

PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICE JURY, PARISH OF OUACHITA, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN AT A REGULAR MEETING HELD MONDAY, MAY 5, 2008 AT 5:35 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, May 5, 2008 at 5:35 p.m., and was duly convened by Mr. Walt M. Caldwell, President, who stated that the Police Jury was ready for the transaction of business.

Members Present (6)

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

Members Absent (0)

Invocation was given by Ms. Moore. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ms. Moore.

Motion to adopt the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 7, 2008 and April 21, 2008, was offered by Mr. Blade, seconded by Mr. Smiley. Motion passed with Mr. Caldwell abstaining from the April 7, 2008 minutes only.

The president announced the following service awards for the month of May.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

JIMMY MOBLEY, JR. – 20 YRS	RICKY MCCARTHY – 20 YRS
KEVIN HILL – 20 YRS	CHRISTOPHER LENARD – 20 YRS
CRAIG CRAWFORD – 20 YRS	HUGH COUNTS – 20 YRS
ROGER GREER- 20 YRS	DAVID LEHNE –20 YRS
RANDAL HOWARD – 20 YRS	RONALD WALACE – 20 YRS
JEFFERY RANEY – 20 YRS	

PUBLIC WORKS

JAMES WILLIAMS – 15 YRS	KENNY ROGERS – 15 YRS
--------------------------------	------------------------------

TREASURER/ADMINISTRATION

KAREN CUPIT- 15 YRS

LESLIE JONES – 5 YRS

GREEN OAKS

EDD ANDERSON – 10 YRS

CHARLOTTE SOUTH – 10 YRS

LESLIE DAVIS –10 YRS

LACEY BAILEY-10 YRS

NELSE WARD, JR. 10-YRS

ANIMAL SHELTER

TOBIAS DANNA – 10 YRS

WIA

DEELA WILLIS-5 YRS

MOSQUITO CONTROL

ADRIN ALLEN-5 YRS

* * *

The president recognized Ms. Eula Johnson of the Garden Park Subdivision. Ms. Johnson spoke regarding the conditions of the ditches and the streets located within the subdivision. Ms. Johnson asked the Police Jury for assistance in cleaning up the ditches. No action taken on this matter at this time.

The president recognized Mr. Earnest Pratt, Ridgewood Youth Academy. Mr. Pratt spoke regarding housing in the parish. Mr. Pratt asked that the Jury donate property to his corporation for the purpose of building affordable housing in the parish. No action taken on this matter.

The president recognized Stephanie Smith, Tax Assessor Office. Ms. Smith spoke regarding the purchase of a tablet pc for the assessor's office. Discussion ensued. The president asked if any juror had any problem with taking up this matter at this time, none had any problems with addressing this matter at this time. Additional discussion ensued. Motion by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Calhoun to approve the request of the Assessor's to purchase a tablet personal computer for office use. Motion passed with no opposition.

The president convened a public hearing on Ordinance No. 8890 Amending the Operating Budget for General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Debt Service Funds, and Capital Projects Funds for the year 2008. No one appeared to speak in favor of or against this ordinance. Motion was offered by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Smiley to adjourn the public hearing. Motion passed with no opposition.

A motion by the president, and seconded by Ms. Moore to recess the regular meeting in favor of the Personnel Committee and Public Works Committee meetings. Motion passed with no opposition.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING

The Personnel Committee meeting was called to order by the chairman, Mr. Dorth Blade at 5:44 p.m.

The chairman recognized Mr. Cammack. Mr. Cammack spoke regarding the Computer Technician Position. Mr. Cammack asked that the position be advertised in the two local papers. Motion by Mr. Calhoun, seconded by Mr. Jackson to approve the advertisement of the position in the local papers. Motion passed with no opposition.

Mr. Cammack spoke regarding the Administrative Assistant Position. Mr. Cammack asked that the jury approved the hiring of Laura Williams for the Administrative Assistant Position in his office. Motion by Mr. Caldwell, seconded Ms. Moore to approve the hiring of Laura Williams. Motion passed with no opposition.

The chairman recognized Ms. Bennett. Ms. Bennett spoke regarding the position of Youth Program Coordinator. Discussion ensued. Ms. Bennett recommended to the jury to open and hire the position of Youth Program Coordinator. Motion by Mr. Calhoun, seconded by Mr. Smiley to open and hire a Youth Program Coordinator. Motion passed with no opposition.

Ms. Bennett spoke regarding the position of Administrative Assistant-Youth. Motion offered by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Calhoun to open the position of Administrative Assistant-Youth. Motion passed with no opposition.

Ms. Bennett spoke regarding the position of Administrative Assistant-CRI Program. Ms. Bennett requested permission to open and hire the position of Administrative Assistant-CRI Program. Motion offered by Mr. Smiley, seconded by Mr. Jackson to open and hire the position of Administrative Assistant-CRI Program. Motion passed with no opposition.

