

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICE JURY, PARISH OF OUACHITA,
STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN AT A REGULAR MEETING
HELD MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2008, AT 6:50 P.M.**

The Police Jury of the Parish of Ouachita, State of Louisiana met in regular and legal session in the Ouachita Parish Police Jury Meeting Room, Courthouse Building, Monroe, Louisiana on Monday, April 7, 2008 at 6:50 p.m., and was duly convened by Mr. Walt M. Caldwell, IV, President, who stated that the Police Jury was ready for the transaction of business.

Members Present (6)

Mr. Charles Jackson	District A
Mr. Mack Calhoun	District B
Mr. Walt Caldwell	District C
Mr. Dorth Blade	District D
Mr. Shane Smiley	District E
Ms. Pat Moore	District F

Members Absent (0)

Invocation was given by Mr. Leonard Tims. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Mr. Tims.

Motion by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Smiley to adopt the minutes of the regular Police Jury meeting held on March 17, 2008 with one correction. Motion passed with no opposition.

VISITORS:

The president recognized Ms. Danna Gillett, LSU Extension Agent, Family Development. Ms. Gillett spoke regarding the programs provided by the Extension Service for families and child care providers. Discussion ensued. No formal action was taken on this matter.

The president recognized Mrs. Susan Poe, Keep Ouachita Beautiful. Ms. Poe spoke regarding a seminar being held on May 8, 2008, from noon to 2 pm at the Monroe Civic Center to address the plight of welfare recipients. No formal action was taken on this matter.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

The following department heads submitted monthly reports.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: Cpl. Wayne Heckford

Mr. Heckford spoke briefly regarding the monthly activities of the Code Enforcement officers. He stated that he and Deputy Elam had addressed the issue brought forth by last month visitor Janice Williams. Discussion ensued. No formal action was taken on this matter

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Greg Thompson for Chief Hemphill

**HOMELAND SECURITY &
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
AGENCY: Mr. Butch Beckham, Director**

The president recognized Mr. Butch Beckham, newly appointed Homeland Security Director and stated that he would take up this item listed on his agenda at this time. Mr. Mitchell spoke regarding the position and proceeded to swear Mr. Beckham in as indicated by state law. Mr. Beckham updated the jury on the status of the levees.

HOUSING: Ms. Peggy Steele, Director

The president recognized Ms. Steele, Housing Director. Ms. Steele spoke regarding the FEMA grants and the resignation of the director of HUD.

LAJET: Mr. Leonard Tims, Director

LIBRARY: Ms. Cheryl Moulriere, Director

MOSQUITO CONTROL: Dr. Cole Church, Director

The president recognized Shannon Rider who was present in the absence of Dr. Cole Church. Ms. Rider spoke regarding the bids received for chemicals and aerial spraying. Mr. Cammack informed the jury that the information was not available at this time and asked that the matter be deferred to the next meeting. Ms. Rider informed the jury about the passing of the tax for Mosquito Abatement. No action taken on this matter.

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT: Ms. Doretha Bennett, Director

MOTIONS * ORDINANCES * RESOLUTIONS:

MR. CHARLES JACKSON, DISTRICT A:

Motion by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Blade to adopt the minutes of the **Finance Committee Meeting held on March 17, 2008**. Motion passed with no opposition.

Mr. Jackson spoke regarding the memo to Mr. Harrison included in the packet about Risk Assessment & Alternate Entry Planning of Hamilton Park and Sylvan Lakes Subdivisions. Mr. Harrison spoke regarding the matter and added the subdivision of Northwood Estates. He stated that he would continue to develop an assessment of the matter and issue a report back to the jury.

