

Matagorda County Conservation & Reclamation District No. One

05-13-20 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 visitors were recognized:

*Allen Cumbie *Jonathon Vavra *Wade Whitlow

Item #3: The minutes of the 04-09-20 CRD meeting were read and unanimously approved under a motion made by Gary Koeppen and seconded by Dwight Vavra.

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

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

- Koeppen reported that the levee had been mowed.
- Vavra reported that he had met with Spray Co. concerning the removal of brush.
- Spray Co. reported that they were concerned about a frozen gear box on an east levee drain and one near the bridge which had a bent stem.
- Vavra met with Dan Tucker, Braman Estate employee, who noted that the federal government would be reestablishing the crop base and, therefore they had plans to replant rice on land along the levee; Tucker also confirmed that they would be restoring fencing on property adjoining the levee.
- Vavra reported the USACE wants another phone conference with the CRD Board.

Item #6: Under the River Levees Update, the following was discussed:

- Regarding maintenance on the levee bordering the properties owned by Sitz and Green, bids for spraying the levee will be collected.
- These bids will be on a per-foot-sprayed basis.

Item #7: A report on the Colorado River Flood Study was tabled.

Item #8: Discussion and possible action on the TWDB Grant Program was tabled.

Item #9: An update on Mercer Engineering's pump station study and grant application was tabled.

Item #10: Regarding an Indemnity Agreement on Phillips 66's proposed levee crossing, it was unanimously approved under a motion made by Willie Younger and seconded by Dwight Vavra.

Item #11: Under a motion made by Willie Younger and seconded by Gary Koeppen, the retroactive signing of the approval letter for the acceptance of Audit sent to TCEQ by Allen Cumbie.

Item #12: Under the Audit Report delivered by Wade Whitlow, the following was covered by him:

- Based upon the documentation provided, on behalf of the CRD, by Ellen Dodd, the auditor's labeled the audit 'successful'.
- The District had an ending reserve for 2019 of +/- 689K
- Under all categories reported, the District had a "clean" report
- Cumbie made the assumption that the TCEQ had been sent a copy; but, he asked if one was also sent to the State Comptroller; Whitlow responded "no".
- Under a motion made by Dwight Vavra and seconded by Gay Koeppen, the audit was unanimously approved as presented.

Item #13: Regarding plans for the Braman Estate to construct new fences and gates, there was no discussion and it was tabled.

Item #14: Regarding proposed levee crossings, no new applications were received.

Item #15: Under a motion made by Gary Koeppen and seconded by Dwight Vavra, the recent Investment Report was unanimously approved as submitted.

Item #16: Under emerging requirements for taxing districts to establish and maintain a website, the following was discussed:

- Cumbie presented the Board members with a printout detailing this requirement.
- Cumbie also noted that he cannot verify that this is a stringent mandate.
- Cumbie reported the Matagorda County Port Authority is partnering with the MC economic Development Corporation to develop a website; however, he was uncertain as to the prospects of the MCEDC being eager to do so with other taxing entities.
- Cumbie noted that discussions with a contractor in Kentucky have been initiated and they gave preliminary cost estimates of \$1000-\$1200 (one time) to create a site and \$300-\$400/year to maintain it.
- Cumbie suggested that the CRD would need someone to manage the inputs and the Heather at the MCEDC may be willing to do so for a monthly fee.

Item #17: Cumbie reported that there was nothing to discuss under the Attorney's Report.

Item #18: Covid-19 response planning was tabled.

Item #19: Under a motion made by Dwight Vavra and seconded by Willie Younger, all bills received were approved for payment.

Item #20: The next CRD meeting was set for 06-10-20.

Item #21: Under a motion made by Willie Younger and seconded by Gary Koeppen, the meeting was adjourned.