

MINUTES
POINTE COUPEE PARISH POLICE JURY
April 28, 2015

The Pointe Coupee Parish Police Jury met in regular session at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 28, 2015, 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, Mrs. Janet Vosburg, Messrs. Justin Cox, Glenn Cline, Albert Dukes, Russell Polar, Kurt Jarreau and Mrs. Melanie Bueche.

AMEND AGENDA

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

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

- Executive Session--To receive report from legal counsel about consideration of action with regard to City of New Roads vs. Pointe Coupee Police Jury, First Circuit Court of Appeal, Docket NO. 20-145-CA-0179
- Authorize advertisement for bids--Grass Cutting for the Legonier LA Highway 1 Gateway Project. (Juror Monk)

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

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

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

ADOPT MINUTES

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

RESOLVED, That the minutes of April 14, 2015 meeting be adopted as presented and published in the official journal.

Unanimously carried.

15 MINUTES OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

CONSIDERATION OF BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD RENEWAL

Insurance Agent Claude Jarreau of Wright and Percy presented a proposal from Blue Cross Blue Shield for group health insurance renewal for consideration and/or approval of the Jury. He reported there were no increases in rates and benefits.

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

RESOLVED, That the proposal submitted by Blue Cross Blue Shield for group health insurance renewal for parish employees be accepted, effective July 1, 2015.

Unanimously carried.

NOISE ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT

Juror Monk introduced Mr. Michael Ewing who voiced concerns about violations of the Noise Ordinance from young adults racing off road vehicles near his residence off of LA Highway 418 along Latenache Bayou and the enforcement of the ordinance by the Sheriff.

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

RESOLVED, That the Secretary be authorized to send a letter to the Sheriff asking his assistance with the enforcement of the Noise Ordinance in the parish.

Unanimously carried.

CONSIDERATION OF BUILDING REPAIRS

Architect David Mougeot gave a report on the condition assessments and repairs needed to the Courthouse, Courthouse Annex and Detention Center buildings, along with cost estimates for repairs.

In response to Juror Cox, Parish Administrator John Grezaffi commented on future plans to have assessments of all remaining buildings owned by the Jury.

Juror Jarreau suggested Engineer Kevin Gravois review with Pan American Engineers the possibility of using LRA--CDBG funds to finance roof repairs to the buildings.

President Bueche received approval for Attorney Dannie Garrett to research possible funding sources to repair the courthouse, and discuss this matter at their next meeting.

INTRODUCTION OF AN AMENDMENT TO E-911 COMMUNICATIONS ORDINANCE

President Bueche commented on an introduction of the following ordinance that was crafted by Assistant District Attorney John Wayne Jewell:

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

NOTICE OF INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE
AND OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an amendment to the E-911 Communications Ordinance to amend Chapter 7 of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Pointe Coupee relative to municipal numbers required on buildings, increase the size, regulate placement thereof within maximum distances from roadways, and that a public hearing be held relative thereto at 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 12, 2015 at the Police Jury Meeting Room, Courthouse Annex, 160 East Main Street, New Roads, Louisiana, after which said ordinance may be considered for adoption. All interested persons are urged to attend.

Unanimously carried.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF REALLOCATING THE \$250,000 FOR CONSTRUCTION OF AN EMERGENCY ACCESSWAY – KINGS HIGHWAY AT NEW ROADS

Juror Nelson asked the Jury’s consideration of reallocating the \$250,000.00 to assist the City of New Roads with construction of an Emergency Accessway – Kings Highway at New Roads for the residents of Kings Place Subdivision, which said work will commence in approximately two (2) weeks.

President Bueche gave an explanation of the events and actions taken by the Jury leading to rescinding the allocation. She reported the Jury will provide equipment and labor to assist with constructing the road.

UPDATE ON MOSQUITO ABATEMENT

Parish Administrator Grezaffi gave an update on the Mosquito Abatement program and spraying has commenced in the parish.

RESOLUTIONS:

APPROVAL OF INVOICE FROM HUNT, GUILLOT & ASSOCIATES FOR IKE/GUSTAV DISASTER RECOVERY PROGRAM

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

RESOLVED, That an invoice in the amount of \$5,209.56 (Interim Billing #51) submitted by Hunt Guillot & Associates, LLC for professional services for Hurricanes Ike/Gustav Disaster Recovery Program be approved for payment.

Unanimously carried.

AUTHORIZE PRESIDENT TO SIGN A LEASE AMENDMENT FOR USDA POINTE COUPEE PARISH SERVICE CENTER

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

RESOLVED, That President Melanie L. Bueche be authorized to sign a Lease Amendment No. 5 between Pointe Coupee Parish Police Jury and USDA Pointe Coupee Parish Service Center for a lease extension through July 31, 2017 at a rental rate of \$3,233.81 monthly.

Unanimously carried.

AUTHORIZE ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID ON 2015 ROAD MAINTENANCE & REHABILITATION PROGRAM

Engineer Gravois reported CPA Tommy LeJeune advised that \$1.5 million has been budgeted to fund the 2015 road program. He suggested the Jury consult with Bond Attorney David Henderson to consider another bond issuance to fund more roads in the future.

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

RESOLVED, That Professional Engineering Consultants Corporation be authorized to advertise for bids in the official journal for the 2015 Road Maintenance & Rehabilitation Program and be it

RESOLVED further, That Bond Attorney David Henderson be authorized to review another bond issuance to fund additional road maintenance & rehabilitation.

Unanimously carried.

AUTHORIZE ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS—GRASS CUTTING FOR THE LEGONIER LA HIGHWAY 1 GATEWAY PROJECT

Juror Monk requested approval to advertise for bids to perform grass cutting at the Legonier LA Highway 1 Gateway Project, since the previous contractor has quit.

