

Matagorda County Conservation & Reclamation District Number One

Meeting Minutes 07-15-20

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:

*Jonathon Vavra *Allen Cumbie

Item 3: Under a motion made by Willie Younger, and seconded by Gary Koeppen, the minutes of the 06-10-20 meeting of the CRD were unanimously approved as read.

Item #4: Under a motion made by Gary Koeppen, and seconded by Willie Younger, June's Financial Report was unanimously approved as submitted for review.

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

- It was reported that cross-levee fence gates had all been installed.
- Koeppen reported that weed killer had been liberally applied under the bridge; presumed by County Precinct workers..
- Since this poses a potential erosion problem, County Commissioner Kent Pollard will be notified of the need to refrain from such applications.

Item #6: The following was discussed under the River Levee Report:

- Cumbie reported that no new levee crossing applications have been received.

Item #7: The matter of the ongoing Colorado River Flood Study was tabled.

Item #8: The matter of the TWDB grant application was tabled.

Item #9: Regarding the progress of the pump station study, and the associated status of grant funding, the following was discussed:

- Grant Works will soon be getting the engineering drawings from Mercer.
- Funding is anticipated for early 2021.

Item #10: Regarding the pipeline crossing applications the following was reported by Cumbie:

- South Texas NGL's indemnification agreement was signed in April.
- NGL has inquired about the possibility of an extension.
- Baymark and LLC are assumed to be progressing as proposed, but may be equally interested in an extension.

Item #11: In regards to the inquiries, concerning possible extension of the respective completion dates, a motion was made by Dwight Vavra , and seconded by Gary Koeppen to grant 2 year extensions. The motion was unanimously approved.

Item #12: Under a motion made by Gary Koeppen, and seconded by Willie Younger, May's Investment Report was unanimously approved.

Item #13: Regarding the State's newly imposed transparency requirements (i.e., website) for taxing entities, the following was discussed:

- Cumbie reviewed the information required to be posted for public review.
- Cumbie was asked by the Board to check with a prospective website developer in Tyler and obtain a cost estimate.

Item #14: Cumbie indicated that he had nothing new for his Attorney's Report.

Item #15: Under a motion made by Willie Younger, and seconded by Dwight Vavra, the Board unanimously approved a Covid-19 Plan that had both members and guests mandated to follow the protocols recommended by both the CDC and our Texas governor.

Item #16: Dan Delich, lobbyist for the Levee Alliance Group, updated (via phone conference) on the impacts of the jointly-signed letter to the Secretary of the Army related to the proposed Levee Safety Program. The following are his comments:

- 90% sure that the Secretary will withdraw the current draft of the LSP.
- It appears that the letter measurably swayed him to reconsider.
- The Assistant Secretary of The Army is said to be personally involved in the LSP rewrite. Reported changes include:
 - the new plan will not increase the liability of levee districts, and
 - the withholding of support funds will not be used as a weapon against levee districts,
- Delich stated that it did not make sense to abandon engineering-generated cost estimates in favor of bureaucratic risk assessment.; noting that such assessments represented no more than job security for about 1500 USACE employees involved in the LSP.

Item #17: Under a motion made by Willie Younger, and seconded by Gary Koeppen, all bills were reviewed and unanimously approved for payment.

Item #18: The next CRD meeting was set for 08-12-20.

Item #19: Under a motion made by Dwight Vavra, and seconded by Gary Koeppen, the meeting was unanimously adjourned.