

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

June 15, 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, June 15, 2009 at five o'clock (5:00) p.m.

The Invocation was given by Juror J. D. Garrett, 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 then recognized Mr. Rickey Harper who asked the Jury for reinstatement to the Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District #2 Board of Directors. Relative to this, President Dollar stated that the Jury would skip to Agenda Item #20 at this time.

On motion by Mr. Collier, duly seconded by Mr. Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby appoint Mr. Rickey Harper to the Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District #2 Board of Directors.

Motion Carried

On motion by a unanimous vote, duly seconded by Mr. Hymes, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt Resolution #09-09 extending the Jury's sincerest appreciation and gratitude to Mrs. Earnestine Armstrong for 19 years of dedicated service and wishing her a Happy retirement.

Motion Carried

President Dollar then asked Mrs. Earnestine Armstrong to please come forward. President Dollar and Juror William Hymes then presented the resolution to Mrs. Armstrong and thanked her for 19 years of service with the Police Jury. Mrs. Armstrong then stated that she had worked 19 years with the Police Jury but over 36 years at Head Start. She stated those years were good years and that she have enjoyed working with the children. Mrs. Armstrong went on to say that she would always be a part of Head Start and would not stop working with children. In conclusion, Mrs. Armstrong stated that it was time to move on to the next level and she was doing so with a portion of her health and strength. She thanked the Jury for the opportunity to work for the Police Jury in the Head Start Program.

On motion by Mrs. Stoker, duly seconded by Mr. Garrett, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt the minutes of the combine meeting of the Work Session/Regular meeting held Monday, May 18, 2009.

Motion Carried

President Dollar then stated that the next item on the agenda was to discuss waiving fees for tower and communication guideline for emergency operations. He then recognized Mr. Glenroy Weishuhn of Kay Radio. Mr. Weishuhn stated that Kay Radio was putting in a tower under Southern Communication in which the State Police are putting in communication systems in the entire state. He stated that the reason for the towers was for the State Troopers to be interoperable during emergencies. He stated that in order to do this they allowing local governments on the systems free of charge. Mr. Weishuhn went on to say that there is no opportunity to recover the cost because no one is around. He also stated that other areas charged around \$200.00 and that is why he was asking the Jury to reduce the fees. He stated that the state is waiving their fee so local agencies can get on the tower. President Dollar then recognized Mr. Hoffpauir who stated and asked that if we waive the fee for Kay Communications they would get to keep the money but if the Jury did not waive the fee who gets to pay the money? President Dollar then recognized Mr. Paige who stated that there would probably be expansion to the tower for fire and emergency services. He then asked how many would be able to use the tower? Mr. Weishuhn then stated seven or eight. President Dollar then recognized Mr. Hymes who asked was the tower digital or analog? Mr. Weishuhn replied analog but would be going to digital in the future. Mr. Hymes then asked why were we waiving the fee for the analog tower while everything is going digital. Mr. Weishuhn told Mr. Hymes it was because of the cost. No action was taken on waiving the fee for tower and communication guideline for emergency operations.

On motion by Mr. Jacobs, duly seconded by Mr. Hymes, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session, does hereby appoint the Natchitoches Times as the Official Journal in Natchitoches Parish.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Hymes, duly seconded by Mr. Hoffpauir, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby conduct a public hearing to hear any and all comments and/or objections relative to the following items:

- i. Overturning the decision of the Natchitoches Parish Planning Commission denying Mr. Erwin Barfield to rezone a 4.00 tract of land located in Section 4, T9N, R8W on the St. Luke Church Road from I-A to B-3 to operate a RV park.
- ii. Adopting an ordinance to set an Airport Zone height limitation.
- iii. Permit and Administrative Fees
- iv. Adopting an ordinance for Third Party Providers operating in Natchitoches Parish.

