

**MINUTES**  
**POINTE COUPEE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**January 12, 2021**

The Pointe Coupee Parish Council met in regular session at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, January 12, 2021, at the Courthouse Annex in the Parish Council Meeting Room, New Roads, Louisiana.

Chairman Boudreaux called the meeting to order and directed Council Clerk Gerrie Martin to call the roll:

PRESENT: Messrs. Jimmie Gaspard, Edwin Soulier, Sidney LaCoste, Kurt Jarreau, Edward Bazile, Paul Bergeron and Dustin Boudreaux.

ABSENT: Mr. Charles Watkins.

REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING:

A. ELECTION OF A CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman Boudreaux announced that nominations were in order for the election of a Chairman.

Mr. LaCoste nominated Mr. Boudreaux for Chairman.

Motion by Mr. Gaspard and seconded by Mr. Soulier:

RESOLVED, That nominations for Chairman be closed.

Unanimously carried.

Mr. Boudreaux was declared nominated Chairman.

Chairman Boudreaux thanked the councilmembers for re-electing him Chairman of the Council.

APPROVE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 8, 2020 MEETING

Motion by Mr. Bazile and seconded by Mr. LaCoste:

RESOLVED, That the minutes of December 8, 2020 regular meeting of the Parish Council be adopted as presented and published in the official journal.

Unanimously carried.

CONSIDER AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Boudreaux and seconded by Mr. Bergeron:

RESOLVED, That the agenda be amended for inclusion of the following:

- Resolution - Authorize Mark Ward as the authorized contact, Becky Mayeux as the primary agent and Ann Leonard as alternate contract for Louisiana Public Assistance.
- Resolution - Support preparation and submittal of an application for funding through the Community Water Enrichment Fund (CWEF) Program for Water District 2.

The Chairman called for a roll call vote that resulted as follows:

YEAS: Messrs. Gaspard, LaCoste, Soulier, Jarreau, Bazile, Bergeron and Boudreaux.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Mr. Watkins.

On a vote of 7-0-1, the motion carried.

SPECIAL BUSINESS:

EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY OF THE LATE JOSEPH CASHIO, JR.

Motion by Mr. Jarreau and seconded by Mr. Boudreaux:

WHEREAS, God in His infinite wisdom has called to his eternal reward Mr. Joseph Cashio, Jr.

WHEREAS, Mr. Joseph Cashio, Jr. was a native of Fordoche and a resident of Livonia, Louisiana and Pointe Coupee Parish for 75 years; and

WHEREAS, his presence will be sadly missed by his family and friends: Therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this Pointe Coupee Parish Council does and hereby offer our deepest sympathy and condolences to the family of Mr. Joseph Cashio, Jr. and this resolution of sympathy in the loss of their loved one.

Unanimously carried.

PROCLAMATION DECLARING JANUARY 31 – FEBRUARY 6, 2021 AS CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Motion by Mr. LaCoste and seconded by Mr. Gaspard:

**PROCLAMATION  
Catholic Schools Week 2021**

WHEREAS, Catholic schools across the nation are celebrating Catholic Schools Week from Sunday, January 31 through Saturday, February 6, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Catholic schools in the Diocese of Baton Rouge evangelize hearts, educate minds, encourage talent and embrace the future; and

WHEREAS, Catholic schools in the Diocese of Baton Rouge began this school year on-time following safety guidelines during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Catholic schools recognize the role of parents as the primary educators of their children, successfully involve parents and communities in support of schools, and encourage local creativity and excellence in education; and

WHEREAS, Catholic schools are committed to reaching out to all children regardless of heritage, religion, race or economic status and, indeed, have made this commitment part of their mission; and

WHEREAS, the Catholic schools of Louisiana, and indeed of the entire nation, have traditionally provided outstanding education to those attending them, thus contributing to the welfare of the community; and

WHEREAS, by providing quality education for thousands of students each year in our state, Catholic schools have helped relieve the financial burden placed on the public school system of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Catholic schools have trained many of the fine leaders of the Catholic Church and civic community, the state and the nation; and

