

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
NATCHITOCHEs LEVEE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT
February 14, 2012
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 in the Police Jury Meeting Room, Natchitoches Parish Courthouse, Natchitoches, Louisiana, on February 14, 2012, 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
Mark Swafford, Member
Adolph Sklar, Jr. Member
Charles Brazzel, Jr., Member
Billy Giddens, Member
Rayburn Smith, Member

Absent were:

None.

Also present were:

Brad Sticker, DOTD Engineer
Robert Vercher, Maintenance Superintendent
Alan Shephard, Edko, Inc.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Karlton Methvin. A motion was made by Adolph Sklar, Jr. and seconded by Mark Swafford to supplement the agenda to authorize spraying the gravel on top of the levees for weeds. The Board voted unanimously to supplement the agenda accordingly.

Janet Jones also made a Motion to supplement the agenda to include discussion of changing the meeting time from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. to accommodate those farmers who are on the Board. This Motion was seconded by Doris Rogé and passed unanimously.

Alan Shephard with Edko, Inc. addressed the Board and advised that he had recently received prices for herbicides and

the prices were relatively the same as last year. Consequently, he stated that he would provide the Board with a written proposal for spraying, which would be the same proposal as presented last year. He further indicated that in the event the Board wished to spray the gravel on top of the levees for weeds, that should probably be done within the next month, as opposed to waiting until after the Board meets in March. After further discussion the Board agreed to vote only on the pending Motion to spray the top of the levees and would consider other spraying at the next meeting. A Motion was made by Adolph Sklar, Jr. and seconded by Mark Swafford to authorize the spraying of the rocks on top of the levees for the same price as last year. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the Motion presented by Mr. Sklar and seconded by Mr. Swafford.

The January, 2012 Financial Statement was reviewed and discussed. The members also discussed the check register. On motion by Adolph Sklar, Jr., seconded by Billy Giddens, the January, 2012 Financial Statement was unanimously approved.

Robert Vercher addressed the Board and advised that his crew was presently checking all of the flood gates. It is so wet he indicated that is about all they can do. He also advised that the tires on the new truck need to be replaced. The tires have approximately 37,000 miles on them. Karlton Methvin asked Vercher to obtain two or three prices on light tires and present those tires at the next Board meeting for consideration.

The DOTD report was given by Brad Sticker. He advised that he had inspected three irrigation pipeline crossings that the Corps had requested we survey and make sure they were not in the section line. The Corps requires three inches above project elevation. Two of the pipeline crossings met this specification, but one crossing was 8/10ths of a foot below. He advised that he would discuss this with the Corps of Engineers and determine whether they were going to require any changes to the one pipeline crossing that did not meet specifications.

Mr. Sticker further advised that he and Doug Taylor will finish their inspection of the Campti-Clarence side of the river on the 23rd of February. The Corps has scheduled a periodic inspection for two weeks beginning April 30, 2012 on the Natchitoches side, and then the next two weeks they will inspect the Campti-Clarence side. This may take place at the annual inspection that is usually conducted during the summer, but he is not certain of this.

In other business, Mr. Sticker advised that they had installed new lift nuts on the center gate at the Hampton Flood Gates. They will replace the lift nuts on the other two gates as soon as possible.

With respect to the lower Cane River Flood Gates, Mr. Sticker advised that he had received a letter from the manufacturer saying it was a design error. He is presently talking with DOTD to determine our options since DOTD designed the gates. Apparently, no one took into consideration the volume of water flow.

Karlton Methvin discussed the meeting in Alexandria he and Mark Swafford attended with FEMA personnel. He advised that they did not learn very much from this meeting. FEMA has published their present plans for certification and they are presently receiving public comments. Larry Ardoin is staying on top of this and will keep us informed.

In other business, Corkern advised the Board that the Red River Valley Association meeting would be held in Shreveport the following week. Mrs. Rogé indicated she would like to attend and Corkern advised that he would fill in her registration and provide her with the details of the meeting. Corkern further advised the Board that he had received a phone call from Harry Winslow advising that the ditches behind his home had filled in with sediment and inquiring as to whether the Levee Board would clean them out. Corkern advised Mr. Winslow that since he did not know where he lived he was uncertain as to whether the ditches he described were the responsibility of the Natchitoches Levee & Drainage District. He suggested to Mr. Winslow that he come to the next meeting, and advised him of the date and time, but Mr. Winslow did not appear. Corkern also advised that he had received a number of photographs that had been left on his desk by John Bernard. The photographs showed flooding around what presumably was Mr. Bernard's home. Karlton Methvin advised that he would contact Mr. Bernard and discuss the situation with him.

In other business, Janet Jones made a Motion to change the time of the monthly meetings from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. to accommodate those members of the Board who were farmers. The Motion was seconded by Doris Rogé and following discussion, the Motion passed unanimously.

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

Approved on the 13th day of March, 2012, at Natchitoches,
Louisiana, at a regularly held meeting.

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