Motion Carried

President Dollar then recognized Mr. Erwin Barfield who told the Jury that he was still requesting to do the RV Park. He stated the first time he started the journey four months ago was at the Planning and Zoning Committee and from there to this meeting. Mr. Barfield reiterated that his request for zoning was not turned down because of opposition but because of the water situation. He stated that at the time he thought he could not get a meter on his property but after studying he then called Jennifer Killken in Shreveport and Randall Smoake, an engineer. He told the Jury as they could see in the packet that he could provide water on his property. He also told them that he had checked on the Sparta aquifer and found that there was no restriction on drilling. Mrs. Stoker then asked him what aquifer he would be drawing from for water. Mr. Barfield stated that he had no idea and was only trying to start a RV park. Mrs. Stoker then stated that Mr. Barfield needed to know where the water was coming from because Governor Jindal has reactivated the Sparta Aquifer Commission and come September 1, the Commission may say I am sorry you will have to find another aquifer. Mr. Barfield then stated that he realized that he would have to take steps to get things passed or get a permit and if he could not get water, the permit would not be issued anyway. Mr. Paige then stated that he thought other parts needs to be brought out such as the other night, Mr. Barfield stated that the reason he came to the Jury was because the Planning Commission could not revisit his request for another six months. He stated that would put a hinder in him making progress that was needed. Mr. Barfield then stated that he looked at the letters in the packet and realize that those letters was from the Planning Commission meeting. He then stated that there were a few persons in the crowd that would like to speak but there was no letter received for the Police Jury.

President Dollar then recognized Mrs. Sadie Lewis who stated that she was at the last meeting and did not think it was a good idea to put a trailer park out in the area. Mrs. Lewis stated that the area had elderly folks out there and even when he said he would put security out there he could not guarantee their safety. Mrs. Lewis also stated that when you get a RV park you do not know who you are going to get out there. She concluded her remarks by saying that she did not think it was a good idea. Mrs. Stoker then asked Mrs. Lewis if she lived out there or own property in the area in which she replied she did not live out there but had property right across the street. Mr. Hoffpauir then asked Mrs. Lewis where do she lived? Mrs. Lewis replied on Stella Street. Mr. Hoffpauir then stated that he have known Mr. Barfield since he started walking and he also knew his people. He stated that he had worked with and known his dad for years and years and if they told you something you can write it down in the book. Mr. Hoffpauir also stated that he had been through the processes and all kinds of stuff and this project needs to move forward. Mr. Paige and Mr. Jacobs both stated that they did not like overturning the Planning Commission decision and felt it should go back to the Planning Commission.

President Dollar then stated that the next item for discussion was the adoption of an ordinance to set an Airport Zone height limitation. He then recognized Mr. Kip Fair, Assistant District Attorney, who stated that he had brought this up at the last meeting and Mr. Paige and some of the other Jurors wanted someone from the Commission to show up and explain what will take place. He then introduced Mr. Larry Cooper of the Airport Commission who showed the map with the area that would be affected. They concluded their presentation by asking if there were anymore questions.

President Dollar then recognized Mrs. Corrine Young, Planning Director, who told the Jury that her office had done a lot of work in considering our permit fee. She stated that after looking at several parishes that were smaller in population and area and others that were larger, they felt their fees were fair. Mrs. Young stated that doing the storms Act 12 was created and her office received 197,500 in grant funding. The grant funding was from Governor Blanco to set up a Parish office. It just so happen that we were one of the parishes that did have one person in place along with a part time person. Mrs. Young then stated that Mr. Greg Lemoine was hired and he had to attend training and school and no money was being generated for the office. That was the purpose of the money to hire someone or continue to use Third Party Providers. She stated that the Third Party Providers were coming from all directions with different prices and inspections. Mrs. Young went on to say that her office and the Jury looked at the situation and decided to hire an inspector to do inspections for the Parish. She also stated that during that time they looked at what services the residents of Natchitoches Parish was receiving and realized that we were giving much more than other parishes. Mrs. Young also stated that if you look at the list that was given to each Juror several of them do not have Planning offices nor employees and they are doing just enough to not get into trouble and be in violation of Act 12.

