

Matagorda County Conservation & Reclamation District Number One

01-19-22 Meeting Minutes

Attending Commissioners: Gary Koeppen, Willie Younger, Dwight Vavra

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

Item #2: The following guests were recognized:

*Jonathan Vavra *Allen Cumbie *Eric Scheibe

Item #3: The minutes of the 12-15-21 meeting were unanimously approved under a motion made by Gary Koeppen and seconded by Dwight Vavra.

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

Item #5: Regarding the update on the Matagorda Ring Levee the following was discussed:

- Gary Koeppen reported that Sprayco has been working on repairs to the gate located by the harbor.
- Willie Younger reported an inquiry received from a local resident regarding taxes levied on lots located beneath the levee's footprint. Allen Cumbie suggested that the final authority on such tax matters rests with the County Appraisal District.
- Attorney Allen Cumbie indicated he will remind the County Commissioners Court that the County had previously granted the CRD a blanket easement on all roads crossing the levee.

Item #6: Under the update on the River Levees it was reported by Chairman Vavra that Kinard Backhoe has been hampered by recent rains and has not completed any further clearing of vegetation along these levees.

Item #7: Eric Scheibe of Scheibe Consulting of Austin reported the following regarding his firm's Colorado River Study and the flood mitigation work proposed in Wharton County:

- The two flap gates initially omitted from the study have now been included and current indications are that flooding north of Bay City would not be as intense as first calculated.
- It was revealed that the 'old' 100-year flood projections were used in this modeling.
- Scheibe offered to return in late summer and cover in detail the plans adopted to prevent future flooding in or near Wharton.

Item #8: Regarding the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan the following was discussed:

- The National Levee Inventory List shows Matagorda County having four levees. Yet, board members can only identify three. Scheibe indicated he will strive to identify the fourth one.
- Younger offered his opinion that the additional flood mapping Scheibe propose should not proceed until final flood mitigation plans have been firmly set in Wharton County. Vavra and Koeppen concurred.

Item #9: Mercer Engineering indicated that even though the TWDB Grant under the Flood Intended Use Plan for 2020 was initially rejected they would reapply on CRD's behalf.

Item #10: Chairman Vavra indicated that it was his assessment that the proposed Pump Station Project was a low priority with the County and would likely be the last to be considered even though it appears the funding is available.

Item #11: Discussion and possible action on any new river levee crossing applications was tabled.

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

Item #13: Regarding reports from Dan Delich, the following was discussed:

- Chairman Vavra shared a written report on Delich's activities with fellow Board members and counsel.
- Younger inquired about the impact of recent state legislation limiting interaction of taxing districts with professional lobbyists. Cumbie indicated he would verify this before the next CRD meeting.

Item #14: Discussion and possible action related to CRD's continued participation in the County insurance Poll was tabled. But Younger reported that the CRD's 2022 contribution had been set at \$4,681.

Item #15: The Attorney Report was tabled.

Item #16: All bills received were unanimously approved for payment under a motion made by Dwight Vavra and seconded by Gary Koeppen.

Item #17: The next CRD meeting was set for 02-09-22.

Item #18: Under Comments by Commissioners the following was discussed:

- Vavra noted that he is slated to attend a meeting on County-sponsored grant bids on 02-20-22..
- Vara also indicated he would be meeting with pipe coating service providers soon and he plans to attend a workshop on the American Rescue Plan on Jan. 31st.

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