was \$33,944.94.

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

Approved on the 11th day of January, 2022, at Natchitoches, Louisiana, at a regularly held meeting.

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