

MINUTES
POINTE COUPEE PARISH POLICE JURY
July 25, 2017

The Pointe Coupee Parish Police Jury met in regular session at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 25, 2017, at the Courthouse Annex in the Police Jury Meeting Room, New Roads, Louisiana.

President Melanie Bueche called the meeting to order and directed Secretary Gerrie Martin to call the roll:

PRESENT: Messrs. Mitch Langlois, Charles Watkins, Gordon Taylor, Cornell Dukes, Stephen Smith, Kyle Olinde, Glenn Cline, Edward Bazile, Kurt Jarreau and Mrs. Melanie Bueche. Arrived after roll call: Messrs. Justin Cox and Anthony Hurst.

ABSENT: None.

15 MINUTES OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

ADOPT MINUTES

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

RESOLVED, That the minutes of July 11, 2017 meeting be adopted as presented and published in the official journal.

Unanimously carried.

RESOLUTION OF CONDOLENCES TO BE FORWARDED TO THE FAMILIES OF THE LATE MR. MORRIS FRANKLIN, SR. AND MRS. VELMA DAWSON

Motion Mr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Langlois:

WHEREAS, God in His infinite wisdom has called to his eternal reward Mr. Morris Franklin, Sr. and Mrs. Velma Beadle Dawson; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Morris Franklin, Sr. was a native and resident of Batchelor and Pointe Coupee Parish, Louisiana for 83 years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Velma Beadle Dawson was a native of Morgan City, Louisiana and a resident of Patterson, Louisiana for total of 84 years; and

WHEREAS, their presence will be sadly missed by their families and friends: Therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this Pointe Coupee Parish Police Jury does and hereby extends to the families of Mr. Morris Franklin, Sr. and Mrs. Velma Beadle Dawson this resolution of sympathy in the loss of their loved one.

Unanimously carried.

UPDATE ON LA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Mrs. Tammy Delatte of the Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs gave the annual report on Veterans Affairs in Pointe Coupee Parish. She reported in 2016 they provided compensation and pension of \$5,717,000 to 1,660 veterans and their families in the parish. Mrs. Delatte reported she will be leaving Veterans Affairs in December. The Jury wished her the best in the future.

PECAN ACRES SUBDIVISION UPDATES FROM THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

Floodplain Administrator Cletus Langlois introduced Messrs. Pat Santos & Mark Riley of the Governor's Office who gave updates on funding availabilities for the buyout and relocation of residents in Pecan Acres Subdivision, who were affected by the August 2016 flood.

Mr. Santos, Liaison for Recovery for the Restore Louisiana Program, reported on the funds Governor John Bel Edwards allocated for Pointe Coupee Parish to relocate homes flooded in Pecan Acres Subdivision.

Mr. Riley of the Office of Community Development (OCD) gave an overview of the buyout of homes and relocation of the residents in the subdivision. He reported the buyout program will assist residents with relocating to a better location outside the floodplain, and will require 100% of the residents agreeing to the buyout by USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). He reported without the 100% participation of the residents, the funding would be lost. He reported the relocation program will allow construction or purchase of homes for the residents that are comparable in size and quality of their homes prior to the flood.

Juror Dukes asked the Jury to consider asking the lenders for the residents in Pecan Acres to suspend their mortgage payments for 180 days until the residents make a decision about selling their homes.

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

RESOLVED, That the Pointe Coupee Parish Police Jury hereby request the lenders for the residents in Pecan Acres Subdivision to suspend the mortgage payments of the residents for 180 days until a decision is made about selling their homes; and be it

RESOLVED further, that a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor John Bel Edwards to support this endeavor.

Unanimously carried.

Upon responding to questions from the residents and Jurors, the discussion ended with residents completing a signature sheet to obtain an actual count of who is in favor of the buyout and relocation programs.

