

**MINUTES
POINTE COUPEE PARISH COUNCIL
March 8, 2022**

The Pointe Coupee Parish Council met in regular session at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 8, 2022, 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, Sidney LaCoste, Edwin Soulier, Charles Watkins, Kurt Jarreau, Edward Bazile, Paul Bergeron and Dustin Boudreaux.

ABSENT: None.

APPROVE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 8, 2022 MEETING

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

RESOLVED, That the minutes of February 8, 2022 regular meeting of the Parish Council be adopted as presented and published in the official journal.

Unanimously carried.

CONSIDER AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

There were no amendments to the agenda.

SPECIAL BUSINESS:

PRESENTATION OF EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARY SERVICE AWARD TO CLARENCE BOWIE & CRYSTAL LORIO

Parish President Major Thibaut presented employee anniversary service awards to employees Clarence Bowie 25 years, and Crystal Lorio 15 years of dedicated service.

PROCLAMATION DECLARING MARCH AS AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH

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

**PROCLAMATION
AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH**

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross has touched many lives in Pointe Coupee Parish, as well as across the country and around the world; and

WHEREAS, during American Red Cross Month, we thank those who contribute to the mission of the Red Cross, whether through time, money or blood, and we invite others to support the Red Cross in helping people in need down the street, across the country and around the world; and

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross is synonymous with helping people, and has been doing so for more than 130 years. Throughout the past year, the American Red Cross launched hundreds of disaster relief operations in the United States to help people affected by fires, floods, hurricanes and tornadoes. The American Red Cross also supported major international disasters, including the Japan earthquake and tsunami response, while continuing its work on the 2010 Haiti earthquake response and recovery; and

WHEREAS, in Pointe Coupee Parish, the Red Cross works tirelessly through its employees and volunteers to support us when disaster strikes, when someone needs life-saving blood, or the comfort of a helping hand. It provides 24-hour support to members of the military, veterans and their families, and provides training in CPR, aquatics safety and first aid; and

WHEREAS, for nearly 100 years, United States presidents have called on the American people to support the Red Cross and its humanitarian mission. Our community depends on the American Red Cross and because it is not a government agency, the Red Cross depends on support from the public to continue its humanitarian work. This is especially important in these challenging economic times - which impact the Red Cross and many people in our community and across the nation.

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 Constitution and laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim the month of **March 2021**, as **AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH** and do hereby urge all Americans to support this organization and its noble humanitarian mission.

Unanimously carried.

PROCLAMATION DECLARING MARCH 7-11, 2022 AS NATIONAL BETA WEEK

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

**PROCLAMATION
NATIONAL BETA WEEK**

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DUSTIN BOUDREAUX, Chairman of the Pointe Coupee Parish Council do hereby proclaim the week of **March 7-11, 2022**, as **NATIONAL BETA WEEK** in Pointe Coupee Parish, and do hereby encourage all citizens to support and participate in activities and ceremonies celebrating thereof.

Unanimously carried.

DISCUSSION - UPPER TERREBONNE BASIN PUMP STATION PROJECT

Parish President Thibaut gave an overview of the Upper Terrebonne Basin Pump Station project that includes Pointe Coupee, Iberville and West Baton Rouge Parishes.

Engineer Jacob Loeske of GIS Engineers gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Upper Terrebonne Basin Pump Station project.

MORGANZA GYM

Mr. James "Big Brown" Joseph appeared before the council to discuss concerns about the Morganza Gym, and the expectations of keeping the gym open at all times for the youth in the parish.

Councilman LaCoste commented on the break-ins and vandalism at the gym.

Parish President Thibaut commented on the CEA with the school board, which is for use of the gym for PC Rec basketball program. He commented on possible alternatives for other sites to allow the youth to play basketball. After discussions, all agreed to review possible sites to develop outside basketball courts to be utilized by the youth.

PARISH PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Parish President Major Thibaut gave an overview of the financial report of the monthly budget to actual comparison on the ad valorem property taxes, sales tax collections, gas collections, licenses & permits, state severance, and state & federal funds, that included total revenues received of \$4,192,257, and total expenditure of \$1,436,587 for the month of February; award of Hazard Mitigation Funds; bids received for renovations of the detention center; and hired two (2) full-time employees at animal shelter and utilities department. In closing, he responded to questions from the council.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Marvin Losavio waived his public comments, if needed, until the agenda item is discussed.