The following Resolution was offered by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Ms. Moore:

RESOLUTION 08-17

A RESOLUTION STATING THE INTEREST OF THE OUACHITA PARISH POLICE JURY IN THE ENDORSEMENT OF ADVANCE STORES COMPANY, INC., AND THEIR PROJECT #20080096 TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BENEFITS OF THE LOUISIANA ENTERPRISE ZONE PROGRAM; AND FURTHER PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Enterprise Zone Act of 1981, Act 901 was enacted by the Louisiana State Legislature, and Act 337 was enacted by the 1982 Legislature, Act 433 was enacted by the 1987 Legislature, and Act 581 was enacted by the 1995 Legislature, and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Enterprise Zone Program offers significant incentives for economic development to most of the most distressed areas in Ouachita Parish, and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Economic Development designated CT 53.02 BG 1 in Ouachita Parish as Enterprise Zone eligible based on enabling legislation, R.S. 51.21.1787-1791, and

WHEREAS, the Ouachita Parish Police Jury states this endorsement is in agreement with the Overall Economic Development Plan for Ouachita Parish, and

WHEREAS, the attached Enterprise Zone map has been marked to show the location of the business being endorsed, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Louisiana Enterprise Zone Program requirements Ouachita Parish agrees:

1. To participate in the enterprise zone program.
2. To assist the Department in evaluating progress made in any enterprise zone within its jurisdiction.
3. To REFUND all applicable local sales taxes on the purchase of the material used in the construction of a building, or any addition or improvement thereon, for housing any legitimate business enterprise, and machinery and equipment used in that enterprise. This tax refund would be on materials, construction and equipment purchased for a project and used by a business permanently on that site.

NOW, THEREFORE:

Section 1. BE IT RESOLVED by the Ouachita Parish Police Jury in legal and regular session that Advance Stores Company, Inc., Project #20080096 is endorsed to participate in the Louisiana Enterprise Zone Program.

Section 2. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Ouachita Parish Police Jury in legal and regular session that if any provision or item of this resolution of the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications of this resolution which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications and to this end the provisions of this resolution are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

The above resolution was adopted the 7th day of April 2008.

Mr. Jackson spoke regarding the matter of West Ouachita Sewerage District No. 16. Discussion ensued. Motion by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Smiley to retain Mr. Harrison for the purpose of preparing a report summary of West Ouachita Sewerage District No. 16 at his regular billing rate. Motion passed with no opposition.

The president recognized Mr. Calhoun.

MR. CALHOUN, DISTRICT B:

The following ordinance was offered by Mr. Calhoun, seconded by Mr. Jackson:

ORDINANCE NO. 8887

AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE NAME OF THE POLLING PLACE FOR PRECINCT 31 FROM RICHARDSON JR. HIGH SCHOOL, 910 THOMAS

RD, WEST MONROE, LA TO OUACHITA PARISH SCHOOL BOARD MAINTENANCE FACILITY, 910 THOMAS RD, WEST MONROE, LA; AND FURTHER PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO,

WHEREAS, the present polling place for Precinct 31 is located at 910 Thomas Rd, West Monroe, LA; and

WHEREAS, a change in the name of the polling location for precinct 31 is indicated from Richardson Jr. High School to Ouachita Parish School Board Maintenance Facility in order to keep accurate the voting records of Ouachita Parish; and

WHEREAS, the Ouachita Parish School Board has changed the name of this facility from “Richardson Jr. High School” to “Ouachita Parish School Board Maintenance Facility”

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED by the Ouachita Parish Police Jury in legal and regular session that the change in name of the polling location of precinct 31 be and hereby is as follows:

**Precinct 31 From: Richardson Jr. High School
910 Thomas Rd, West Monroe, LA 71291**

**To: Ouachita Parish School Board Maintenance Facility, 910
Thomas Rd, West Monroe, LA 71291**

The ordinance was submitted to a roll call vote, and the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS	(6)
NAYS	(0)
ABSTAINING	(0)

The above ordinance was introduced and adopted on the 7th day of April 2008.

MR. CALDWELL, DISTRICT C:

Mr. Caldwell spoke regarding the matter of amending the meeting time of the Police Jury from 6:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. to include the committee meetings. Discussion ensued. Motion by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Ms. Moore to adopt the new schedule of meetings for calendar year 2008. Motion passed with no opposition.

Mr. Caldwell spoke regarding the matter of a Juvenile Curfew Ordinance. Discussion ensued. Motion by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Calhoun to pass a resolution requesting the legislature to grant limited authority to Police Juries to pass a juvenile curfew ordinance. Motion passed with no opposition.

