

PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICE JURY OF THE PARISH OF NATCHITOCHEs,
STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN A REGULAR MEETING HELD, MONDAY,

March 16, 2009

5:00 P. M.

The Police Jury of the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, met in regular and legal session in their regular meeting place, the Police Jury Board Room of the Natchitoches Parish Courthouse, on Monday, March 16, 2009 at five o'clock (5:00) p.m.

The Invocation was given by Juror Mimi Stoker, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Juror William Hymes.

There were present: The Honorable David Dollar, President, Police Jurors: Gerald Longlois, Chris Paige, J. D. Garrett, William Hymes, Charles Huggins, Johnny Martin, Tom Collier Jr., Jessie Hoffpauir, Mimi Stoker and Fred Jacobs.

There were absent: None.

The Police Jury of the Parish of Natchitoches was then duly convened as the governing authority of said parish by the President who stated that the Police Jury was ready for the transaction of business.

President Dollar stated that the floor was open to hear visitors. He stated that Mr. Aubrey Matthews, may show up during the meeting and he would recognize him at that point. President Dollar then recognized Mr. Wallace Weldon who was in attendance to seek reappointment to the Fire Protection District #7 Board of Directors. Mr. Weldon told the Jury he had served on the Board for many years and would like to be re-appointed. President Dollar then recognized Mr. Michael Marbut who also told the Jury he was seeking reappointment to the Fire Protection District #7 Board of Directors.

President Dollar then recognized Mr. Johnny Possoit, who asked the Jury to reappoint him to the Fire Protection District #5 Board of Directors. Mr. Robert D. Scott was the next person to be recognized and asked the Jury to re-appoint him to the Fire Protection District #6 Board of Directors. President Dollar then recognized Juror Longlois who asked Mr. Scott about installing a bathroom at the Fire Station on the Laird Fletcher Road. Mr. Scott told the Jury that he was in favor of the restroom but the board had voted not to install the restroom. He then invited Mr. Longlois and other Jurors to their next meeting.

Mr. Martin then stated that Mr. Rickey Harper was attending another meeting and could not attend this one. President Dollar then stated that the next visitor was Mr. Ronnie Owens of the Farm Bureau Board. Mrs. Stoker stated that Mr. Owens was unable to attend the meeting but Mr. Chuck Stoker, who is also a member of the Board would speak in his place. Mr. Stoker then stated that the Farm Bureau Board was aware of the Jury's budget strain and have taken the initiative to pledge \$400.00 a month to the Extension Service Office. He also stated that the Board would be having a fundraiser on April 7th at the Natchitoches Event Center and invited the Jurors to attend.

Since Ms. Cynthia Sutton of Cane River Heritage was not present, President Dollar then recognized Mr. Clyde Masson, Jr., who asked the Jury to reappoint him to the Waterworks District #2 Board of Directors. Mr. Norman Rachal also came forth and stated that he would also like to be reappointed to the Waterworks District #2 Board.

Next, President Dollar recognized Dr. Tom Burns who was interested in being appointed to the Natchitoches Parish Library Board. He told the Jury that he felt he could bring something to the Board with his experience with schools and the administrative level. Dr. Burns also stated that he would greatly appreciate the Jury's support on this appointment. President Dollar then recognized Mr. Barry E. Bolton and Mr. Charles L. Thompson who told the Jury they were present to ask for appointment to the Saline Lake Game & Preserve Commission.

President Dollar then asked if there were any more visitors. Ms. Latasha Waldrup came forward and stated that she was representing Mr. Peter Clark concerning a pipeline company building a compression station next to their property. She stated that they were very concerned for their children with the pipeline being so close to their property.

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Longlois, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt the minutes of the regular meeting held Thursday, February 19, 2009.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Longlois, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby start the process to appoint someone to the Natchitoches Parish Library Board of Directors, due to the death of Dr. Ada Jared.

Motion Carried

President Dollar then stated that Dr. Ada Jared was such a wonderful and kind person. He stated that Dr. Jared had passed away and that the Community and the Library was really blessed with Dr. Jared.

On motion by Mr. Hoffpauir, duly seconded by Mr. Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby re-appoint persons to the Fire Protection District #7 Board due to Mr. Michael Marbut and Mr. Wallace Weldon's terms expiring.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Martin, duly seconded by Mr. Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby appoint Mr. Barry E. Bolton and Mr. Charles L. Thompson to the Saline Lake Game and Fish Preserve Commission due to Ms. Laura Johnson and Mr. Allen Beasley's terms expiring.

Motion Carried

Since no one appeared for the appointment or re-appointment to the Northwest (Black Lake) Fish & Game Preserve Commission, President Dollar stated that this item would be moved to next month's agenda.

