

MINUTES
POINTE COUPEE PARISH POLICE JURY
April 8, 2014

The Pointe Coupee Parish Police Jury met in regular session at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 8, 2014, 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. John Pourciau, Clifford Nelson, Allen Monk, Kyle Olinde, Cornell Dukes, Russell Young, Glenn Cline, Albert Dukes, Mrs. Janet Vosburg, Mr. Kurt Jarreau and Mrs. Melanie Bueche. Arrived after roll call: Mr. Justin Cox.

ABSENT: None.

ADOPT MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Pourciau and seconded by Mr. Nelson:

RESOLVED, That the minutes of March 25, 2014 meeting be adopted as presented and published in the official journal.

Unanimously carried.

AMEND AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Jarreau and seconded by Mrs. Vosburg:

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

- Support of ROTC Program at Livonia High School. (Amy Butler)
- Resolution--Award bid to erect a steel building at Multi-Use Center. (PA Bello)
- Resolution--Accept renewal proposal for General Liability Insurance. (PA Bello)

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

YEAS: Messrs. Pourciau, Nelson, Monk, Olinde, C. Dukes, Young, Cline, A. Dukes, Mrs. Vosburg, Mr. Jarreau and Mrs. Bueche.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Mr. Cox.

On a vote of 11-0-1, the motion carried.

15 MINUTES OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

RESOLUTION--EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY FOR BEATRICE MALOID

Juror Nelson presented the following expression of sympathy resolution to the family of Mrs. Beatrice Maloid:

Motion by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. Monk:

WHEREAS, God in His infinite wisdom has called to his eternal reward Mrs. Beatrice Harrell Maloid; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Beatrice Harrell Maloid was a native of Pointe Coupee Parish and resident of New Roads and Pointe Coupee Parish for 84 years; and

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

RESOLVED, That this Pointe Coupee Parish Police Jury does and hereby extends to the family of Mrs. Beatrice Harrell Maloid this resolution of sympathy in the loss of their loved one.

Unanimously carried.

EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARY SERVICE AWARDS (RAYMOND LACOUR, JR &SYLVESTER PLATT)

Juror Young presented employee anniversary service awards to employee Raymond LaCour, Jr. for 10 years and employee Sylvester Platt for 20 years of dedicated service.

DISCUSSION OF OFFICIAL JOURNAL QUALIFICATIONS

Juror A. Dukes discussed the qualifications of an official journal (The Pointe Coupee Banner) in the parish. He inquired and will review whether neighboring parishes require five (5) or two (2) years for a newspaper to be established in their parish to become an official journal.

Juror Cox entered the meeting at 5:10 p.m.

President Bueche reported the state required qualifications, based upon their revised statute, for an official journal is that a newspaper has to be established in the parish for five (5) or more years to qualify as an official journal. Legal documents about the official journal were presented to each Juror.

SUPPORT OF ROTC PROGRAM AT LIVONIA HIGH SCHOOL

Mrs. Amy Butler addressed the Jury to request their support to keep the ROTC Program at Livonia High School that is scheduled to close by the US Air Force next year, due to budget cuts by the Air Force and drop in students' participation in the program. After discussion, the following resolution was offered:

Juror Jarreau stated the Pointe Coupee Parish School Board made a \$30,000 investment in the ROTC Program.

Motion by Mrs. Vosburg and seconded by Mr. Jarreau:

WHEREAS, the ROTC Program at Livonia High School has become an asset and greatly enhanced the lives of those students who participated in this program; and

WHEREAS, the US Air Force has advised that they will be discontinuing and closing the ROTC Program next year at Livonia High School in Pointe Coupee Parish, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the closure of the ROTC Program will have a drastic impact on the students who have participated and greatly benefited from this program: Therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Pointe Coupee Parish Police Jury hereby request the US Air Force to reconsider their decision to close and discontinue the ROTC Program at Livonia High School in Pointe Coupee Parish, Louisiana and encourage the Air Force to continue this program at the school.

Unanimously carried.

2014 – 2015 PLANNING FOR SUCCESS

Juror Cox discussed planning for success in 2014 – 2015 and commented on the progress the Jury made in their Finance Committee meeting last week. He stated the Jury has some goals, including the tax endeavor, and is looking at ways to further streamline their budget to plan for success of the Jury.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF CHANGING BOWMAN ROAD TO A ONE-WAY ROAD

Juror Monk discussed a request from the residents to consider changing Bowman Road to a one-way road north to south that has become a traffic hazard. Bowman road is a parish road located underneath the Simmesport Bridge by the Atchafalaya River at Lettsworth. Juror Monk introduced residents Mike Bowman, Albert Saucier, Sr. and Albert Saucier, Jr. who explained the traffic problems that occur on the road.