Ms. Bennett spoke regarding the position of Intensive Service Counselor-CRI Program. Ms. Bennett requested permission to open and hire the position of Intensive Service Counselor-CRI Program-Jason Johnson. Motion offered by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Caldwell to open and hire the position of Intensive Service Counselor. Motion passed with no opposition.

Ms. Bennett spoke regarding two positions of Career Coordinator (Youth). Ms. Bennett requested permission to open and hire (2) Career Coordinators. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Smiley to open two positions of Career Coordinators and to hire one-Abbie Tippit. Motion passed with no opposition.

Ms. Bennett spoke regarding the position of Support Specialist. Ms. Bennett requested to open the position of Support Specialist. Discussion ensued. Motion offered by Mr. Calhoun, seconded by Mr. Blade to open the position of Support Specialist. Motion passed with no opposition.

Ms. Bennett spoke regarding the position of Administrative Coordinator. Ms. Bennett requested to hire Sharon G. Jones in that position. Motion offered by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Smiley to hire the position of Administrative Coordinator. Motion passed with no opposition.

Ms. Bennett spoke regarding the position of Maintenance Worker III (part-time). Ms. Bennett requested to open the position of Maintenance Worker III (part-time). Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Jackson to open the Maintenance Worker III position. Motion passed with no opposition.

The chairman recognized Chief Hemphill. Chief Hemphill presented the following personnel actions.

Jerry Crawford	Extended Sick Leave	Effective 3/27/08
Jerry Crawford	Terminate Extended Sick Leave	Effective 4/29/08
Aaron Wink	Terminate Extended Sick Leave	Effective 4/20/08

Motion offered by Mr. Calhoun, seconded by Mr. Caldwell to approve the above personnel actions as presented. Motion passed with no opposition.

Chief Hemphill spoke regarding the confirmation of Jodi Thornton from Probationary Fire Communications Officer to Permanent Fire Communications Officer effective 5/15/08. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Jackson to confirm Jodi Thornton as a Permanent Fire Communications Officer. Motion passed with no opposition.

Chief Hemphill spoke regarding the position of Probationary Auto Service Worker. Chief Hemphill recommended to the jury to reclassify Cody Jones from part-time COE student to Probationary Auto Service Worker effective 5/05/08. Discussion ensued. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Calhoun to reclassify Cody Jones to Probationary Auto Service Worker. Motion passed with no opposition.

Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Calhoun to waive the agenda to take up a matter not on the agenda. Motion passed by more than a 2/3 vote.

The chairman recognized Mr. Beckham, Homeland Security Director. Mr. Beckham spoke regarding the position of Administrative Assistant for the Homeland Security Office. Mr. Beckham recommended to the jury to hire Jacob Halley in the position of Administrative Assistant. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Calhoun to approve the hiring of Jacob Halley as Administrative Assistant in the Homeland Security Office.

There being no other business to come before this committee, a motion to adjourn was offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Blade.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING

The Public Works Committee Meeting was called to order by the chairman, Mack Calhoun at 6:07 p.m. Mr. Calhoun recognized Mr. Murray, Public Works Director.

Mr. Murray spoke regarding the Lake Park Subdivision Pump Repair. Discussion ensued. Mr. Caldwell asked that this matter be deferred until the next meeting and that the jury would look into dissolving the Lake Park Drainage District.

Mr. Murray spoke regarding the bid results for the Articulated Loader that was opened on April 24, 2008. Mr. Murray recommended the low bid of Scott Construction Equipment be accepted. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Jackson to accept the low bid of Scott Construction Equipment for the Articulated Loader. Motion passed with no opposition.

Mr. Murray spoke regarding the minor subdivision approval for Evans Estates. Mr. Murray recommended for approval the minor subdivision of Evans Estates subject to the comments of the parish engineer. Motion offered by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Smiley to approve the minor subdivision of Evans Estates. Motion passed with no opposition.

Motion to adjourn the Public Works Committee meeting and resume the Regular Police Jury meeting was offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Blade. Motion passed with no opposition.

The Regular Police Jury meeting resumed at 6:27 p.m.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

The following department heads submitted monthly reports.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: **Cpl. Wayne Heckford**

FIRE DEPARTMENT: **Mr. Patrick Hemphill, Chief**

Chief Hemphill presented the monthly report for the fire department. Chief Hemphill requested that the proceeds from the sale of the fire trucks be added to the Capital Outlay line

item of the Fire Department budget. Discussion ensued. This item was deferred to the May 19th Finance Committee Meeting.

GREEN OAKS:

Mr. Mike Rhodes, Director

LIBRARY:

Ms. Cheryl Mouliere, Director

Ms. Mouliere presented the monthly report for the library. Ms. Mouliere informed the jury that the library board had approve reduced hours for the summer for all branches.