WHEREAS, Catholic schools encourage the understanding that character is not measured by wealth or prominence but by integrity, compassion and concern for others; and

WHEREAS, both the Catholic community and all citizens of the city, parish and nation can share in the success achieved by the Catholic system of schools during the many years of service, while remaining confident in its lasting endurance.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DUSTIN BOUDREAUX, Chairman of the Pointe Coupee Parish Council, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Parish of Pointe Coupee and the State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim January 31 - February 6, 2021 as **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK** in Pointe Coupee Parish and urge all citizens to join us in recognizing the Catholic schools in our community.

Unanimously carried.

PARISH PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Director of Finance Tonilyn Guidry gave updates on the finances including the sales tax and gas collections; a new equipment operator (tractor driver) hired in the Public Works Department, and available positions for an equipment operator (tractor driver) and a part-time animal services assistant; reviewing a lease program to upgrade the parish older fleet vehicles; purchase of building that house the Sheriff Criminal Investigation Division on Hospital Road, negotiations with City of New Roads to lease office space for the New Roads Police Department in said building, and relocation of the Registrar of Voters Office in remaining office space.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no public comments.

APPOINTMENTS OF MEMBERS TO BOARDS, COMMITTEES & COMMISSIONS

Motion by Mr. Soulier and seconded by Mr. Bazile:

RESOLVED, That Messrs. Chad Olinde be reappointed and Messrs. Cornell Dukes, Cole Peers, Rene` Thibodeaux and Mark Ward be appointed to serve as members of the Pointe Coupee Parish Communications District (E-911) for a four-year term.

Unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. LaCoste and seconded by Mr. Soulier:

RESOLVED, That Messrs. Duncan Massicot and Tamarcus Polk be reappointed and Ms. Terry Henderson be appointed members of the Board of Commissioners for Pointe Coupee Parish Fire Protection District No. 1 for a two-year term.

Unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. LaCoste and seconded by Mr. Gaspard:

RESOLVED, That Mr. Lyndon Leonards be reappointed a member of the Board of Commissioners for Pointe Coupee Parish Fire Protection District No. 2 for a two-year term.

Unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Gaspard and seconded by Mr. Jarreau:

RESOLVED, That Mrs. Melba Aguillard and Mr. Jeffrey Hanks be reappointed members of the Board of Commissioners for Pointe Coupee Parish Fire Protection District No. 3 for a two-year term.

Unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Bergeron and seconded by Mr. LaCoste:

RESOLVED, That Mr. James “Jim” Beatty, Jr. (Seat B) be appointed a member of the Board of Commissioners for Pointe Coupee Parish Fire Protection District No. 5 for a two-year.

Unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Soulier and seconded by Mr. Bazile:

RESOLVED, That Miss Wylene Hurst (Position D) be reappointed a member of the Pointe Coupee Parish Library Board of Control for a five-year term.

Unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Bazile and seconded by Mr. Soulier:

RESOLVED, That Mmes Gail Hurst and Martha Stoute be reappointed members of the Pointe Coupee Parish Museum Committee for a two-year term.

Unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. LaCoste and seconded by Mr. Bazile:

RESOLVED, That Mr. Wilmer Moore, Sr., Mmes Roye Chenevert, Valery Dukes, Betty Fontaine, Lisa Robillard and Sharon Smith be reappointed and Ms. Aimee Moreau be appointed to serve as members of the Pointe Coupee Parish Tourist Commission for a three-year term.

Unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Bergeron and seconded by Mr. Jarreau:

RESOLVED, That Messrs. Ashley Bonds (one-year term), John Smith (two-year term) be reappointed and Mr. Freddie Solomon (two-year term) be appointed members of the Board of Commissioners for Pointe Coupee Parish Waterworks District No. 1.

Unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Bazile and seconded by Mr. Jarreau:

RESOLVED, That Mr. Mark Major be reappointed a member of the Board of Commissioners for Pointe Coupee Parish Waterworks District No. 2 for a one-year term.

Unanimously carried.