Motion by Mr. Monk and seconded by Mr. A. Dukes:

RESOLVED, That Bowman Road be changed to a one-way road traveling north to south with a speed limit set at 15 mph, and a letter of notification and request be sent to the Pointe Coupee Parish Sheriff Office about the road change and ask that deputies patrol the area to enforce violators of the road change and speed limit; and be it

RESOLVED further, That a notice be published in The Pointe Coupee Banner for two (2) weeks notifying the public about the road change and speed limit on Bowman Road, and letters be sent to the Office of Emergency Preparedness (E911) and Acadian Ambulance Service advising about the changes to Bowman Road and to update necessary maps for emergency purposes.

Unanimously carried.

RESCIND RESOLUTION ADOPTED AT 3/25/14 MEETING ACCEPTING BID FOR LIMESTONE

Parish Administrator Jimmy Bello asked the Jury to rescind the resolution adopted at the March 25, 2014 meeting accepting the bid for purchase of limestone, because an electronic bid was not able to be retrieved at time of bid opening.

Motion by Mrs. Vosburg and seconded by Mr. Pourciau:

RESOLVED, That the resolution adopted at the March 25, 2014 meeting accepting the bid submitted by Moreau's Material Yard for the purchase of various size limestone be rescinded.

Unanimously carried.

REJECT ALL BIDS RECEIVED FOR LIMESTONE AND RE-ADVERTISE FOR BIDS

Parish Administrator Bello reported on the need to reject all bids received for the purchase of limestone and re-advertise for bids to include delivery and pick up (stockpile).

Motion by Mr. Monk and seconded by Mrs. Vosburg:

RESOLVED, That all bids received for the purchase of limestone be rejected and re-advertised for bids in the official journal to include delivery and pick up (stockpile).

Unanimously carried.

DISCUSSION OF REPORT FROM LA RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION'S ASSESSMENTS OF SEWER DISTRICT NO. 1

Juror A. Dukes discussed report received from LA Rural Water Association's assessments of Pointe Coupee Parish Sewerage District No. 1 and commented on the deficiencies found and repairs needed to system. He reported on the district operating with limited funds for maintenance and repairs, and their low monthly user fee.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF LA RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION PERFORMING ASSESSMENTS OF SEWER DISTRICTS IN THE PARISH

Juror A. Dukes discussed LA Rural Water Association performing assessments of all sewer districts in the parish. After discussion, the following resolution was offered:

Motion by Mr. Monk and seconded by Mr. A. Dukes:

RESOLVED, That the LA Rural Water Association be authorized to perform an assessment and rate study of all sewer districts in the parish and a letter be sent to all the sewer districts to advise about the study.

Unanimously carried.

DISCUSSION & CLARIFICATION OF DRAINAGE PROBLEM ON PROPERTY OF LESTER JEANPIERRE AT VENTRESS

Juror Nelson discussed and gave clarification of the drainage problem on property of Mr. Lester Jeanpierre at Ventress. Juror Nelson presented and asked President Bueche to read the following statement in its entirety and be included in the minutes:

“Statement of Rodney Robillard – Lester Jeanpierre issue

The following is my statement in regards to the issues and concerns that were brought to my attention by Juror Clifford Nelson in his effort to address concerns that were being made to him by Mr. Lester Jeanpierre. I cannot recall the exact dates and times that I met on site to view the concerns of Mr. Jeanpierre but it was approximately 3 years ago. My first visit was with Juror Clifford Nelson and we met at the front of the home of Mr. Jeanpierre on Patin Dyke Rd. in Ventress. On this visit we walked the property at the side of Mr. Jeanpierre's home and I observed some small holes and one larger depression along the fence line. We also reviewed the catch basin area at the immediate left at the highway of Mr. Jeanpierre's home where all of the DOTD culverts fed into. We noted some washouts at the bottom of the DOTD head wall and agreed to contact Mr. James White with DOTD to schedule a site visit for his inspection and input. I thereafter called