DISCUSSION & CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSED ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE POINTE COUPEE PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES, CREATING AND REESTABLISHING A SINGLE CONSOLIDATED BOARD TO SERVE AS THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY FOR EACH OF THE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS IN EXISTENCE AND IN THE FUTURE CREATED IN POINTE COUPEE PARISH, IN ACCORDANCE WITH LRS 40:1504

Chairman Boudreaux commented on the proposed ordinance to amend the Pointe Coupee Parish Code of Ordinances, creating and reestablishing a single consolidated board to serve as the Governing Authority for each of the fire protection districts in existence and in the future created in Pointe Coupee Parish, in accordance with LRS 40:1504. He reported before the ordinance is considered for adoption, the council is proposing to adopt a resolution to create an eight-member Advisory Study Committee on Fire District Governance. He reported once the committee has completed their study of a single consolidated board, they will present a recommendation to the council.

Councilman Jarreau commented that people he has spoken to are against the proposed ordinance. He voiced concerns about creating a single consolidated board and how it will benefit the fire districts.

After a lengthy discussion, the following resolution was offered:

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

RESOLVED, That the Parish Council defer actions until the Advisory Study Committee on Fire District Governance reports to the council at their meeting in May on the proposed ordinance to amend the Pointe Coupee Parish Code of Ordinances, creating and reestablishing a single consolidated board to serve as the Governing Authority for each of the fire protection districts in existence and in the future created in Pointe Coupee Parish, in accordance with LRS 40:1504.

Unanimously carried.

PUBLIC HEARING ON AN INTRODUCED PROPOSED ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE POINTE COUPEE PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES, RELATIVE TO THE CODE OF RULES & REGULATIONS FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL REGARDING AN ABSTAIN VOTE BY A COUNCIL MEMBER, AND THEREAFTER, DISCUSSION & CONSIDERATION OF THE ADOPTION

A hearing to obtain public input to a proposed ordinance to amend the Pointe Coupee Parish Code of Ordinances, relative to the Code of Rules & Regulations for the Parish Council regarding an abstain vote by a council member, and further provide with respect thereto was conducted at 6:43 p.m., Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at the Parish Council Meeting Room, Courthouse Annex, 160 East Main Street, New Roads, Louisiana.

There were no objections received orally or written to the ordinance.

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

RESOLVED, That an amendment to a proposed ordinance to amend the Pointe Coupee Parish Code of Ordinances, relative to the Code of Rules & Regulations for the Parish Council regarding an abstain vote by a council member, and further provide with respect thereto be accepted by the Pointe Coupee Parish Council.

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

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

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

On a vote of 8-0-0, the motion carried.

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

RESOLVED, That a proposed ordinance to amend the Pointe Coupee Parish Code of Ordinances, relative to the Code of Rules & Regulations for the Parish Council regarding an abstain vote by a council member, and further provide with respect thereto be adopted with amendments by the Pointe Coupee Parish Council.

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

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

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

On a vote of 8-0-0, the motion carried.

RECOMMENDATION(S) FROM PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION:

APPROVAL OF FINAL PLAT SHOWING THE DEVELOPMENT OF AUDUBON ESTATES SUBDIVISION FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE ROBERT N. LOUPE ESTATE AS LOTS 21 AND 22 OF COLOMB PLANTATION LOCATED OFF OF LA HWY. 10 AND FERRY ROAD AT NEW ROADS IN SECTIONS 18, 19, 77 & 78, TOWNSHIP 4 SOUTH AND RANGE 10 EAST FOR LLT AUDUBON, INC

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

RESOLVED, That upon the recommendation of the Pointe Coupee Parish Planning & Zoning Commission, the final plat showing the development of Audubon Estates Subdivision, formerly known as the Robert N. Loupe Estate as Lots 21 and 22 of Colomb Plantation, located off of LA Highway 10 and Ferry Road at New Roads in Sections 18, 19, 77 & 78, Township 4 South and Range 10 East for LLT Audubon, Inc. be approved.

Unanimously carried.

APPROVAL OF PLAT SHOWING THE SUBDIVISION OF LOT 16 INTO LOT 16-A & LOT 16-B BEING A PORTION OF THE THOMAS J. BELLO, SR. PROPERTY UNIT 5 OF OAKLAND PLANTATION LOCATED IN SECTION 76, TOWNSHIP 5 SOUTH AND RANGE 10 EAST FOR GARY P. BELLO

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

RESOLVED, That the plat showing the subdivision of Lot 16 into Lot 16-A & Lot 16-B, being a portion of the Thomas J. Bello, Sr. Property Unit 5 of Oakland Plantation, located in Section 76, Township 5 South and Range 10 East for Gary P. Bello be approved.

Unanimously carried.

RESOLUTION(S):

APPOINTMENT OF A MEMBER TO THE POINTE COUPEE HEALTH SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1

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

RESOLVED, That Mr. Trohn Blanchard be appointed a member of the Pointe Coupee Health Services District No. 1 Board for a four-year term to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Frank Foti.

Unanimously carried.

Councilman Jarreau gave expression of thanks to Mr. Frank Foti, a pharmacist, for his many years of dedicated service as a member of the PC Health Services District No. 1 Board. He also, expressed appreciation for the appointment of Mr. Blanchard, a pharmacist, who will be a great asset to the board.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD OF POINTE COUPEE, INC.

