

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

August 15, 2011

5:00 P. M.

The Police Jury of the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, met in regular and legal session in the Police Jury Board Room of the Natchitoches Parish Courthouse, on Monday, August 15, 2011 at five o'clock (5:00) p.m.

The Invocation was given by Juror Mr. Garrett, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Juror Mr. Longlois.

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

There were absent: Mimi Stoker

Staff Present: Parish Administrator Catherine Hamilton, Debbie Miley, Greg Lemoine, Judie Barnum, Penny Niette, Beverly Washington and Earl Townsend.

The Police Jury of the Parish of Natchitoches was then 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 Longlois then recognized Mr. Louie Bernard, Clerk of Court, who told the Jury he was present in reference to Agenda Item #13. He told the Jury that Ward 1, Precinct 1 is coupled with Ward 1, Precinct 1A. He stated that it used to be out at the Luv and Care Mission on Washington Street and it was taken away but was moved to the L. P. Vaughn Elementary but they was on top of each other. Mr. Bernard then stated that they wanted to get back to the heart of the district so they started talking with some people at the St. Anthony Church Hall and they were enthusiastic about this move. He stated that last time the Jury agreed to move Ward 1, Precinct 1 to that spot, so technically he was asking the Jury to supplement the resolution already passed and moving Ward 1, Precinct 1A to the same place, the St. Anthony Catholic Church Hall. In conclusion, Mr. Bernard told the Jury he would forward the paperwork to the Secretary of State tomorrow. Relative to this, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Hymes, duly seconded by Mr. Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby supplement the resolution already passed for Ward 1, Precinct 1 by moving Ward 1, Precinct 1A polling place from the L. P. Vaughn Elementary School to the St. Anthony Catholic Church Hall.

Motion Carried

President Longlois then stated that he was going to recognize the 4-H winners. He then asked Mr. Dollar to make the presentation since Mrs. Stoker was absent. Relative to this, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Collier, duly seconded by Mr. Jacobs, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt a proclamation congratulating the 4-H winners.

Motion Carried

Mr. Dollar then asked the 4-H participants to please step forward. He stated that everyone could not be present tonight but these participants would accept on behalf of all the 4-H winners. He read the proclamation and then presented the plaque to them. Mr. Dollar then congratulated and thanked them for coming to the meeting.

President Longlois then recognized Ms. Retta Hudson, a Summer Youth Government Building worker. She thanked the Jury and Mr. Paige for giving her the opportunity to work and learn the valuable skills she will take with her in the future.

President Longlois then recognized Mr. Robert White, President of the Homeowners association that represents the Plantation Point Subdivision. Mr. White told the Jury that he had spoken with them September of 2010 to ask them for their assistance on overlaying a 2-inch coat of asphalt on 730 feet of road into the entrance of Plantation Point. He stated at the time he was given the price of \$10,811.00 but later on the contractor stated that he estimated the cost to be \$23,000.00. Mr. White then told the Jury that they had reneged on their agreement and he was asking for their help. After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that President Longlois, Mr. Townsend and the contractor would meet on August 28<sup>th</sup> at the site to come up with a possible solution to Mr. White's problem.

President Longlois then recognized Mr. Danny Hall who asked the Jury to consider an Animal Shelter in Natchitoches Parish. He presented the Jury with a resolution titled "We Care." He stated that this was a service that is needed in Natchitoches Parish and could be taken care of at the Detention Center. After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that Mr. Dollar would re-establish the Animal ordinance committee to work on this matter.

President Longlois then recognized Mrs. Karen Shirley from Black Lake who asked the Jury to revoke the dedication of a lot on P. R. #412-C, the E. M. Johnson Road off Highway 480 near the Old Sportsman's Lodge. Mrs. Shirley stated that the project is adjacent to both she and her aunt and they have taken care of the property all these years. She then stated that since no one uses the property she was requesting to revoke the dedication. Mrs. Hamilton stated that she would check with the District Attorney on the legal aspects of the property and report back to the Jury.

President Longlois then recognized Mr. Trent Hollinsworth who asked the Jury to consider passing a resolution to request the Kisatchie National Forest to extend the hunting season and make all government land open to hunting. Mr. Hollinsworth also stated that not everyone could afford to join a hunting club that leases land. He stated that if the season was extended, it would give more people an opportunity to hunt on this land.

President Longlois then recognized Mr. Louis Byers and Mr. Doug de Graffenried who came before the Jury to ask for their consideration in appointing them to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Charles Huggins. Mr. Byers stated that he resided at 1414 East Fifth Street, which is in District #6. He stated that he had read that Mr. Huggins had resigned and had some concerns so he decided to help. Mr. Byers also stated that he worked at the Sheriff Office as a Reserve Deputy. He stated that he had no desire to run but was willing to fill out the remainder of the term. Mr. Doug de Graffenried stated that he resided at 924 Harling Lane and was the Pastor at First United Methodist Church. He stated that he would be willing to fill in to finish the unexpired term. Mr. Graffenried stated that he had just received his voter registration and lives in the district.

President Longlois then recognized Mrs. Betty Smith who stated that she was asked to submit her name to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Huggins. She stated that she was aware there might be a conflict but wanted to try anyway.

President Longlois then recognized Mr. Leonard Ellis who stated that he was told to come before the Jury to ask for assistance with the drainage problem he was having on his property. Mr. Ellis stated that he had talked with almost everyone and still has not received the help he needs. He also stated that this problem was in the City limits and located at 207 East Sixth. He stated he was having problems with water, waste and drain that was coming off Kyser and the Dialysis Clinic. After a brief discussion, the Jury asked Mrs. Hamilton to get with Mr. Deason at the Health Unit to see if he could help Mr. Ellis.