Floodplain Administrator Langlois informed the Jury that \$996,000 of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funds have been allocated to the parish to perform various drainage projects in the parish. He asked Jurors to submit for his review and evaluation a prioritize list of three (3) proposed drainage projects in their district to be funded. He reported representatives from GOHSEP will be at the next Jury meeting to discuss this program.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF THE KIWANIS CLUB BUOY PROJECT

Juror Smith asked that the discussion of the Kiwanis Club buoy project be tabled.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF LEASING OFFICE SPACE

Juror Dukes asked that the discussion of leasing office space be deferred until their next meeting.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF REPLACING CULVERTS IN BATCHELOR HIGH SCHOOL SUBDIVISION

Mr. George LaCour appeared before the Jury to discuss the need and request assistance with replacing the culverts in Batchelor High School Subdivision that is too small and impeding drainage. He reported the culverts are restricting the flow of drainage and causing flooding in some of the 25 – 30 homes in the subdivision.

Juror Taylor presented pictures and commented on the drainage problem, and reported it will cost approximately \$65,000 – \$70,000 to replace the culverts. The Jury agreed that this drainage project would be eligible for funding from GOHSEP.

PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION--COASTAL BRIDGE COMPANY CONTRACT FOR ROAD REHABILITATION PROGRAM

Motion by Mr. Olinde and seconded by Mr. Smith:

RESOLVED, That the Police Jury convene in executive session at 6:58 p.m. to discuss Coastal Bridge Company contract for the Road Rehabilitation Program.

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

YEAS: Messrs. Langlois, Watkins, Taylor, Dukes, Smith, Olinde, Cox, Cline, Bazile, Hurst, Jarreau and Mrs. Bueche.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

On a vote of 12-0, the motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Langlois and seconded by Mr. Hurst:

RESOLVED, That the Police Jury return to open session at 7:43 p.m.

Unanimously carried.

As a result of executive session, the following resolution was offered:

Motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Hurst:

RESOLVED, That Attorney Gray Sexton be authorized to send a letter to the bonding company for Coastal Bridge Company asking for a response to correspondence previously sent by the Police Jury concerning the Road Rehabilitation Program, and that Attorney Sexton be authorized to engage an expert of professional engineers to render an opinion about the current situation of our road ways and if any contrasting information is received from the opinion, that the Police Jury will meet prior to Attorney Sexton engaging with Coastal Bridge Company and Professional Engineering Consultants Corporation to move forward.

Unanimously carried.

TO CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION WITH RESPECT TO ADOPTING A RESOLUTION ORDERING AND CALLING A SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD IN THE PARISH OF POINTE COUPEE, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TO AUTHORIZE THE RENEWAL OF AN AD VALOREM TAX THEREIN FOR PC PARISH LIBRARY; MAKING APPLICATION TO THE STATE BOND COMMISSION IN CONNECTION THEREWITH; AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH

Juror Cox commented on not receiving documents that were requested on his behalf by Secretary Martin to the Director of the Library for a plan of action and a financial plan for the libraries. He reported on expecting to receive the documents prior to the meeting and before voting on the resolution below, and representatives from the library being present at the meeting to address any questions. Secretary Martin reported the director will deliver the documents tomorrow, but was not informed representatives from the library were needed at the meeting. Juror Cox expressed the reason for reviewing the finances and other documents to better understand if the funds from the ad valorem tax are needed.

Juror Dukes also expressed concerns and the need for additional information about the finances and detailed information about the use of the funds from the ad valorem tax.

Juror Hurst, a liaison member of the Library Board, commented on receiving an email of the requested information, and gave a brief overview of the five to ten year plan for the libraries in the parish, which includes various improvements and construction projects to the libraries.

After further discussion and comment by Jurors, the Jury asked that the chairperson and director of the library be present at their next meeting to discuss their financial plan and address any concerns

from the Jury.

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

A resolution ordering and calling a special election to be held in the Parish of Pointe Coupee, State of Louisiana, to authorize the renewal of a special tax therein; making application to the State Bond Commission in connection therewith; and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Police Jury of the Parish of Pointe Coupee, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the Parish of Pointe Coupee, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), that:

SECTION 1. Election Call. Subject to the approval of the State Bond Commission, and under the authority conferred by Article VI, Sections 30 and 32 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974, the applicable provisions of Chapter 5 and Chapter 6-A of the Louisiana Election Code, and other constitutional and statutory authority, a special election is hereby called and ordered to be held in the Parish on **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2017**, between the hours of seven o'clock (7:00) a.m., and eight o'clock (8:00) p.m., in accordance with the provisions of La. R.S. 18:541, and at the said election there shall be submitted to all registered voters qualified and entitled to vote at the said election under the Constitution and laws of this State and the Constitution of the United States, the following proposition, to-wit:

PROPOSITION
(MILLAGE RENEWAL)

Shall the Parish of Pointe Coupee, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), be authorized to levy a four and three hundredths (4.03) mills tax (the estimated amount reasonably expected to be collected from the levy of the tax for one entire year being \$1,965,000) on all the property subject to taxation within the Parish for a period of ten (10) years, beginning with the year 2021 and ending 2030, for the purpose of maintaining and supporting the Pointe Coupee Parish Library and its branches?