Mr. White to schedule a site visit. My next site visit was with Parish Administrator Jimmy Bello, James White and Juror Clifford Nelson. Mr. Bello & I arrived first and begin inspecting the site and Mr. Jeanpierre came out and we introduced ourselves and discussed his concerns. Mr. Jeanpierre explained that he was concerned of the holes and of possible washouts and of any possible impact to his home. Mr. Nelson then arrived followed by Mr. White and we all discussed the current visual issues of the small holes, the depressed site and the washout under the DOTD headwall. Mr. Jeanpierre expressed his concerns of possible damage to his home and his want of extension of his driveway culvert and construction of an enclosed catch basin. Mr. White stated that he could not construct a enclosed catch basin but that he could pump some cement in the bottom of the existing collection area and also jack some cement under the headwall to seal it, and would dye test the culvert to see if it drained all the way to bayou and check to see if the dye leaked out anywhere else and that he would also pump a slurry mix down the culvert to seal any possible holes and that he would fill the small holes near the culvert. He stated that he would line up a crew to perform the work and that he would advise me when the work was to begin. Several weeks thereafter I was contacted by Mr. White to advise me that he had sent a crew out to perform the work and that the crew had performed the dye test and the dye only came out at the bayou. The DOTD crew then placed cement in the bottom of the catch basin and jacked mud under the headwall to seal it. The crew then wanted to pump slurry down the culvert and seal the small holes and as they needed access to the property to perform this work, they requested Mr. Jeanpierre to sign a release statement which he refused to do. The DOTD crew then contacted Mr. White who advised the crew that without the signed statement that they should pick up and leave the site. Mr. White advised me that the DOTD crew felt that Mr. Jeanpierre was being difficult and was giving them a hard time.

Rodney Robillard”

Juror Nelson concluded that he had no reason to lie, he told the truth and that he went to do the job, but Mr. Jeanpierre ran them off his property. He stated this is why Jurors need to stay out of other Jurors’ district.

Juror Cox stated he spoke with Mr. “Jim Bo” White of DOTD and he had a different reflection of this matter. Juror Cox reported he was informed by Mr. Jeanpierre that he called Juror Nelson for help and Juror Cox did not know about this matter until Mr. Jeanpierre called him asking for help which he received.

President Bueche reported on her conversation with Mr. Robillard and he stated the holes on Mr. Jeanpierre’s property appeared to be fence post holes impressions and the fence post probably rotted and left perfectly round holes. She stated Juror Nelson brought this matter up to clear up what might have been stated in error and move forward.

RESOLUTIONS:

PROCLAMATION DECLARING APRIL AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH

Motion by Mrs. Vosburg and seconded by Mr. A. Dukes:

PROCLAMATION

FAIR HOUSING MONTH

WHEREAS, the 46th Anniversary of the National Fair Housing Law, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, during the month of April, is an occasion for all Americans

- individually and collectively - to rededicate themselves to the principle of freedom from housing discrimination whenever it exists; and

WHEREAS, this law guarantees for each citizen the critical, personal element of freely choosing a home; and

WHEREAS, a fair housing law has been passed by the State of Louisiana, and implementation of the law requires the positive commitment, involvement and support of each of our citizens; and

WHEREAS, the department and agencies of the State of Louisiana are to provide leadership in the effort to make fair housing not just an idea, but an ideal for all our citizens; and

WHEREAS, barriers that diminish the rights and limit the options of any citizen to freely choose a home will ultimately diminish the rights and limit the options of all.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MELANIE L. BUECHE, President of the Pointe Coupee Parish Police Jury do hereby proclaim the month of **April 2014**, as **FAIR HOUSING MONTH** in Pointe Coupee Parish and do hereby encourage all citizens to abide by the letter and spirit of the Fair Housing Law, and ask the citizens of this Parish to join in reaffirming the obligation and commitment to fair housing opportunities for all.

Unanimously carried.

APPROVE INVOICES FOR SJB GROUP, LLC FOR GUSTAV/IKE CDBG NEW ROADS SEWER IMPROVEMENTS

Motion by Mrs. Vosburg and seconded by Mr. C. Dukes:

RESOLVED, That an invoice in the amount of \$14,064.60 submitted SJB Group, LLC for professional engineering and surveying services for the Gustav/Ike CDBG New Roads Sewer Improvements Back Up Pumps/Sewer Lift Stations be approved for payment.

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

YEAS: Messrs. Cox, Cline, A. Dukes, Mrs. Vosburg, Messrs. Jarreau, Monk, Olinde, C. Dukes and Mrs. Bueche.

NAYS: Mr. Young.

PRESENT,

NOT VOTING: Mr. Nelson.

ABSENT: Mr. Pourciau.

On a vote of 9-1-1-1, the motion carried.

LETTER OF NO OBJECTIONS TO NRG ENERGY, INC. FOR BIG CAJUN II NATURAL GAS PIPELINE PROJECT

Motion by Mr. C. Dukes and seconded by Mr. Olinde:

RESOLVED, That the Pointe Coupee Parish Police Jury issue a letter of no objections to NRG Energy, Inc. to construct, operate and maintain a 20 inch diameter, high-grade steel natural gas pipeline from the TETCO Pipeline to the Big Cajun II Power Plant.