Mr. Caldwell spoke regarding the status of the Road Lighting Districts and the legislation regarding such. Mr. Mitchell expressed gratitude to Representative Jones' Office for their help in introducing the legislation. No action taken on this matter.

At this point in the meeting, Mr. Caldwell left the meeting and turned the gavel over to Mr. Blade, Vice President.

MR. BLADE, DISTRICT D:

Mr. Blade spoke regarding the letter concerning the Joint Venture with the Town of Richwood to cover ditches along MLK Drive at Hwy 165 Bypass east to Brown Rd. Discussion ensued. No formal action taken.

Mr. Blade asked Mr. Harrison to speak regarding the matter concerning the Shamblin Street Pump Station. Mr. Harrison suggested a meeting between the jury, the mayor and the newly elected mayor to address the issue. Discussion ensued. No formal action taken on this matter.

Mr. Blade asked Mr. Mitchell to speak regarding the matter of the Ingleside Sewerage District. He stated that the contractor has completed their work and the project was substantially complete. Discussion ensued. Motion by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Smiley to authorize the president to execute the certificate of substantial completion upon presentation by the engineer. Motion passed with no opposition.

MR. SHANE SMILEY, DISTRICT E:

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Smiley, seconded by Mr. Calhoun:

RESOLUTION 08-15

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING TWAINNA CALHOUN, 3102 CLAIBORNE CIRCLE, MONROE, LA 71201, TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MOSQUITO ABATEMENT BOARD BEGINNING APRIL 7, 2008 AND FURTHER PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO:

WHEREAS, there exists a vacancy on the Mosquito Abatement Board of Commissioners; and Ms. Twainna Calhoun, 3102 Claiborne Circle, Monroe, LA 71201 has expressed a desire to serve on said committee,

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Ouachita Parish Police Jury in legal and regular session that the following individual, Ms. Twainna Calhoun, District E, be and hereby is appointed to the Mosquito Abatement District Board of Commissioners, beginning April 7, 2008.

The above resolution was adopted the 7th day of April 2008.

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The Vice-President recognized Ms. Moore:

MS. PAT MOORE, DISTRICT F:

Ms. Moore asked Mr. Murray to speak regarding McHenry Gin Road. Mr. Murray suggested that a letter be written to Mr. Sherman Shaw concerning the road. No action taken on this matter.

Ms. Moore spoke regarding the matter of the State Capital Outlay Project-Southside Golf Course. Discussion ensued. Motion by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Calhoun to authorize Mr. Harrison to retitle the project and resubmit it. Motion passed with no opposition.

Ms. Moore spoke regarding litter, beautification and the upkeep of parish properties. Discussion ensued. Motion by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Jackson for the jury to take the initiative to engage others to take on the responsibility for improving the physical and visual aspects of our community. Motion passed with no opposition.

The following resolution was offered by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Blade:

RESOLUTION 08-16

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING ARTIS WILSON, 106 FREDDY STREET, MONROE, LA 71202, TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MOSQUITO ABATEMENT BOARD BEGINNING APRIL 7, 2008 AND FURTHER PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO:

WHEREAS, there exists a vacancy on the Mosquito Abatement Board of Commissioners; and Mr. Artis Wilson, 106 Freddy Street, Monroe, LA 71202, has expressed a desire to serve on said committee,

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE I RESOLVED by the Ouachita Parish Police Jury in legal and regular session that the following individual, Mr. Artis Wilson, District F, be and hereby is appointed to the Mosquito Abatement District Board of Commissioners, beginning April 7, 2008.

The above resolution was adopted on the 7th day of April 2008.

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The Vice-President recognized Mr. Mitchell, Legal Counsel.

Mr. Mitchell spoke regarding the two applications for beer and whiskey licenses. Discussion ensued. Mr. Mitchell asked that a current survey to ensure that the businesses are not located near a church, school or playground. Motion by Mr. Blade, seconded by Mr. Smiley to approve the two applications for beer and whiskey subject to receiving a clear survey of said properties. Motion passed with no opposition.