SECTION 2. Publication of Notice of Election. A Notice of Special Election shall be published in the *Pointe Coupee Banner*, a newspaper of general circulation within the Parish, published in New Roads, Louisiana, and being the official journal of the Parish, once a week for four consecutive weeks, with the first publication to be made not less than forty-five (45) days nor more than ninety (90) days prior to the date of the election, which Notice shall be substantially in the form attached hereto as "Exhibit A" and incorporated herein by reference the same as if it were set forth herein in full.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, prior to the publication of the Notice of Election, the President is authorized and directed to make any amendments to the foregoing proposition that may be required to comply with any state or federal agencies.

SECTION 3. Canvass. This Governing Authority shall meet at its regular meeting place, the Police Jury Meeting Room, Courthouse Annex Building, 160 East Main Street, New Roads, Louisiana, on **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2017**, at **FIVE-THIRTY O'CLOCK (5:30) P.M.**, and shall then and there in open and public session proceed to examine and canvass the returns and declare the result of the said special election.

SECTION 4. Polling Places. The polling places for the precincts in the Parish are hereby designated as the polling places at which to hold the said elections, and the Commissioners in-Charge and Commissioners, respectively, will be the same persons as those designated in accordance with law.

SECTION 5. Election Commissioners; Voting Machines. The officers designated in accordance with law, to serve as Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners, including such

substitutes therefor as may be selected and designated in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1287, shall hold the said special election as herein provided, and shall make due returns of said election for the meeting of the Governing Authority to be held on Tuesday, December 12, 2017, as provided in Section 3 hereof. All registered voters in the Parish will be entitled to vote at the special election, and voting machines shall be used.

SECTION 6. Authorization of Officers. The Secretary of the Governing Authority is hereby empowered, authorized and directed to arrange for and to furnish to said election officers in ample time for the holding of said election, the necessary equipment, forms and other paraphernalia essential to the proper holding of said election and the President and/or Secretary of the Governing Authority are further authorized, empowered and directed to take any and all further action required by State and/or Federal law to arrange for the election.

SECTION 7. Furnishing Election Call to Election Officials. Certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Secretary of State, the Clerk of Court and *Ex-Officio* Parish Custodian of Voting Machines of Pointe Coupee Parish and the Registrar of Voters of Pointe Coupee Parish, as notification of the special election, in order that each may prepare for said election and perform their respective functions as required by law.

SECTION 8. Application to State Bond Commission. Application is made to the State Bond Commission for consent and authority to hold the special election as herein provided, and in the event said election carries for further consent and authority to continue to levy and collect the special tax provided for therein. A certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the State Bond Commission on behalf of this Governing Authority, together with a letter requesting the prompt consideration and approval of this application.

This resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Messrs. Langlois, Watkins, Taylor, Dukes, Smith, Olinde, Cox, Cline, Bazile, Hurst, Jarreau and Mrs. Bueche.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

On a vote of 12-0, the motion carried.

And the resolution was declared adopted on this, the 25th day of July, 2017.

EXHIBIT "A"

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

Pursuant to the provisions of a resolution adopted by the Police Jury of the Parish of Pointe Coupee, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the Parish of Pointe Coupee, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), on July 25, 2017, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special election will be held within the Parish on **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2017**, and that at the said election there will be submitted to all registered voters in the Parish qualified and entitled to vote at the said election under the Constitution and Laws of the State of Louisiana and the Constitution of the United States, the following proposition, to-wit:

PROPOSITION (MILLAGE RENEWAL)

Shall the Parish of Pointe Coupee, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), be authorized to levy a four and three hundredths (4.03) mills tax (the estimated amount reasonably expected to be collected from the levy of the tax for one entire year being \$1,965,000) on all the property subject to taxation within the Parish for a period of ten (10) years, beginning with the year 2021 and ending 2030, for the purpose of maintaining and supporting the Pointe Coupee Parish Library and its branches?