RESOLUTIONS:

SUPPORT RURAL BROADBAND INSTALLATION IN LOUISIANA

Motion by Mr. Boudreaux and seconded by Mr. LaCoste:

WHEREAS, the Pointe Coupee Parish Council strives to enhance the quality of life of its residents, both personally and economically; and

WHEREAS, high-speed internet service has become a necessary component to participating in the modern economy, healthcare and education, but this service is unavailable or of an inadequate quality for many residents; and

WHEREAS, residents of Pointe Coupee Parish deserve the same educational, medical and economic opportunities as citizens in parishes served by high speed internet; and

WHEREAS, neighboring states of our region have invested in the development of broadband infrastructure at varying levels, while Louisiana has made no financial investment thus far; and

WHEREAS, legislation has been passed over the past year to allow opportunities for installation by private providers using the infrastructure of the Rural Electric Cooperative

and the Cooperatives themselves have been given permission to expand into broadband from the Public Service Commission recently; and

WHEREAS, legislation has been passed this year to establish a Louisiana Office of Broadband that will allow a designated state office to seek funds and distribute in order to promote broadband installation in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, various departments of the Federal Government have made funds available for expansion of broadband targeted to rural areas, which these funds provide an initial step toward bridging the digital divide; Therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Pointe Coupee Parish Council urges the Louisiana Legislature to pass legislation which will invest in the installation of high speed internet for rural Louisiana.

Unanimously carried.

APPROVE LIQUOR LICENSE FOR TANISHA BURNS (BURNS STOP N SHOP, 6729 LA HWY 418, BATCHELOR)

Motion by Mr. Gaspard and seconded by Mr. LaCoste:

RESOLVED, That the Liquor License for Tanisha Burns (Burns Stop N Shop, 6729 LA Hwy. 418, Batchelor) be approved.

Unanimously carried.

AUTHORIZE MARK WARD AS THE AUTHORIZED CONTACT, BECKY MAYEUX AS THE PRIMARY AGENT AND ANN LEONARD AS ALTERNATE CONTACT FOR LOUISIANA PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

Motion by Mr. Bazile and seconded by Mr. Gaspard:

RESOLVED, That Mr. Mark Ward will serve as the authorized contact, Mrs. Becky Mayeux as the primary agent and Ms. Ann Leonard as alternate contact for Louisiana Public Assistance.

Unanimously carried.

SUPPORT PREPARATION AND SUBMITTAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDING THROUGH THE COMMUNITY WATER ENRICHMENT FUND (CWEF) PROGRAM FOR WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 2

Motion by Mr. Bergeron and seconded by Mr. Bazile:

A Resolution to support preparation and submittal  
of an application for funding through the Community  
Water Enrichment Fund (CWEF) Program

WHEREAS, the Office of Community Development is accepting applications for funding through the Community Water Enrichment Fund (CWEF) Program; and

WHEREAS, one of the requirements for submission of an application for funding under this program requires a resolution of support from the parish governing body; and

WHEREAS, the Parish desires to submit an application for the benefit of the citizens of the Parish and Waterworks District No. 2 of Pointe Coupee: Therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Parish President and Council of Pointe Coupee acting as the governing authority of said Parish does hereby support the preparation and submittal of an

application for funding through the Office of Community Development, Community Water Enrichment Fund (CWEF).

Unanimously carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

DRAINAGE CONCERNS ON MANDELA DRIVE

Mr. Lawrence Smith discussed drainage concerns and the digging of the ditch in front of his residence on Mandela Drive by the parish.

Public Works Director Nathan Cobb gave an explanation why the ditch was dug on Mandela Drive and addressed Mr. Smith's drainage concerns.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, NOTICES, MEETINGS, ETC.

Chairman Boudreaux announced the closure of the parish office January 18, 2021 in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday, and the Executive Committee meeting will be held January 26, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Bazile and seconded by Mr. Gaspard, the meeting adjourned at 6:01 p.m.

---

Gerrie P. Martin  
Council Clerk

---

Dustin Boudreaux  
Chairman