

Matagorda County Conservation & Reclamation District No. One

09-11-19 Meeting Minutes

Attending Commissioners: Willie Younger, Gary Koeppen, Dwight Vavra

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

Item #2: The following guests were recognized:

*John Mercer *Allen Cumbie *Jonathon Vavra *David Sheblak

Item #3: The minutes of the 08-09-19 meeting were unanimously approved, with one correction to the spelling of Mr. Gwin's last name, under a motion made by Gary Koeppen and seconded by Dwight Vavra.

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

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

- Gary Koeppen reported that he has not observed any notable activities.
- Dwight Vavra reported that he had contacted County Commissioner Kent Pollard concerning a possible drainage problem on Laurel St.; indicating that the location may contain designated wetlands.
- Koeppen noted that he had received a claim that those contracted to mow the levee had damaged a nearby shed; he investigated and took photos, reporting that this seemed unlikely.

Item #6: Regarding the Colorado River levees, the following was discussed:

- Allen Cumbie indicated that he had been contacted by pipeline contractors concerning a proposed crossing; he forwarded them a crossing application.

Item #7: Regarding the hiring of an engineering firm, the following was discussed:

- Vavra reported he had spoken with both Mercer and Jennifer Steen.
- John Mercer noted that his firm was established in 1980 in Edna, Texas. However, it is now a sub-division of Lynn and Associates.
- Mercer referenced several regional projects managed by his company. This included water districts and private companies (+/-35). He also provided a Statement of Qualifications for the Board to review; but, Mercer stated that, by design, he had no experience in dealing with USACE affairs.
- Vavra reflected that most foreseeable engineering would focus on drainage structures and pipelines with the objective being to maintain the integrity of the levees; he also informed Mercer that the State will not allow us to abandon the river levees.
- Mercer emphasized that engineering and documentation, such as described, fell well within the realm of possibility for his firm.

Item #8: Regarding prospective changes to the Levee Crossing Permit, Gary Koeppen suggested that Mercer develop a standardized guidelines to be used for the application process.

Item #9: Regarding the proposed flood analysis, Dwight Vavra recalled that this study by Eric Scheibe is to begin in October and that the results should be shared with Mercer.

Item #10: Regarding the Ring Levee Pump Station Study, the following was discussed:

- Mercer reported that all required data and documentation has been submitted and they are currently awaiting a response from the County's grant writer (Spitzingle).
- When this word will be delivered is unknown; but, a guess is maybe November or December.

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

Item #12: Under the Attorney's Report, Cumbie:

- Requested a copy of Mercer's proposed contract.
- Indicated that only very minor changes were suggested.

Item #13: Regarding the setting of the tax rate, Gary Koeppen made a motion to approve 0.00076. This was seconded by Dwight Vavra and unanimously approved. Cumbie indicate he will prepare a resolution on this matter, if necessary, or he may deliver these minutes if this proves satisfactory.

Item #14: Concerning entering into an interlocal agreement between the CRD and the County that prohibited passing any expense over to the County, it was unanimously approved under a motion made by Dwight Vavra and seconded by Willie Younger.

Item #15: Under a motion made by Dwight Vavra and seconded by Gary Koeppen, all bills received were unanimously approved for payment.

Item #16: The next meeting was set for 10-09-19.

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