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

RESOLVED, That the Police Jury advertise for bids in the official journal for grass cutting at the Legonier LA Highway 1 Gateway Project near the Simmesport Bridge at Lettsworth.

Unanimously carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PLANNING COMMISSION

Juror Vosburg reported on a Planning Commission meeting held April 16, 2015. Copies of the minutes were emailed to each Juror.

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

RESOLVED, That upon the recommendations of the Pointe Coupee Parish Planning Commission and Parish Sanitarian, that a plat showing removal of Tract E-2-B-1 from Tract E-2-B creating Tracts E-2-B-1 and E-2-B-2 of Frisco Ridge Estates Subdivision, Future Third Filing located off of Mary Louise Street in Section 26, T5S & R9E at Livonia for James M. Thibaut be approved, pending the property description wording be changed to read: Showing the Subdivision of Tract E-2-B into Tracts E-2-B-1 and E-2-B-2 Frisco Ridge Estates Subdivision, Future Third Filing; and be it

RESOLVED further, That President Melanie L. Bueche be authorized to execute the above plat for James M. Thibaut; and be it

RESOLVED further, That a 50' setback from the State right-of-way be established from the foot of the Audubon Bridge to the city limits of New Roads, pending the identification of the intersection road name from LA DOTD.

Unanimously carried.

PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO LRS 42:17(A) (1) REGARDING SAL GENUSA, JR.

Recreation Director Sal Genusa, Jr. waived executive session. President Bueche gave an explanation of the reason for the executive session being placed on the agenda.

Attorney Seth Dornier, representing Mr. Genusa, objected to the notice sent via certified mail to Mr. Genusa regarding executive session, because the notice was not received within 24 hours of the meeting. Attorney Dornier objected if the meeting proceeds with further disciplinary action against his client, because it would be a violation of the open meeting law.

Assistant District Attorney John Wayne Jewell stated that because Mr. Genusa waived executive session, the 24 hours period does not apply in open session.

Parish Administrator Grezaffi gave an overview and explanation of a meeting he and Juror Cox had with Mr. Genusa of evidence (pictures) and his admission he had parish equipment (road cutter) at his residence. After further investigation, he was suspended three (3) days without pay.

Juror Cox gave an explanation of his concerns, stating he reported this matter to the administrator about Mr. Genusa having parish equipment for three (3) months and using it away from the workplace. He noted the equipment was not listed on the parish inventory when purchased. He stated the administrator has the authority to discipline employees based on the Jury's Personnel and Procedure Manual without any approval of the Jury. Also, possessing one of the two lawnmowers, from his department, that were advertised for bid by the Jury as surplus equipment and purchased by a private individual and later sold to Mr. Genusa.

Treasurer Becky Mayeux gave an explanation of how parish equipment is inventoried, and based upon the Legislative Auditors' guidelines, equipment that cost less than \$1,000 does not have to be tagged or inventoried. Juror Cox responded stating records show and it has been a practice of the Jury to tag all equipment.

Attorney Jewell reported on his investigation in this matter commenting on a policy adopted by the Jury in 2011 and form created allowing employees to bring equipment home.

Juror A. Dukes commented that Mr. Genusa had many opportunities to return the equipment back to the Jury and he chose not to and this is unauthorized use of equipment. He voiced his concerns about two (2) African American employees being recommended by Mr. Genusa and terminated from the Recreation Department because of theft, and was never discussed in executive session before the Jury.

President Bueche reported Labor Attorney Bob David, Jr. was asked to review this matter and Treasurer Mayeux reported on a verbal response given to her by Mr. David.

Juror Monk clarified the policy was created in the event of an emergency the employees would have use of equipment and not for personal use.

Attorneys Seth Dornier and Cy D’Aquila, representing Mr. Genusa, gave statements and facts about the events leading to why the box blade was at Mr. Genusa’s residence. It was stated the box blade was taken to his residence after he used his personal tractor to perform work at the ballfields, thereafter, took the tractor back and box blade to his residence, welded and unloaded the blade (same area pictures were taken), with intentions of later spreading limestone he was having delivered at his residence. He reported he had no intentions of misappropriating or stealing equipment.

Juror A. Dukes asked that the Jury send correspondence to the Legislative Auditor requesting a legal opinion whether it was a violation for Mr. Genusa to purchase a lawnmower from a private individual who submitted a bid and purchased the lawnmower from the Jury as surplus equipment.

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

RESOLVED, That the Police Jury convene in executive session at 7:30 p.m. to receive a report from legal counsel about consideration of action with regard to City of New Roads vs. Pointe Coupee Police Jury, First Circuit Court of Appeal, Docket NO. 20-145-CA-0179.

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

YEAS: Messrs. Cox, Cline, A. Dukes, Polar, Jarreau, Pourciau, Nelson, Monk, Olinde, Mmes Vosburg and Bueche.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

PRESENT,

NOT VOTING: Mr. C. Dukes.

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

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

RESOLVED, That the Police Jury return to open session at 8:00 p.m.

Unanimously carried.

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

RESOLVED, That Attorney Dannie Garrett be authorized to submit an appeal to the LA Supreme Court regarding the City of New Roads vs. Pointe Coupee Parish Police Jury, First Circuit Court of Appeal, Docket NO. 20-145-CA-0179.

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

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

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Mr. A. Dukes.

PRESENT,

NOT VOTING: Mr. Nelson.

On a vote of 10-0-1-1, the motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Vosburg and seconded by Mr. Nelson, the meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.