On motion by Mr. Hoffpauir, duly seconded by Mr. Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby start the process to appoint/reappoint persons to the Waterworks District #2 Board, due to Mr. Norman Rachal and Mr. Clyde Masson, Jr.'s term expiring.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Collier, duly seconded by Mr. Jacobs, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby approve renewing the rental agreement for five John Deere Motorgraders with Doggett Machinery.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Hoffpauir, duly seconded by Mr. Longlois, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby amend re-appointing members to the Fire Protection District #6 Board of Directors, due to Mr. John Possoit, Mr. Robert Scott and Mr. Chuck Stoker's terms expiring by separating Mr. Stoker's re-appointment and moving it to next month's agenda.

Motion Carried
With
Mrs. Stoker
"abstaining"

On motion by Mr. Hoffpauir, duly seconded by Mr. Longlois, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby re-appoint Mr. John Possoit and Mr. Robert Scott to the Fire Protection District #6 Board of Directors.

Motion Carried
With
Mrs. Stoker
"abstaining"

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Longlois, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt a resolution of support and assistance to provide universal, high speed, broadband internet service to rural areas of the Ark-LA-Tex, including Natchitoches Parish.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Jacobs, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt a resolution requesting the Police Jury Association of Louisiana to adopt a resolution of support and assistance providing universal, high-speed, broadband internet services to rural areas at its annual meeting.

Motion Carried

Since no one appeared for the appointment to the Fire Protection District #2 Board of Directors, President Dollar stated that this item would be moved to next month's agenda.

President Dollar then recognized Parish Administrator Catherine Hamilton who told the Jury that she had met with the Policy Council to discuss the re-assignment of personnel at the NPPJOCS Headstart Program. Mrs. Sharon Harris Executive Director of the OCS HeadStart Program reiterated what Mrs. Hamilton stated and told the Jury that the assignment of personnel was an administrative decision and they had not decided but was looking into the possibility of the re-assignment.

Mr. Collier then asked to be excused from the meeting for health reasons.

Mrs. Harris then talked on the next item concerning the relocating of the NPPJ Office of Community Services and Head Start accounting personnel to the main office. She stated that Dallas Office had been contacted and stated this move would have to be cost share initiative. Mrs. Harris then went on to the next item and stated that they were looking into the possibility of hiring someone temporarily until the Head Start Director returns from sick leave. She stated that no action had been taken in this regards but she will advise the Jury when it happens.

On motion by Mr. Hymes, duly seconded by Mr. Jacobs, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby accept the Report of Office of Community Services.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mrs. Stoker, duly seconded by Mr. Longlois, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby re-appoint Mr. Charles Huggins and Mr. Chris Paige to the Coordinating and Development Corporation Board of Directors.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Hymes, duly seconded by Mr. Longlois, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby authorize the Purchasing Agent to advertise for sealed bid proposals for the sell of the old house next to the Parish Library, located on Touline Street.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Jacobs, duly seconded by Mr. Huggins, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt millage rates for 2009 tax year.

Motion Carried

President Dollar then recognized Mr. Earl Townsend, Director of Public Works, who reported emergency expenditures for the period of February 20, 2009 through March 16, 2009 in the amount of \$412.96.

On motion by Mr. Huggins, duly seconded by Mr. Garrett, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby approve expenditures for the period of February 20, 2009 through March 16, 2009 in the amount of **\$813,806.66.**

Motion Carried

On motion by Mrs. Stoker, duly seconded by Mr. Hymes, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt a resolution authorizing the President to sign the necessary forms for the Bellwood Water System to apply for a Community Water Enrichment Grant Fund in the amount of \$68,200.00 to make repairs and improvement to its water system.

Motion Carried

President Dollar then stated that the next item on the agenda was the discussion of the shooting range. Assistant District Attorney Mr. Kip Fair stated that the Jury needed to go into Executive Session to discuss litigation. Relative to this, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Longlois, duly seconded by Mr. Jacob, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby go into Executive Session to discuss litigation.

Motion Carried

After resuming regular session, President Dollar then recognized Mrs. Hamilton who told the Jury that her office was having problems with receiving the funding for the pothole patcher. She stated that the people in Baton Rouge are telling them that they were two days ahead of time in awarding the bid. Mrs. Hamilton also stated that they have sent all the information that was requested but he keeps denying the funds. She went on to say that they had contacted Representative Nowlin and he was working on trying to get the funds. Mrs. Hamilton then stated that the Legislature had change something in the law that her office was unaware of at the time.

President Dollar then stated that we got notice when the funding was available and the Jury took action two days before the official released of those funds.

President Dollar then recognized Mr. Hymes who stated that he talked with Catherine, Corrine about President Obama's Stimulus Plan for the Parish. Mr. Hymes also told the Jury that he thought this money would be vital to the success of our local community, industry, education and infrastructure. He then asked the Jurors as to what their thoughts on asking our State representatives to sponsor legislature to get this money. He also stated that the Jury should let them know how bad we need the money.

President Dollar then recognized Mr. Martin who stated that he hope we were not behind as Police Jurors throughout the State.

After these discussions, the meeting was adjourned as follow:

On motion by Mr. Hoffpauir, duly seconded by Mr. Longlois, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session, does hereby adjourn until the next regular or called meeting of the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury.

Motion Carried

Attest:

David Dollar, President

Catherine Hamilton,
Parish Administrator