Said special election will be held at each and every polling place in Pointe Coupee Parish, which polls will open at seven o'clock (7:00) a.m., and close at eight o'clock (8:00) p.m., in accordance with the provisions of La. R.S. 18:541.

The polling places at the precincts in the Parish are hereby designated as the polling places at which to hold the said elections, and the Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners, respectively, shall be those persons designated according to law.

Notice is further given that a portion of the monies collected from the tax described in the Proposition shall be remitted to certain state and statewide retirement systems in the manner required by law.

The said special election will be held in accordance with the applicable provisions of Chapter 5 and Chapter 6-A of Title 18 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, and other constitutional and statutory authority, and the officers appointed to hold the said election, as provided in this Notice of Special Election, or such substitutes therefor as may be selected and designated in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1287, will make due returns thereof to said Governing Authority, and NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the Governing Authority will meet at its regular meeting place, the Police Jury Meeting Room, Courthouse Annex Building, 160 East Main Street, New Roads, Louisiana, on **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2017, at FIVE-THIRTY O'CLOCK (5:30) P.M.**, and shall then and there in open and public session proceed to examine and canvass the returns and declare the result of the said special election. All registered voters of the Parish are entitled to vote at said special election and voting machines will be used.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION FOR CONDEMNATION OF ABANDONED BUILDINGS LOCATED AT THE CORNER OF DOLPH & SOUTH STREETS, AND HIGHLAND STREET AT NEW ROADS OWNED BY JOE L. BOLES

Juror Hurst discussed a report received from Certified Building Official Tommy Leonard concerning the condemnation of the abandoned buildings located at the corner of Dolph & South Streets, and Highland Street at New Roads owned by Mr. Joe L. Boles that are in bad condition and a potential hazard for human occupancy.

Motion by Mr. Hurst and seconded by Mr. Smith:

RESOLVED, That the abandoned buildings located at the corner of Dolph & South Streets, and Highland Street at New Roads owned by Mr. Joe L. Boles be condemned; and be it

RESOVLED further, That a public hearing be held Tuesday, August 22, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. for the condemnation of the abandoned buildings owned by Mr. Joe L. Boles.

Unanimously carried.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING INVOICES SUBMITTED BY JIMMY GASPARD, JR. FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO RACCOURCI ISLAND ROAD

Juror Taylor discussed a request from Mr. Jimmy Gaspard, Jr., asking the Jury to approve invoices totaling \$1,509.90 for materials and labor submitted for improvements on Raccourci Island Road.

President Bueche reported on a verbal legal opinion she received from Assistant District Attorney John Wayne Jewell and stated because Mr. Gaspard did not receive prior approval of the Jury to perform improvements to the road; the Jury is not obligated to pay the invoices submitted by Mr. Gaspard.

Vice President Olinde gave a brief explanation of why Mr. Gaspard made improvements to the road. He reported that the current arrangements is that our parish would perform improvements to the road twice a year and West Feliciana Parish would provide the materials to maintain the road, which a portion is in both parishes.

The Jury authorized Assistant District Attorney Jewell to send a letter, on behalf of the Jury, to Mr. Gaspard explaining why his invoices were not approved by the Jury.

UPDATE ON FALSE RIVER

Vice President Olinde gave an update on False River and reported the water level is 15.9 ft., and all gates are closed.

RESOLUTIONS:

APPROVE INVOICES FROM PEC FOR FALSE RIVER NITROGEN IMPACT MITIGATION PROJECT AND FALSE RIVER ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION - PHASE II NORTH FLATS PROJECT

Motion by Mr. Olinde and seconded by Mr. Smith:

RESOLVED, That an invoice in the amount of \$2,252.35 submitted by Professional Engineering Consultants Corporation for the False River Nitrogen Impact Mitigation Project be approved for payment; and be it

RESOLVED further, That an invoice in the amount of \$2,280.00 submitted by Professional Engineering Consultants Corporation for the False River EcoSystem Restoration – Phase II North Flats Project be approved for payment.

Unanimously carried.