Unanimously carried.

AWARD BID TO ERECT A STEEL BUILDING AT MULTI-USE CENTER

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

RESOLVED, That the low bid in the amount of \$13,806.00 submitted by Brian Torres Builders, Inc. to erect a steel building at the Multi-Use Center be accepted.

Unanimously carried.

ACCEPT RENEWAL PROPOSAL FOR GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE

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

RESOLVED, That the renewal proposal for General Liability Insurance with Lexington Insurance (AIG) for \$2,000,000.00 coverage with terrorism coverage at account premium total of \$234,780.00 be accepted.

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

YEAS: Messrs. Pourciau, Nelson, Monk, Olinde, C. Dukes, Cox, Cline, Mrs. Vosburg,
Mr. Jarreau and Mrs. Bueche.

NAYS: Messrs. Young and A. Dukes.

ABSENT: None.

On a vote of 10-2-0, the motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PUBLIC UTILITIES

Chairman Nelson reported on a Public Utilities Committee meeting held April 2, 2014. Copies of the minutes were mailed to each Juror.

Motion by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. Monk:

RESOLVED, That the current Inactive Customer list be presented to Jurors for review and discussion at the April 22, 2014 Police Jury meeting; and be it

RESOLVED further, That the development of a policy and procedures for entering homes and lighting any pilots of private utility customers be implemented; and be it

RESOLVED further, That on-call employees be discussed further by Jury at the April 22, 2014 meeting.

Unanimously carried.

PERSONNEL

Chairman C. Dukes reported on a Personnel Committee meeting held April 3, 2014. Copies of the minutes were mailed to each Juror.

Motion by Mr. C. Dukes and seconded by Mr. Olinde:

RESOLVED, That employee Terry Pascalin be promoted from Public Utilities Service Worker II to the position of Lead Utility Service Worker (Assistant Public Utilities Supervisor) at Pay Grade 211, Step 9 at an annual salary of \$41,311.00; and be it

RESOLVED further, That a Position Notice for Public Utilities Service Worker I be advertised in the official journal for two (2) weeks with an annual salary depending upon experience with a minimum of \$23,649.00.

Unanimously carried.

Juror Pourciau left the meeting at 6:58 p.m.

FINANCE/PERSONNEL

Finance Chairman Monk reported on a joint Finance/Personnel Committees meeting held April 3, 2014. Copies of the minutes were mailed to each Juror.

Juror Jarreau stated he feels it is not a good idea to purchase or lease the John Deere Excavator, because they are talking about establishing a Millage Committee, had discussion about how poor the tax structure, drainage, E911, and all of their broken equipment, and this equipment, along with other things that need replacement, need to be part of the plan. He stated in order to help the Jury succeed in passing a tax, with this equipment, they are going to need the landowners to push the tax through, and he agrees with Juror Young 4 mills is not enough, needs to be a 20-year plan and thinks the committee is good and they are going to do well.

Motion by Mr. Monk and seconded by Mrs. Vosburg:

RESOLVED, That President Bueche form a Millage Committee consisting of five (5) members, Jurors Justin Cox, Russell Young, Albert Dukes, Allen Monk and John Pourciau, to study the action and procedure of increasing the millage rate and be reviewed with CPA Tommy LeJeune; and be it

RESOLVED further, That the resolution adopted at the February 14, 2012 meeting allocating \$250,000.00 to the City of New Roads to share the construction cost of the Martin Drive Outlet to Cherry Street at New Roads be rescinded, because the Jury does not have a Road Maintenance & Rehabilitation Program in 2014; and be it

RESOLVED further, That a letter be sent to the City of New Roads offering to assist with providing parish equipment and labor to cut in the road, dig needed drainage ditches and place aggregate on the outlet road; and be it

RESOLVED further, That a letter be sent to the municipalities in the parish to advise the Jury will not have a Road Maintenance & Rehabilitation Program in 2014; and be it

RESOLVED further, That the Police Jury lease a John Deere 290G Excavator at a monthly fee of \$3,467.51 plus tax from Doggett Machinery Service; and be it

RESOLVED further, That the salary of the Docents at the Pointe Coupee Parish Museum be increased to \$10.00 per hour; and be it

RESOLVED further, That a part-time Beaver Trapper be hired to work 24 hours per week, Monday thru Thursday with access to a company vehicle; and be it

RESOLVED further, That the Constables fee for outstanding solid waste collections be increased to \$10.00 per person; and be it

RESOLVED further, That the salary of the mosquito sprayers be increased to \$10.00 per hour.

Unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Monk and seconded by Mr. A. Dukes, the meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Gerrie P. Martin
Secretary

Melanie L. Bueche
President