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

RESOLVED, That Mr. Stephen Dabadie (two-year term), Mrs. Jennifer Vosburg (four-year term) and Mr. Patrick Witty (six-year term) be appointed to serve as members of the Industrial Development Board of the Parish of Pointe Coupee, Louisiana, Inc.

Unanimously carried.

CREATION OF AN ADVISORY STUDY COMMITTEE ON FIRE DISTRICT GOVERNANCE

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

**A RESOLUTION TO CREATE A STUDY COMMITTEE TO
STUDY AND MAKE A RECOMMENDATION
IN REGARD TO THE CREATION OF A
CONSOLIDATED BOARD TO SERVE AS THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY
FOR THE VARIOUS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS IN
POINTE COUPEE PARISH;
AND TO PROVIDE IN REGARD THERETO**

WHEREAS, Pointe Coupee Parish currently has the multiple Fire Protection Districts; and

WHEREAS, each of the various Fire Protection Districts is governed by its own board; and

WHEREAS, there may be benefits in fire rating and operations of the Fire Districts if there were created a single Consolidated Board to serve as the governing authority for each of the Fire Protection Districts; and

WHEREAS, the creation of a Consolidated Board would not require the consolidation of the fire districts; and

WHEREAS, a study of the potential benefits and problems with the creation of a Consolidated Board will benefit the Council in making the best decision for people of Pointe Coupee Parish; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Pointe Coupee Parish Council that there is hereby created the Advisory Study Committee on Fire District Governance. The Committee will be composed of 8 members, appointed by the Council Chairman, with not less than two of whom being members of the Council and not less than two of whom being Fire Chiefs with a Fire Protection District in Pointe Coupee Parish. Otherwise, members may be members of the Council, Fire Chiefs, members of existing Fire Boards, or members of the general public.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Pointe Coupee Parish Council that the Advisory Study Committee on Fire District Governance shall meet not less than three (3) times after appointment, with the first meeting called by the Chairman of the Council. At the first meeting the Committee shall elect from its membership a Chair and Vice Chair. The Council Secretary shall provide Secretarial services to the Committee, including posting the agenda and maintaining minutes. The Committee shall review and discuss the potential benefits and problems with creating a Consolidated Fire District Board to serve as the governing authority for each of the existing Fire Protection Districts, including fiscal efficiencies and impacts on cooperative efforts to better serve and protect the people of Pointe Coupee Parish. The Committee shall designate its Chair to appear before the Council’s Committee of the Whole in May and make a report of its study and a recommendation on the proposal to create a Consolidated Fire Protection District Board.

Unanimously carried.

APPOINTMENT OF A DIRECTOR AND ALTERNATE DIRECTOR FOR LA MUNICIPAL NATURAL GAS PURCHASING & DISTRIBUTION AUTHORITY

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

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF A DIRECTOR AND AN ALTERNATE DIRECTOR TO REPRESENT THE PARISH OF POINTE COUPEE, STATE OF LOUISIANA, ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LOUISIANA MUNICIPAL NATURAL GAS PURCHASING AND DISTRIBUTION AUTHORITY AS PROVIDED BY CHAPTER 10-B OF TITLE 33 OF THE LOUISIANA REVISED STATUTES OF 1950.

WHEREAS, the Parish of Pointe Coupee, State of Louisiana, has previously become a member of the Authority in accordance with the Act; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 4546.2 of the Act, the governing authority of the Pointe Coupee Parish Gas Utility District 1 & 2, State of Louisiana, desires to approve the appointment of Mr. Nathan Cobb to serve as a Director of the Authority and to approve the appointment of Mr. Daryl Pritchard to serve as an alternate Director to act in the absence of the director herein above named: Therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the governing authority of the Parish of Pointe Coupee, State of Louisiana, acting in such capacity:

SECTION 1. That, pursuant to the Act, the appointment of Mr. Nathan Cobb to serve as a Director of the Authority for a term of four (4) years from the date hereof is approved and that the appointment of Mr. Daryl Pritchard to serve as an alternate Director, for like term, to act in the absence of the director is approved.

SECTION 2. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Unanimously carried.

APPROVE LIQUOR LICENSE FOR RON’S TRUCKING SERVICE, LLC (B & A QUICK MART, INC. 8449 FERRY RD., NEW ROADS)

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

RESOLVED, That the Liquor License for Ron’s Trucking Service, LLC (B & A Quick Mart, Inc., 8849 Ferry Road, New Roads) be approved.

Unanimously carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, NOTICES, MEETINGS, ETC.

There were no announcements, etc.

Motion by Mr. Bazile and seconded by Mr. Watkins, the meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Gerrie P. Martin
Council Clerk

Dustin Boudreaux
Chairman