

Matagorda County Conservation & Reclamation District Number One

Meeting Minutes 04-09-2025

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 and the following comments received from them:

GUESTS

*Shaun Short *Tyler Stockton *Jennifer Coulter * Allen Cumbie *Jonathan Vavra *John Mercer

COMMENTS

As a prelude, Dwight Vavra described the CRD's need to secure two pumps on a rental basis for use on an as-needed basis,

Shaun Shorn asked about the specific location where the pumps would be situated. Vavra responded they would be on concrete pads found on top of the ring levee in Matagorda.

John Mercer, CRD's contract engineer, described the design of the pump pads and the rental acquisition possibilities; he offered to provide engineer drawings to Equipment Share if needed.

Allen Cumbie indicated that the pad's nearness to the levee crossing entrance to Bridge Point may create access issues for both condo owners and the CRD. He also conveyed Bridge Points request for the CRD to repair the entry to their canal front properties.

Tyler Stockton indicated that the fuel levels of the pumps they might provide can readily be monitored remotely.

Item #3: Under a motion made by Gary Koeppen and seconded by Dwight Vavra, the minutes of the 03-12-2025 CRD meeting were unanimously approved as read.

Item #4: Jennifer Coulter with KM&L, presented the following highpoints of the recent audit by her firm:

- Two letters of acceptance must be signed by the CRD Chaiman/
- She supplied the Management Representatives Letter for signing that stated we had supplied all required documentation needed to satisfactorily complete the audit.
- Pages 7-9 notified the CRD that an "unmodified opinion' had been rendered.

- Pages 10-14 basically stated that all financial and legal standards of the District had been met.
- Page 11 revealed that the CRD could operate effectively for the next six years under current fiscal conditions.
- Coulter recommended the District reduce its fund balance inserting projected spending needs into the minutes as approved action items, versus including such in the projected Budget itself.
- Pages 16 & 17 Identify the tangible assets of the CRD (e.g., land and equipment).
- Pages 20-23 reveal the CRD's unassigned funds balance.
- Page 22 shows an increase of 208 K in this balance.
- The audit included a Letter of Internal Control & Deficiencies.
- John Mercer recommended that the CRD develop a comprehensive asset inventory that contains time and cost projections for repairs and maintenance.

Under a motion a motion made by Dwight Vavra and seconded by Gary Koeppen, the audit was unanimously accepted as read.

Item #5: Under the update on river levees clearing activities by current contractors, the following was discussed:

- Kinard Backhoe's levee work is on hold until this firm completes other business obligations.
- Hickl is currently working on the McAda Ranch property near the Bay City River Bridge, they have visited with James McAda and it was found that parts of the west levee are missing and need to be restored.
- Concerning the levee on the Greene property it was found to be fairly clean; but Hickl had done a few small sections of clearing without Greene's permission and was subsequently directed by Chairman Vavra to cease such activity.

Item #6: Regarding related to Shuford Properties proposed activities on the Ring Levee, the following was discussed:

- Allen Cumbie indicated he would assertively inquire about the status of Shuford's 408 Permit from the USACE.
- Vavra indicated that he was aware that their first design was tentatively approved, but he is unaware of the status of their present 408 permit application.

Item #7: Regarding the ongoing survey and title search on Bay harbor Allen Cumbie reported that G & W Engineers may possess and be able to such documentation.

Item #8: Under a motion made by Willie Younger and seconded by Gary Koeppen, the recent Financial Report was unanimously approved as read.

Item #9: Under a motion made by Willie Younger and seconded by Gary Koeppen, approval was granted to accept Prosperity Bank's bid on 2-year investment deposits by the CRD. To execute this transaction, Cumbie presented the required instruments for Chairman Vavra's signature.

Item #10: Regarding the River Levees update, Allen Cumbie reported that he had spoken with the land man for the STE Cooperative concerning the removal of part of the levee on Dane Simons' property and the suspension of power line placement there until questionable legal and business matters are resolved.

Item #11: Under a motion made by Dwight Vavra and seconded by Gary Koeppen, the recent Investment Report was unanimously approved as read.

Item #12: Discussion regarding the acquisition of pumps through a rental agreement was tabled.

Item #13: Dan Delich had filed an emailed report on the impact of USACE funding and staffing cutbacks. Each commissioner and the CRD attorney received a copy for their subsequent review.

Item #14: Under the Attorney's Report, Allen Cumbie revealed that Mr. McKinsey, in wanting to build near the Ring Levee, was to have his property surveyed; in the process the surveyor found the easement which was shared with Cumbie.

Item #15: Under a motion made by Gary Koeppen and seconded by Dwight Vavra, all bills received were approved for payment.

Item #16: Under the Commissioners' Comments the following was reported:

- Dwight Vavra shared a letter from Tenaris detailing the benefits the County has accrued from the operation of their pipe manufacturing plant in Van Vleck.
- Vavra reported that he, County Commissioner Estlinbaum, board members and staff of Drainage District #1, Lisa Krobot and the County Attorney met to discuss the growing problem of potential flood water displacement caused by lot filling prior to construction inside the Ring Levee and the prospect of imposing a moratorium on such activities.

Item #17: The next meeting of the CRD is set for -5-14-2025.

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