President Dollar then recognized Mr. Chad Misaraca who stated that when he came to see Mr. Lemoine he brought proof of his Third Party Provider insurance. Mr. Misaraca also stated that this was the only thing Mr. Lemoine could not get off the website.

In reference to adopting an ordinance for Third Party Providers operating in Natchitoches Parish, Mrs. Young stated that this was necessary in order to assist Mr. Lemoine with trying to figure out if the Third Party Provider have license, the proper credentials and insurance.

On motion by Mr. Hoffpauir, duly seconded by Mr. Longlois, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby overturn the decision of the Natchitoches Parish Planning Commission denying Mr. Erwin Barfield to rezone a 4.00 tract of land located in Section 4, T9N, R8W on the St. Luke Church Road from I-A to B-3 to operate a RV park.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Longlois, duly seconded by Mr. Jacobs, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt Ordinance #01-09 creating Section 5-3 entitled "Airport Zone Height Limitations" of Chapter #5 of the Natchitoches Parish Code of Ordinances entitled "Aviation", the Airport Operation Manual and the Airport Layout Plan, Changing approach slope for Runway 17 and departure slopes for runway 17 and Runway 35.

Motion Carried

No action was taken on the present permit and administrative fee cost.

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Hymes, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby amend the Natchitoches Parish Code of Ordinance to require all Third Party Providers doing business in Natchitoches Parish to register with the Parish Planning Commission and provide current LSUCC registration and proof of insurance required by the Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code Council.

Motion Carried

President Dollar then recognized Mr. Hoffpauir who stated that out in his area and in Mr. Jacobs' area there were some damages to homes and some were completely damaged. He stated the past tornado left people kind of down? Mr. Hoffpauir also stated that one guy in his district lost his home and people were pitching in to help him build a new one. He stated that some of the people are not able to build back their homes and he thought it would be a nice jester to do something sometimes to help people. Mrs. Stoker then asked if this would be an issue or a problem because the inspections would still have to be done.

Mrs. Young then stated that she had sort of looked at how to actually manage the waiver especially with those are sincere and those who are not. She stated if you look at a lot of homeowners, many of them carry insurance and still there are some that do not and have lost everything. Mrs. Young stated it will be hard to determine who qualifies and who do not. Mr. Hoffpauir then stated that even people with insurance have relocation cost when they have large damages. He stated that these people experience several things when a disaster occurred. President Dollar then stated that there is no provision available for any such waivers so everybody pays. He stated that Corrine and Greg will be working on this and will bring it back to the Jury.

Next, President Dollar recognized Mr. Hoffpauir who stated that he had tried to call Mr. Marley a couple of times about some calls he received concerning people who are stationed around Red River Parish and are getting paid from the taxpayers of Natchitoches Parish. Mr. Hoffpauir also stated that the ambulances are operating in Natchitoches and assisting others on money that is coming in from Natchitoches taxpayers. He went on to say that he heard one guy had spent 80% of the last three shifts he worked stationed on the Red River Parish line waiting for a call to haul them to the Natchitoches Parish Hospital. Mr. Hoffpauir told the Jury if this is going on it is wrong and a waste of taxpayers money. He said they are trying to generate profits for Christi Hospital and that is one thing but if they are taken our taxpayers money over there it is wrong. President Dollar then recognized Mrs. Stoker who told the Jury that she had called and asked a couple of questions and Mr. Atteridge said he could be at the meeting to answer some questions. Mrs. Stoker also stated that whenever we vote on anything we need to vote on the facts.

