

Matagorda County Conservation & Reclamation District No. One

08-09-19 Meeting Minutes

Attending Commissioners: Dwight Vavra, Willie Younger, Gary Koeppen

Item #1: Chairman Vavra opened the meeting at 10:00 AM.

Item #2: The following guests were recognized:

\*Allen Cumbie \*Jonathon Vavra

Item #3: The minutes of the 07-10-19 CRD meeting were unanimously approved, with a correction in the spelling of Mr. Gwinn's name, under a motion made by Dwight Vavra and seconded by Gary Koeppen.

Item #4: Under a motion made by Gary Koeppen and seconded by Willie Younger, the recent Financial Report was unanimously approved.

Item #5: The following was discussed under the Matagorda Ring Levee Report:

- Gary Koeppen reported he had received a call reporting water being held in the drainage district on the corner of St, Mary and Laurel Streets, with the water being highest on Laurel Street.
- Vavra indicated the Drainage District #1 seems to have absolved themselves of responsibility for internal drainage.
- Indications are that the USACE is ignoring Pratka's request to pursue the installation of a drain on his property.

Item #6: Under the River Levee Report the following was discussed:

- CRD Attorney, Allen Cumbie, reported that he had received a call from Phillips 66 to inquire if we had hired a new engineering firm.
- Cumbie replied that none had been selected, but multiple options were being considered; an interim fix for them might be to rely on the specifications previously provided by Jennifer Steen.

Item #7: Regarding the hiring of an engineering firm to replace the defunct Z6, the following was discussed:

- The prospects being considered included Jennifer Steen's firm (name uncertain), Lynn & Associates, Mercer and Eric Scheibe
- Younger commented that a firm with experience in dealing with the USACE would be a plus.
- Vavra commented that Mercer being located in nearby Edna they should be, as in the past, easy to communicate and work with.

Item #8: Regarding the approval of the auditor's letter of engagement the following was discussed and acted upon:

- The hourly rate plus expenses, not to exceed \$5400/year represented a \$200 increase from last year's agreement.

- Under a motion made by Gary Koeppen and seconded by Willie Younger, the letter was unanimously approved.

Item #9: There was no discussion or action taken regarding the proposed Flood Analysis.

Item #10: Regarding Mercer's on-going Ring Levee pump study, the following was discussed:

- Vavra has spoken with both Mercer and the County's grant person and it was revealed that funds should be awarded for this project, but the application is awaiting completion; the engineers seemed confused as to the purpose the pumps will serve; the paperwork is expected to be submitted by late August with approval anticipated in 6-8 months.

Item #11: Under a motion made by Dwight Vavra and seconded by Gary Koeppen, the recent Investment Report was unanimously approved.

Item #12: There was nothing revealed in the Attorney's Report.

Item #13: Under Budget Approval the following was discussed and acted upon:

- All components of the budget were carefully reviewed and recommendations made for each.
- Under a motion made by Willie Younger and seconded by Dwight Vavra the new budget total of \$277,400 was unanimously approved for public consideration and final board approval.

Item #14: Regarding the establishment of the tax rate the following was discussed:

- Vavra reviewed the legal requirements associated with hosting a public hearing and final approval of a tax rate (i.e., public notice in a local newspaper 7 days in advance of the rate's adoption).
- The proposed rate represents about a 1% increase over last year.
- The hearing and adoption was set to take place on 09-11-19

Item #15; All current bills were reviewed and unanimously approved under a motion made by Dwight Vavra and seconded by Gary Koeppen.

Item #16: The next meeting was set for 09-11-19.

Item #17: Under a motion made by Willie Younger and seconded by Gary Koeppen, the meeting was unanimously adjourned.