

Matagorda County Conservation & Reclamation District Number One

Meeting Minutes 10-13-21

Item #1: Chairman Vavra called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Item #2: The following guests were recognized:

*Jonathon Vavra * Allen Cumbie

Item #3: Under a motion made by Gary Koeppen and seconded by Dwight Vavra, the minutes of the CRD meetings for 08-11-21, 08-26-21 and 09-15-21 were unanimously approved.

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

Item #5: A report and update on the Matagorda Ring Levee was tabled.

Item #6: Under the report and update on the River Levees, the following was discussed:

- Vavra indicated that contact with the City of Bay City has been delayed due to uncertainty within the City as to who had authority over property it owns and which the CRD seeks to clear vegetation from the levee.
- Allen Cumbie indicated that he has been in contact with Hollister Insurance Agency regarding the listing of the CRD as being covered by Kinard Backhoe's policy.
- Mr. Sunday, with the USACE, contacted Chairman Vavra to determine if post-hurricane assistance from this federal agency was needed.

Item #7: Regarding a meeting to identify potential financial assistance from the USACE in order to maintain FEMA accreditation, the following was discussed:

- Vavra was told that grant money is still available.
- Vavra pinpointed, for USACE benefit, the need address erosion problems along the east side of the Ring Levee and several flood gates in need of repairs.
- Vavra told that water control structures (i.e., gates) do not qualify, but that erosion control does.
- Vavra is to request a meeting with USACE staff concerning this funding.
- Eric Scheibe stated that he anticipates there may be other sources of financial aid with which to resolve these issues.

Item #8: Regarding the Matagorda County Hazard Mitigation Study, the following was discussed by Eric Scheibe, consultant:

- If FEMA receives the County's plan in the near future they will likely grandfather it in.
- There will be a stakeholders meeting in Wharton county next Wednesday (10-20-21).
- It was noted that a countywide survey was used in Wharton and Jackson Counties and proved useful in identifying potential problem areas and suggested Matagorda County might consider a similar survey.

Item #9: Discussion and action related to the TWDB's Flood Intended USE Plan was tabled.

Item #10: Regarding Mercer engineering's study and engineering of Ring Levee pump stations, the following was discussed:

- Mercer and the County's grant writers (Grantworks) appear to be accusing the other of delaying the awarding of funds needed to complete this proposed project.
- Vavra has discussed the CRD's need for pumps and operators on a need basis with McAda Drilling Fluids, but is awaiting a response from the company's owner, James McAda.
- Anticipating that a legally-binding contract between McAda and the CRD will be required, Allen Cumbie is asked to act upon drafting such a document.

Item #11: Cumbie reported that no new levee crossing applications have been received, but speculates that one may be forthcoming from Philips Petroleum since they have begun laying a pipeline from their Old Ocean plant to Markham.

Item #12: Under a motion made by Gary Koeppen and seconded by Dwight Vavra, the recently received Investment Report was unanimously approved.

Item #13: Regarding the Colorado River Flood Study update by Eric Scheibe, the following was discussed:

- Vavra noted that 'all' the gates along the River Levees were operational.
- Scheibe noted that the east river levee satisfies FEMA's 3 ft. freeboard requirement, but the west levee appears to have a few questionable sites.
- Scheibe recommended a Floodway Analysis which could be submitted to FEMA.

Item #14: Regarding updates on the proposed Levee Safety Program, the CRD's lobbyist, Dan Delich, reported that the adoption of this program appears to have stalled, but suspects that it may reappear under another title.

Item #15: The Attorney's Report was tabled.

Item #16: Regarding the contract between the CRD and Kinard Backhoe, Allen Cumbie reported that it should be finalized within a few days.

Item #17: Comments from the Commissioners was tabled.

Item #18: Under a motion made by Willie Younger and seconded by Gary Koeppen, all bills received were approved for payment.

Item #19: The next meeting of the CRD Board was set for 11-10-21.

Item #20: Under a motion made by Dwight Vavra and seconded by Gary Koeppen, the meeting was unanimously adjourned.