

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
NATCHITOCHEs LEVEE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT
July 14, 2009
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 July 14, 2009, 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
Adolph Sklar, Member
Billy Giddens, Member

Absent were:

None

Also present were:

Gerald Long, Senator
Gary Eldridge, DOTD
Alan Sheppard, SprayMax
Robert Vercher, Maintenance Superintendent

The minutes from the June 9, 2009 meeting were reviewed. On motion by Janet Jones, seconded by Doris Rogé, the Minutes were unanimously approved.

The June, 2009 Financial Statement was reviewed and discussed. On motion by Adolph Sklar, Jr., seconded by Janet Jones, the June, 2009 Financial Statement was unanimously approved.

Senator Gerald Long addressed the Board and discussed his philosophy with respect to the selection of Board members. He asked the Board for recommendations relative to the two vacancies on the Board. Although there are actually three vacancies on the Board, it was recognized the Rayburn Smith had previously been serving on the Board, but had not been confirmed by the Governor.

Senator Long advised that Mr. Smith's name would be submitted to the Governor for a formal appointment.

Senator Long further confirmed that he had been successful in securing from the State of Louisiana \$1,000,000.00 to be used for the repairs/replacement of the Marco Flood Gates. This money, coupled with money previously appropriated by the State, will not be sufficient to replace all of the flood gates and therefore the Levee Board will have to determine a priority on the work to be done.

The Maintenance Report was then given by Robert Vercher. Mr. Vercher advised that they were continuing to bushhog and also clearing obstructions from property. At the present time they were working on the Wellan property. Mr. Vercher advised that they had had some trouble with the bushhog and had had to some welding repairs to it.

Mr. Vercher further advised that it appeared Roger Collum had put a waterline through the levee instead of over the levee. This was confirmed by Gary Eldridge. Corkern advised that he had written a letter to the Corps of Engineers and forwarded photographs of Collum's waterline which went through the levee instead of over it.

Alan Sheppard reported that his company would begin spraying if we get a rain within the next week to ten (10) days. His company has already sprayed the gravel on the levees.

The DOTD report was given by Gary Eldridge. He advised that he had reviewed the State's inspection report and also inspected the levee at Cloutierville. The levee in this area needs to be cleaned up. It is difficult to ride down the levee because of overhanging limbs and brush.

Eldridge further advised that he would look at the preliminary plans regarding the Marco Flood Gates. He would confer with DOTD engineers and a plan would be developed setting forth a priority for placement of the flood gates based upon the funds available.

Ronald Corkern gave the office activity report and advised that he had continued to talk and meet with property owners regarding the letters they had received relative to the obstructions identified by the Corps of Engineers. Almost all of the owners were receptive to the work that needed to be done and

had given permission for the Board's employees to clear the obstructions. He also advised that the Komatsu Tractor had been paid for and the lien had been cancelled.

The Administrator's report was given by Karlton Methvin. He advised that Robert Miller had called about cleaning the ditch on his property. Mr. Vercher was asked to complete this task as soon as practical. Methvin further advised that he had tried to call Sonny Johnson about removing his fence which had been identified by the Corps as an obstruction lying within the 6' servitude. He had talked earlier that day with Emory Jones who thought that Mr. Johnson was going to let the Levee Board take the fence out. Methvin further advised that our tractor had been repaired and could now be picked up. Finally, he had been advised by the Corps that bids on the remaining gravel work to be done on the levees would be received on August 14, and the Corps expected work to start by the middle of September.

In other business, the Board unanimously adopted a resolution proposed by Adolph Sklar, Jr. and seconded by Doris Rogé adopting the adjusted millage rate for the tax year 2009. A second resolution was proposed by Janet Jones and seconded by Adolph Sklar, Jr. setting forth the adjusted millage rate and rolling it forward to a millage rate not exceeding the maximum authorized rate for the tax year 2009. These resolutions passed unanimously.

The Board also reviewed the annual merit increase for Robert Vercher due August 1, 2009.

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion by Janet Jones, seconded by Doris Rogé, the meeting was adjourned.

Approved on the 11th day of August, 2009, at Natchitoches, Louisiana, at a regularly held meeting.

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