

MINUTES
POINTE COUPEE PARISH COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
February 26, 2019

The Pointe Coupee Parish Council Executive Committee met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 26, 2019, 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.

CONSIDER AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

There were no amendments to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no public comments.

DISCUSSION & CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST BY KCS RAILROAD TO ABANDON THE RAILROAD BRIDGE OVER CHENAL BAYOU AT THE NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OFF OF CLINE DRIVE & REPLACE WITH SIX 92" CULVERTS

Floodplain Administrator Cletus Langlois asked that this matter be tabled for discussion at a later date and a recommendation is presented by Public Works & Utilities Director Nathan Cobb.

DISCUSSION OF APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS OF MEMBERS TO BOARDS, COMMITTEES & COMMISSIONS

The committee discussed appointments/reappointments of members to boards, committees & commissions.

Chairman Boudreaux announced that the chairmen and/or chairpersons of the sewerage districts were invited to attend the meeting to give responses to a questionnaire that was sent to each district.

Chairperson Joetta Hunter-Joseph of Sewerage District No. 1, Commissioner Geraldine Simmons Cage of Sewerage District No. 3A and Chairman Angelo Fabre of Sewerage District No. 6 presented and reviewed their responses to a questionnaire requested by Parish President Major Thibaut and Council Chairman Boudreaux regarding their perspective districts. In closing, they responded to questions from members of the committee, Parish President Thibaut and PW&U Director Cobb.

The chairperson of Sewerage District No. 4 was unable to attend the meeting and her response to the questionnaire was submitted and will be emailed to the committee.

PW&U Director Cobb reported on his inspection of the sewer system that resulted in the treatment facility not working properly and other repairs needed to the system in Sewerage District No. 3A (Delta Place Subdivision).

PW&U Director Cobb reported on a letter received from DHH and EPA stating the sewer treatment plant has been in noncompliance and not working properly since 2015 in Sewerage District No. 6 (Mandela Drive). He reported on a meeting and inspection of the site and the repairs needed to bring the system back into compliance.

Parish President Thibaut reported on continuing with further assessments and rate studies of the sewer districts in the parish.

It was reported that there were no active members and officers on the boards for Batchelor High School Subdivision and Legonier Sewerage Districts. A response and research by the office staff to their questionnaires were submitted. It was reported that invoices for maintenance and repairs to these systems are paid by the parish.

Chairman Boudreaux reported on further review with administration and Assistant District Attorney John Wayne Jewell of the assessments and results of the questionnaires to determine the feasibility of consolidating the sewerage districts.

Parish President Thibaut recommended the committee perform the same assessments and submit questionnaires to the remaining boards, committees and commissions, prior to the Parish Council reappointing/appointing members.

DISCUSSION OF EXPENSE AND VEHICLE POLICY FOR THE PARISH PRESIDENT

The committee discussed establishing a reasonable expense and a vehicle policy for Parish President Thibaut, as per requirements in the Parish Charter.

Parish President Thibaut commented on his preference of receiving a reasonable expense or allowance per the IRS guidelines versus having a vehicle.

After discussion, the committee agreed to table action on this matter until a response is received from other parishes and the Police Jury Association regarding their expense allowance and vehicle policies.

UPDATE FROM DEPARTMENTS:

A. Administration:

1. Employee Policy Manual/Handbook – repeal previous versions and adopt a new manual at the Parish Council meeting on 3/12/19, effective 4/1/19.
2. IT services upgrade with Methods, effective 3/1/19.
3. Phone and internet services upgrades with Fidelity Communications, effective 3/1/19 with \$11,000 annual savings.
4. Concessions contract for recreation with Erica Jewell.
5. Will be advertising RFP for the collection of white goods and bulky waste. A letter will be sent extending the current contract with Lionel Boudreaux Trucking.

B. Finance:

1. 2018 Audit preparation has begun, and will review findings from 2017 audit.
2. Implementing an evaluation of merit based pay system for employees.
3. Review comp time vs. overtime policy, effective 4/1/19.

C. Public Works/Utilities:

1. Work Request process – implement new policy allowing access/submittal on website.
2. Culvert installation policy – need to adopt new policy & repeal current ordinance. PW&U Director Cobb will research this matter further with state & other agencies.
3. Grass cutting contracts (roadside & parish properties) bids will be opened 3/25/19.
4. Beaver Program – need to promote & publish notices about current program of \$40 per tail.
5. Vehicle Policy and GPS systems – utilizing current system and purchasing more GPS.
6. Priority system for road program (top 3 in each district) – \$2.4 million allocated & PW&U Director Cobb will implement program and is asking each councilman to submit a list of their top 3 roads, including gravel roads, to the Council Clerk.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, NOTICES, MEETINGS, ETC.

Chairman Boudreaux announced the next Parish Council meeting will be held March 12, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Bazile and seconded by Mr. Watkins, the meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Gerrie P. Martin
Council Clerk

Dustin Boudreaux
Chairman