

Matagorda County Conservation & Reclamation District Number One

12-12-19 Meeting Minutes

Attending Commissioners: Dwight Vavra, Gary Koeppen, Willie Younger

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

Item #2: The following guests were recognized:

*David Sheblak *Eric Scheibe *Allen Cumbie *Jonathon Vavra

Item #3: The minutes of the 11-13-19 meeting were read and unanimously approved under a motion made by Gary Koeppen and seconded by Dwight Vavra.

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

Item #5: During the Matagorda Ring levee update, the following was discussed:

- Gary Koeppen reported that the levee has been mowed.
- Dwight Vavra reminded the board that cleaning and weed eating around the culverts was a USACE concern.
- Koeppen noted that some residents voiced concern over a drain that appeared to be closed.

Item #6: During the River Levees Report, the following was discussed:

- Dwight Vavra and David Sheblak both recommended that levee crossing inquiries be handled similarly to Ring levee crossings.
- Attorney Allen Cumbie speculated that inquiries and applications may have stalled due to a plethora of pending lawsuits by landowners involved in pipeline construction disputes.

Item #7: Regarding the pending Colorado River Flood Study, the following was discussed:

- Engineering consultant, Eric Scheibe, reported;
 - Initial data collection pertinent to Colorado, Wharton, Matagorda and Wharton Counties has begun.
 - Ground-truthing of this data has been hampered by log jams created during Hurricane Harvey;
 - Updated 2019 Lidar readings will soon be available.
 - A demonstration of 2D modeling will show weak points along the levees where leaks are likely to occur.
 - The project is about 4-6 weeks behind schedule.
 - River channel erosion issues may emerge as prospective grant funding opportunities.
- Vavra reported that the USACE has had dredges clearing sandbars in the river at Matagorda.

- These dredges may return in late January to remove more sandbars.

Item #8: Regarding the proposed Pump Stations along the Matagorda Ring Levee, David Sheblak and Dwight Vavra offered their suspicions that projects are being reviewed in the order in which they were received. Thus, the delay in hearing the outcome on this project.

Item #9: Regarding the prominent issues contained in the USACE's Inspection Report, Dwight Vavra shared the following observations:

- Most of the discrepancies listed were minor ones.
- There was some sloughing along the east side of the levee; but, it is probably easily remedied.
- There are a few trees along the prescribed toe which need trimming and/or represent encroachment.
- There are a few bare spots which are believed to be caused by grazing cattle; the County Ag Agent is to be consulted regarding the planting of grasses which livestock avoid and then, hopefully, contract with SprayCo to cover these areas.

Item #10: The matter of Levee Crossing requests was tabled.

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

Item #12: Attorney Allen Cumbie stated he had nothing to report.

Item #13: All bills received were reviewed and unanimously approved for payment under a motion made by Dwight Vavra and seconded by Willie Younger.

Item #14: The next meeting was set for 01-15-20.

Item #15: Under a motion made by Gary Koeppen and seconded by Dwight Vavra, the meeting was unanimously adjourned.