

Matagorda County Conservation and Reclamation District Number One

09-09-20 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 *Daniel Harris *Eric Scheibe

Item #3: With one minor correction, the minutes of the 08-15-20 CRD meeting were unanimously approved under a motion made by Gary Koeppen and seconded by Dwight Vavra.

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

Item #5: Regarding the Matagorda Ring Levee Report, the following was discussed:

- Dwight Vavra noted that he had received a call from a Matagorda landowner that there was a spot nearby which was holding water and seeking approval to fill it in.
- Allen Cumbie stated that he would attempt to contact this individual concerning his problem and request.

Item #6: The Colorado River Levees Report was tabled.

Item #7: Concerning the on-going Colorado River Flood Study, consultant Eric Scheibe supplied the following details:

- Readings at the Hwy. 35 Bridge gauge, at Bay City, are off by one foot.
- Other river gauges show only 1/10th of a foot variance.
- Their modeling shows far less flooding than the FEMA projections.
- Interstate Highway 59, near Wharton, appears to (unintentionally) serve as a levee of sorts.
- They plan to run event modeling based on the 2004 flood for comparative purposes..
- Their company plan to host a stakeholders meeting in the near future.
- The river flood model was submitted to the USGS for verification; it will also be submitted to the USACE for the same reassurance.
- Gary Koeppen noted he personally observed that everything north of Lane City was flooded during Hurricane Harvey.

Item #8: Regarding the pending TWDB grant application, Vavra reported that the David Sheblik is still monitoring its status.

Item #9: Regarding the status of the Mercer Engineering Pump Station Study, Chairman Vavra reported that he learned the money is still available , but final approval has been stalled on All Matagorda County projects. He also noted that more information may be forthcoming at a joint Grantworks/County meeting scheduled for October 2, 2020.

Item #10: Discussion and actions related to Colorado River Levees crossing was tabled.

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

Item #12: Regarding the development of a state-mandated MCCRCD website, the following was discussed and acted upon:

- Allen Cumbie has been communicating with the proposed webmaster and obtained a listing of information she will need to complete this development and installation.
- Cumbie reported that his office could facilitate the transfer of information needed, on both an initial and on-going basis, for a fee of \$35/hour.
- Under a motion made by Gary Koeppen and seconded by Willie Younger, unanimous approval was given to contract with Cumbie at this stated rate.

Item #13: Cumbie noted that he had nothing new to contribute under his Attorney's Report.

Item #14: Under a motion made by Dwight Vavra and seconded by Gary Koeppen, a resolution to adopt 0.00831/\$100 valuation was unanimously approved.

Item #15: A request for a meeting with the USACE representatives regarding their proposed Levee Safety Program was made by Chairman Vavra and denied. They stated that "No meetings were to be scheduled for the foreseeable future!"

Item #16: Regarding the Audit Engagement Letter to be signed and submitted to KM&L, LLL, it was unanimously approved for such action under a motion made by Dwight Vavra and seconded by Gary Koeppen.

Item #17: Under a motion made by Willie Younger and seconded by Dwight Vavra, the payment of all bills received was unanimously approved.

Item #18: The next CRD meeting was set for 10-21-20.

DAN DELICH'S TELEPHONE BRIEFING

(10:58 to 11:03 AM)

- **He is working closely with a six member Congressional coalition to produce an acceptable LSP.**
- **Is seeking to prevent the USACE from changing the rules of eligibility in PAL 499 (as now found in the 1941 Act).**

- **Instead, he is suggesting they rely upon previously determined risk assessment.**
- **Has a conference call with Pressel scheduled to discuss these issues.**