

Matagorda County Conservation & Reclamation District No. One

06-09-21 Meeting Minutes

Attending Commissioners: Dwight Vavra, Gary Koeppen, Willie Younger

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

Item #12: The following guests were recognized by Chairman Vavra:

*Dan Delich *Allen Cumbie * Jonathon Vavra

Item #3: The minutes of the 05-12-21 meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved as read 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 Willie Younger and seconded by Gary Koeppen.

Item #5: The following matters related to the Matagorda Ring Levee were discussed:

- The USACE Inspection Report was received.
- Crawfish holes, bare spots and the unauthorized deer stand were listed as areas of concern.
- The levee was rated as “Minimally Acceptable”.
- The required 5-year video inspection of the culverts is fast approaching.
- Koeppen reported that rain is collecting in Matagorda Heights and is not draining and the culvert appears to be clogged.

Item #6: Under the River Levee report, the question of Epic Pipeline holding a permit was raised.

Item #7: The report and update on the Colorado River Flood Study was tabled.

Item #8: The matter of a grant application to the TWDB for the installation of pump stations was tabled.

Item #9: The update on Mercer Engineering’s study and related engineering of pump stations was tabled.

Item #10: The prospective consideration of new applications to cross either the east or west river levees was tabled.

Item #11: Action related to the Investment Report for May 2021 was tabled. However, the Quarterly Investment Report was unanimously approved under a motion made by Gary Koeppen and seconded by Dwight Vavra.

Item #12: The following matters related to the USACE’s Levee Safety program were reviewed by Dan Delich:

- The National Flood Insurance Program, which is closely tied to the LSP and chaired by Maxine Walters, contained the following:

-Levee Impacted Areas across the nation are to be comprehensively identified.

- Risk Rating 2.0 was released on April 1, 2021 with no response period provided.
- New flood plain management protocols call for each property to be carefully assessed.
- Delich concurs with the USACE that the CRD owns the Matagorda Ring Levee.
- Texas has 494 miles of levees under USACE oversight.
- According to the USACE, the ring levee is rated as having 'moderate' risk.
- Matagorda County is reported to have a total of 49 miles of levees.
- The public has no access to the data and/or calculations used by the USACE to make their risk determinations.

Item #13: Under the Attorney's Report, the following was discussed by Allen Cumbie:

- James Kinard of Kinard Backhoe has filed a Form 1295 as required to serve as a contractor for the CRD.
- Reinvestment Zones are being considered by the County and the following was revealed:

-a hearing is to be held on June 21st.

-tax abatement will be in play, but the CRD has little to lose or gain from this abatement.

-the operation under consideration is said to be a rum distillery.

Item #14: Regarding the hiring of Kinard Backhoe to do levee clearing work, the following was discussed:

- To negate liability concerns, Kinard is asked to provide workmen's comp for those working under his corporate banner.
- The type of vegetation to be removed, particularly the size of trees to take out, will be clearly conveyed to James Kinard.

Item #15: Comments from the CRD commissioners was tabled.

Item #16: Under a motion made by Willie Younger and seconded by Gary Koeppen, all bills received were approved for payment.

Item #17: The next meeting of the CRD Board was set for 07-14-21. But the date was later changed to 07-20-21 due to unexpected scheduling conflicts on the part of two of the three commissioners.

Item #18: Under a motion made by Dwight Vavra and seconded by Gary Koeppen, the meeting was unanimously adjourned.