MOSQUITO CONTROL:

Dr. Cole Church, Director

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT: Ms. Doretha Bennett, Director

Ms. Bennett presented the monthly report for the department and introduced the president of her board, Charles Shopes. Discussion ensued. Ms. Bennett requested the approval of travel for one staff member and three board members to attend the National Association of Workforce Development Professionals. Motion offered by Mr. Calhoun, seconded by Mr. Blade to approve the travel request. Motion passed with no opposition.

MOTIONS * ORDINANCES * RESOLUTIONS:

The president recognized Mr. Charles Jackson.

MR. CHARLES JACKSON, DISTRICT A:

Mr. Jackson spoke briefly about his and Ms. Moore trip to Baton Rouge to meet with Willie Crain and the State of Louisiana Division of Administration regarding Capital Outlay Requests. Discussion ensued. Mr. Jackson asked Mr. Harrison to speak regarding the matter. No action taken on this matter.

Mr. Jackson spoke briefly about the space needs for the courts. Mr. Jackson asked Mr. Cammack to speak regarding the matter. Discussion ensued. No action taken at this time.

The president recognized Mr. Calhoun.

MR. CALHOUN, DISTRICT B:

Motion offered by Mr. Calhoun, seconded by Mr. Jackson to adopt the minutes of the Public Works Committee Meeting held on April 7, 2008. Motion passed with no opposition.

Mr. Calhoun spoke regarding the matter of the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement-Keep Louisiana Beautiful, Inc. and Keep Ouachita Beautiful. Mr. Mitchell spoke regarding the agreement. Discussion ensued. Mr. Cammack and Cpl. Heckford spoke regarding the inkind

match to the grant. Discussion ensued again. Motion offered by Mr. Calhoun, seconded by Mr. Caldwell to authorize the president to sign the necessary documents to execute the agreement. Amended motion offered by Mr. Blade and seconded by Mr. Caldwell to authorize the president to sign the grant agreement to execute such other documents as necessary to implement that agreement. Motion passed with no opposition.

Mr. Calhoun spoke regarding the matter of changing the name of the road (Bailey Grant Rd) leading to the parish rifle range complex to Richard Fewell Rd. Motion offered by Mr. Calhoun, seconded by Ms. Moore to change the name to Ouachita Parish Rifle Range Complex to Richard Fewell Rd. Motion passed with no opposition.

Mr. Calhoun asked Mr. Harrison to update the jury on the progress of the Cheniere Lake Area 3 Restroom facilities. Mr. Harrison spoke regarding the matter. Mr. Calhoun asked that the item be placed back on the next meeting's agenda.

MR. CALDWELL, DISTRICT C:

The president spoke regarding the agreement for grant writing services with NELEA. Mr. Mitchell spoke regarding the matter. Discussion ensued. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Jackson to enter into an agreement for grant writing services with Northeast LA Economic Alliance. Motion passed with no opposition.

Mr. Caldwell asked Mr. Harrison to speak regarding Bayou Desiard EcoSystem Restoration Project. Mr. Harrison updated the jury on the matter. Discussion ensued. No action taken on this matter.

The president recognized Mr. Blade:

MR. BLADE, DISTRICT D:

Mr. Blade asked Mr. Murray to speak regarding the Joint Venture with Town of Richwood to cover ditches along MLK Drive at Hwy 165 Bypass East to Brown Rd. Mr. Murray stated that the total cost of the project exceeded the bid law and that he had not spoken at this time with the Town of Richwood. No action taken on this matter at this time.

Motion offered by Mr. Blade, seconded by Mr. Calhoun to adopt the Minutes of the Personnel Committee Meeting held on April 7, 2008 with the necessary corrections. Motion passed with no opposition.

The president recognized Mr. Smiley, District E.

MR. SHANE SMILEY, DISTRICT E:

Mr. Smiley introduced the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Blade:

RESOLUTION NO. 08-22

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING MR. JAMES W. “BUDDY” CORK TO THE BOARD OF KEEP OUACHITA BEAUTIFUL; AND FURTHER PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists on the Board of Keep Ouachita Beautiful; and

WHEREAS, James W. “Buddy” Cork, 110 Lincoln Ridge Circle, Monroe, Louisiana 71203 has expressed a desire to serve on said Board;

NOW THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Ouachita Parish Police Jury in legal and regular session that James W. “Buddy” Cork be, and hereby is, appointed to the Board of Keep Ouachita Beautiful.

The above Resolution was adopted on the 5th day of May 2008.