President Dollar then recognized Mr. Larry Atteridge of the Natchitoches Parish Hospital, who told the Jury that the information given was totally incomplete. He stated that Red River Parish did ask them to assist in their operation because a private company basically walked out on them and left them with nothing. Mr. Atteridge stated that they get calls by almost all of the bordering parishes and they are required to assist by the State of Louisiana if the equipment is available. He assured the Jury that at no time do they strip the last ambulance in our parish to go to another parish. President Dollar then recognized Mr. Paige who asked Mr. Atteridge did he think that possibly the problem is what we are experiencing in Natchitoches Parish? He said that he was thinking about the recent decision to cut back from four ambulances to three. Mr. Paige went on to say that instead of cutting ambulances we should be increasing and something needs to give in order to serve the people of this Parish.

President Dollar then read the next item on the agenda and then recognized Mrs. Sharon Harris who asked the Jury if anyone had any questions concerning the report. Mr. Hymes then told Mrs. Harris a lady had asked him why do some people receive meat and others do not. Mrs. Harris told Mr. Hymes that her office was not equipped with refrigeration to house meat. She also stated that there is a liability concern if you get the food and do not have enough room to store it.

After a brief discussion, Mr. Hymes then asked Mrs. Harris to find out where other agencies store their food.

On motion by Mrs. Stoker, duly seconded by Mr. Longlois, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby accept the report of Office of Community Services.

Motion Carried

President Dollar then read the next item on the agenda.

On motion by Mr. Hoffpauir, duly seconded by Mr. Martin, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby designate the NPPJ Office of Community Services as the official public agency to administer funds to the poor and necessitous and authorize the President of the Jury to sign any and all contracts, requests for funds when signature is required, and/or any other legal documents necessary to provide the above services on behalf of the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury.

Motion Carried

Mrs. Harris then asked, do I understand that the President has to sign all reports? Mrs. Harris told the Jury that this action may hinder their funding. She stated that Mr. Dollar's name has to be processed as the person signing all the reports. Mrs. Harris also stated that she send reports on a weekly basis and when contracts are needed she bring them to Mrs. Hamilton to get them signed.

On motion by Mr. Collier, duly seconded by Mr. Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt a resolution entering into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development for funding in the amount of \$25,000.00 to repair the Clark Road Bridge and authorize the President, Mr. David Dollar, to sign any and all documents relative to said repairs.

Motion Carried

President Dollar then recognized Mr. Hymes who asked whether or not the Police Jury could use the material that the Railroad Company is taking off the crossing. Mr. Townsend stated that they were using the concrete that the contractors bring to the Compactor Station from the crossing.

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Garrett, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt a Citizen Participation Plan/Citizen Complaint Procedure and appointing Catherine Hamilton as the Citizen Complaint Officer.

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 select the Cedar Grove Street project for the FY 2010/2011 LCDBG Program.

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 authorize the President to proceed with the procurement and selection of professional services for the purpose of assisting in the development of the LCDBG application and implementation of the project.

Motion Carried

President Dollar then recognized Mr. Earl Townsend, Director of Public Works who reported emergency expenditures for the period of May 19, 2009 through June 15, 2009 in the amount of **\$1,701.41.**

President Dollar then recognized Mr. Jacobs who asked if he could get assistance with removing the debris that is located in the Village of Natchez. Mr. Townsend stated that there was a history behind this situation. He stated that his crew had removed the limbs one time and the Mayor was notified not to let them put anymore limbs at the location. After a brief discussion, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Jacob, duly seconded by Mr. Longlois, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby authorize the Director of Public Works to pick up the debris in Natchez, send the Mayor a formal letter advising them that this would be the last time the Jury will pick up the debris and put up a no dumping sign at the location.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Collier, duly seconded by Mrs. Stoker, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby approve expenditures for the period of May 19, 2009 through June 15, 2009 in the amount of **\$970,205.15.**

Motion Carried

President Dollar then 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. Collier, 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 went around the table to hear comments from the Jurors. A short discussion ensued.

After going around the table, the following action was taken:

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

Motion Carried

Attest:

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David Dollar, President

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Catherine Hamilton,  
Parish Administrator