- 1) **SMITH, EUGENE DBA “BLUE MOON CAFÉ”**, 1815 Conover Street, Monroe, LA 71202 , Ward 3, Class “A” Beer Retail Dealer (on premises), and Class “C” Retailing Liquor (on premises), **RENEWAL 2008**

- 2) **BASHER, STEWART DBA “NO.LA. MOTOR SPEEDWAY, LLC. DBA MONROE MOTOR SPEEDWAY**, 8850 Frontage Rd, Monroe, LA 71202, Ward 3, Class “A” Beer Retail Dealer(on premises), and Class “C” Retailing Liquor (on premises), **NEW 2008**

The Vice-President recognized Mr. Cammack:

FISCAL: Mr. Brad Cammack, Treasurer

Mr. Cammack spoke regarding the drug bid for the Correctional Center. Mr. Cammack stated that the Sheriff asked that the matter be deferred to the next meeting on April 21, 2008.

Mr. Cammack spoke regarding the food bid for Green Oaks Detention Home. He stated that Conco Foods was the low bidder for the second quarter and that they be awarded the contract for the second quarter. Motion by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Jackson to award the contract for food to Conco Foods for the second quarter of 2008. Motion passed with no opposition.

The Vice-President recognized Mr. Mitchell.

LEGAL: Mr. Jay B. Mitchell, ADA

Mr. Mitchell spoke regarding the available properties in West Ouachita Industrial Park. Discussion ensued. Motion by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Calhoun to engage Lazenby & Associates to prepare an evaluation of the two available parcels in the southern portion of the park. Motion passed with no opposition.

The Vice-President recognized Mr. Murray.

PUBLIC WORKS: Mr. John Tom Murray, Director

Mr. Murray asked Mr. Cammack to speak regarding the bids on the motor graders. Mr. Cammack spoke regarding the bid tabulation and recommended to the jury to buy one (1) used and one (1) new motor grader from LA Machinery. Motion by Mr. Calhoun, seconded by Mr. Jackson to accept the recommendation of the parish treasurer. Motion passed with no opposition.

The Vice-President recognized Mr. Harrison:

ROADS & DRAINAGE: Mr. Don Harrison, Engineer

Mr. Harrison spoke regarding the 2007 Street Improvement Contract with Amethyst Construction. He stated after final inspection that the project was found to be substantially complete. Mr. Harrison recommended to the jury to accept the project as substantially complete and to execute the certificate. In conjunction with the project, Mr. Harrison spoke and provided to the jury a change order to the contract which provided an adjustment in the amount of \$117,397.57. Motion by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Calhoun to have the president execute the necessary documents. Discussion ensued. Motion passed with no opposition.

Mr. Harrison spoke regarding the written proposals for testing services for the 2008 Road Program. Mr. Harrison stated that he had received proposals from 3 local companies and would like to recommend that Tetra Tech, Inc., be awarded the contract. Motion by Mr. Calhoun, seconded by Mr. Blade to authorize the acceptance of Tetra Tech, Inc., for soil and material testing services for the 2008 Road Program. Motion passed with no opposition.

INVITATION FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

The Vice-President invited the public to participate at this time.

Mr. John Sewell, Tanglewood Subdivision addressed the jury in reference to the Tanglewood Flood Control Project. Mr. Harrison updated Mr. Sewell on the actions taken on this matter at the March 17th meeting.

Mr. Steve Wells addressed the jury concerning litter control and suggested that citizens be fined or pick up litter. Mr. Wells mentioned that the media get involved with the process.

Mr. James Poe, Keep Ouachita Beautiful spoke regarding litter control and the active involvement of the jury in their efforts. Mr. Poe asked that the jury would sign the Louisiana Pledge to Keep It Clean for the display cabinet.

Cpl. Heckford informed the jury that the grant applied for last month had been approved.

There being no other business to come before this body, motion to adjourn by Mr. Calhoun, seconded by Mr. Jackson. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Walt M. Caldwell, IV, President

Deborah H. Sewell, Recording Secretary