The president recognized Ms. Moore:

MS. PAT MOORE, DISTRICT F:

Ms. Moore introduced the following Ordinance:

ORDINANCE NO. 8892 (INTRODUCTION)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 14-1, INCREASING THE SPEED LIMIT ON FOREST HOME ROAD FROM TWENTY FIVE (25) MILES PER HOUR TO THIRTY-FIVE (35) MILES PER HOUR; AND FURTHER PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Ouachita Parish Police Jury has heretofore established a specific speed limit of twenty-five (25) mph on Forest Home Road, a parish road located in District F of Ouachita Parish;

WHEREAS, residents have requested that the speed limit be increased to thirty-five miles-per-hour (35 mph) on said Road;

WHEREAS, increasing the speed limit to thirty-five miles-per-hour (35 mph) on Forest Home Road is in the public interest,

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED by the Ouachita Parish Police Jury in legal and regular session that Section 14-1 of the Compiled Ordinances of the Ouachita Parish Police Jury, be and hereby amended as follows, to-wit:

Section 14.1 Speed Limits

Forest Home Road- 35 miles per hour

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that Notice of this proposed speed limit be published in the Official Journal of the Ouachita Parish Police Jury and a Public Hearing be held to hear comments from all interested parties.

The president recognized Mr. Mitchell.

BEER & WHISKEY APPLICATIONS:

- 1) **Guy, Mary** **DBA “GUY’S LOUNGE”, 1486 LA HIGHWAY 151 SO, CALHOUN, LA 71225, Ward 7 Class “A” Beer Retail and Class “C” Liquor Retailing on and off premises. NEW**

- 2) **Langston, Jimmy** **DBA “NORTHEAST MOTORCYCLIST FOR KIDS”, Cheniere Lake Park Area 8 Poker Run 2008, West Monroe, LA 71292, Ward 8 Class “A” Beer Retail. SPECIAL EVENTS PERMIT**

Mr. Mitchell spoke regarding the two applications for Beer and Whiskey. Motion offered by Mr. Blade, seconded by Mr. Calhoun to approve the beer and whiskey applications subject to the review of surveys. Motion passed with no opposition.

Mr. Blade left the meeting at this time.

The president asked Mr. Mitchell to speak regarding the matter of the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement as it related to the Bayou Desiard EcoSystem Restoration Project. Discussion ensued.

Motion by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Ms. Moore to grant authority to Mr. Harrison upon review to approve or disprove the Corp of Engineers Project in regards to the Bayou Desiard EcoSystem Restoration. Motion passed with no opposition.

The president recognized Mr. Cammack.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mr. Cammack spoke regarding the bid tabulation results for security services for the library. Mr. Cammack recommended accepting the low bid of Securitas for security guard service at the libraries. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Smiley to accept the low bid of Securitas. Motion passed with no opposition.

Mr. Cammack and Mr. Mitchell spoke regarding the bid tab for Digital Audio and Video Recording Systems for the Judges. Discussion ensued. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Smiley to table this matter until the next meeting. Motion passed with no opposition.

Mr. Blade returned to the meeting at this time.

Mr. Cammack spoke regarding the bid tabulation for lawn maintenance at the parish health unit. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Jackson to accept the low bid of Gray's Landscaping & Nursery as recommended. Motion passed with no opposition.

FISCAL: Mr. Brad Cammack, Treasurer

Mr. Cammack spoke regarding recycling options of paper products. Discussion ensued. Motion offered by Mr. Calhoun, seconded by Mr. Jackson to allow Mr. Mitchell to review the contract for Recycling Services and the president to sign contract. Motion passed with no opposition.

Chief Hemphill and Mr. Mitchell both reported that they had no items to present.

The president recognized Mr. Murray.

PUBLIC WORKS: Mr. John Tom Murray, Director

Mr. Murray stated that he would be out of town on May 8-9, 2008, attending a conference.

The president recognized Mr. Don Harrison.

ROADS & DRAINAGE: Mr. Don Harrison, Engineer

Mr. Harrison spoke regarding the FY 2008 Pavement Striping Contract and bid results. Mr. Harrison recommended that the contract be awarded to the low bidder-Robbie Robinson, Inc. Discussion ensued. Motion by Mr. Calhoun, seconded by Mr. Smiley to accept the low bid and award the contract to Robbie Robinson, Inc., of Jackson, Mississippi. Motion passed with no opposition.

Ms. Moore stated that a litter meeting is scheduled for May 12, 2008, 3-4 p.m., in the Mayor's Office, City Hall Complex.

INVITATION FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. James Poe, spoke regarding Recycling and Keep LA Beautiful State Conference being held in the parish during the August 2008. Mr. Poe asked the jury to sponsor the conference by making a donation of \$1000.00. Discussion ensued. The president asked that the matter be deferred until the next meeting of the Police Jury.

There being no other business to come before this body, motion to adjourn was offered by Mr. Calhoun, seconded by Mr. Smiley. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

A D J O U R N !