APPROVAL OF LIQUOR LICENSE FOR JOHN W. MCCRORY, SR. FOR THE BUCKHORN STORE & CAFÉ, LLC AT LOTTIE

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

RESOLVED, That a Liquor License for Mr. John W. McCrory, Sr. for the Buckhorn Store & Café, LLC (5531 Airline Highway, Lottie, LA) be approved.

Unanimously carried.

AUTHORIZE THE PRESIDENT TO SIGN THE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE LA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

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

RESOLVED, That Mrs. Melanie Bueche be authorized to sign the Cooperative Agreement between the Pointe Coupee Parish Police Jury and the LA Department of Veterans Affairs to support the cost to operate and maintain the veterans service office in the parish at a monthly rate of \$333 from July 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017 and \$689 monthly from January 1, 2018 to June 30, 2018, effective July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

Unanimously carried.

AUTHORIZE THE PRESIDENT TO SIGN CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 FOR M-1 CHANNEL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Motion by Mr. Olinde and seconded by Mr. Taylor:

RESOLVED, That Change Order No. 1 providing an increase in the contract price in the amount of \$114,100.00 for the M-1 Channel Improvements Project be approved, and President Melanie L. Bueche be authorized to sign the Change Order.

Unanimously carried.

APPROVAL TO REQUEST USDA TO SEND A HOUSING SPECIALIST TO THE PARISH EVERY 90 DAYS AND ADVERTISE IN THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL

Juror Dukes reported on the need for housing in the parish and ask approval of the Jury to request USDA Rural Development to send a housing specialist to the parish every 90 days and advertise in the official journal.

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

RESOLVED, That the Police Jury send correspondence requesting USDA Rural Development to send a housing specialist to the parish every 90 days and advertise in the official journal.

Unanimously carried.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

PLANNING

Juror Olinde reported on a Planning Commission meeting held July 20, 2017. Copies of the minutes were emailed to each Juror. He presented the following recommendations/resolution for approval:

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

RESOLVED, That upon recommendations of the Pointe Coupee Parish Planning Commission and Parish Sanitarian, a map showing the subdivision of Lot B (Brittney N. Savoy) of the former Viola N. Savoy Tract into Lot B-1 and Lot B-2 located off of LA Highway 413 in Section 101, T5S & R10E at Jarreau for Travis Saizon be approved, pending a variance for Lot B-2 due to the frontage being less than the required 125' and the hardship being a lot line issue because of an existing mobile home on Lot B-1; and be it

RESOLVED further, That upon recommendations of the Pointe Coupee Parish Planning Commission and Parish Sanitarian, a map showing the subdivision of Lot 1A of the former R. L. Bergeron, Jr. Tract into Lot 1A-1 and Lot 1A-2 located off of LA Highway 1 in Section 58, T5S & R10E at New Roads for John Ewing be approved; and be it

RESOLVED further, That due to the expense of the properties the variance request for the sidelines of Lot 1A-1 and Lot 1A-2 from 8' to 5' for John Ewing be approved; and be it

RESOLVED further, That due to the expense of the properties, the variance request for the rear setback of Lot 1A-1 and Lot 1A-2 from 25' to 20' for John Ewing be approved; and be it

RESOLVED further, That Mrs. Melanie L. Bueche be authorized to execute the above plat for Travis Saizon and John Ewing.

Unanimously carried.

PERSONNEL

Chairman Olinde reported on a Personnel Committee meeting held July 20, 2017. Copies of the minutes were emailed to each Juror. He presented the following recommendations/resolution for approval:

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

RESOLVED, That Mr. Joe Zaback be promoted to the position of Building Maintenance Supervisor at Pay Grade 214, Step 5 at an annual salary of \$44,128.00; and be it

RESOLVED further, That the position of an Equipment Operator IV (Long Boom Excavator Operator) be readvertised to the public with adding the minimum and maximum salary, benefits and changing the verbiage of the job description; and be it

RESOLVED further, That the Position Notice for an Equipment Operator IV (Long Boom Excavator Operator) be advertised in the Westside Journal, State Work Force website, Police Jury website and Facebook.

Unanimously carried.

July 25, 2017

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Motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Olinde, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Gerrie P. Martin
Secretary

Melanie L. Bueche
President

Publish: August 10, 2017.