Several comments were then made from Jurors concerning the appointment to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Charles Huggins. It was then agreed to vote on Agenda Item #14. Relative to this, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Dollar, duly seconded by Jacobs, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt a proclamation declaring a vacancy in Police Jury District #6, due to the resignation of Mr. Charles "Charlie" E. Huggins on August 9, 2011 and appoint Mr. Doug de Graffenried to fill out his unexpired term.

Motion Carried

Since there were no new business, Mrs. Hamilton updated the Jury on the status of the request from the City of Natchitoches Fire Department to change the boundaries of Fire Protection District #4, #5 and #6. Mr. Kip Fair told the Jury that he had been contacted by Fire Protection District #4, #5 and #6 to draft a resolution involving the boundary change that will hurt the districts revenue. He then requested to be put on the September Agenda for this adoption.

On motion by Mr. Dollar, duly seconded by Mr. Martin, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt the minutes of the Regular meeting held Monday, July 18, 2011.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Hymes, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby conduct a public hearing to hear any and all comments or objections to reducing the load limit on the Allen-Marthaville Road and the Clark Road.

Motion Carried

President Longlois declared the Public Hearing open. Since there were no comments or objections, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Hoffpauir, duly seconded by Mr. Collier, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby close the public hearing.

Motion Carried

Relative to this, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Hoffpauir, duly seconded by Mr. Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt an ordinance reducing the load limit to 5 tons on the last bridge located on P. R. #449, the Allen-Marthaville Road that starts from the Allen end.

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 adopt an ordinance reducing the load limit on the bridge located on P. R. #407, the Clark Road, to 10 tons.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Hymes, duly seconded by Mr. Garrett, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt a Parish-wide Hazard Mitigation Plan for the Parish of Natchitoches.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Jacobs, 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 to submit a grant to the Louisiana Office of Rural Development Grant Program in the amount of \$25,000.00 for of repairs to the St. Matthew School Community Center.

Motion Carried

President Longlois then stated that the next item on the agenda was adopting a resolution banning the sale of a legal drug called "mojo". He then recognized Mr. Hymes who stated that "mojo" is not what it used to be. He stated that "mojo" is a legal drug that students in the parish and city have access and is causing a major concern throughout this Parish. He stated that "mojo" is a form of incense that are sold in stores and kids are using it as drugs to get high. Mr. Hymes stated that this incense is a synthetic drug that looks like marijuana. Reserve Deputy Byers stated that a law was recently passed and it is now illegal to sell "mojo". He also stated that this drug looks like marijuana but smells like potpourri. After a brief discussion, Mr. Hymes stated he would stay on this matter and if further action was needed, he would bring it back to the Jury.

On motion by Mr. Dollar, duly seconded by Mr. Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby declare an emergency to purchase a tank car culvert and install on the Provencal-Vowells Mill Road due to the current bridge collapsing.

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 State of Louisiana to merge both the NPPJ Project and the Natchitoches Parish Council on Aging Project into one for the One Stop Shop Facility.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Dollar, duly seconded by Mr. Garrett, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby approve and authorize the Change Order for the LCDBG Program to add additional road surface with monies available in the amount of \$16,325.95, increasing the price from \$184,431.98 to \$200,757.93.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Collier, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby enter into an agreement with BidSync of American Fork, UT to provide online competitive solicitation system as required by State Law.

Motion Carried

President Longlois then recognized Ms. Miley who told the Jury that they had received her reports with the agenda. She then asked if anyone had any questions concerning this report. She stated that the financial is still pretty much the same as last month. Ms. Miley also told the Jury that as for as active inmates, there were 16 inmates from 2010 and 108 incarcerated in 2011. She stated that she was still paying according to budget and was on track. She also stated that she was trying to pay some of the small bills and she was still receiving calls from some of the places such as Avoyelles. She also stated that they had found an error on one of the bills that would save them a few thousands. After a lengthy discussion, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Dollar, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby accept the report of the Parish Treasurer.

Motion Carried

President Longlois then recognized Ms. Harris, Mrs. Barnum and Ms. Washington. Ms. Harris told the Jury they had received her report in the mail and asked if anyone had any questions. She then told the Jury that last week they had a follow up on their review and was told by Mrs. Walker that things looked good and she was really pleased with the accomplishments the Jury had made. She then invited the Jury to the Senior Companion reception at the MLK Center.

Mrs. Barnum then presented the Jury with a Head Start Calendar for the 2011-12 School year. She gave an update as to what has transpired since August and what will take place later on in the month. She told the Jury that the Orientation would be August 16<sup>th</sup> and August 17-19 that will have a pre-service meeting for all personnel. She stated that she have been receiving calls that the Head Start had eight false alarms and owe the City \$50.00. Mrs. Barnum stated that she was told the system was very sensitive and when a car passes with loud music it sets the alarm system off or if someone pulls on the door it activates the alarm system. Mrs. Barnum also stated that she had paid the \$50.00 and had received another bill for \$200.00. The Jury then told Mrs. Barnum not to pay the bill. Mr. Dollar stated that they should suspend the payment and check with the District Attorney. Relative to this, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Dollar, duly seconded by Mr. Collier, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby add to the agenda to suspend the payment to the City for the Head Start false alarms and pursue having government buildings exempted from the City's ordinance.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Dollar, duly seconded by Mr. Garrett, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby suspend the payment to the City for the Head Start false alarms and pursue having government buildings exempted from the City's false alarm ordinance.

Motion Carried

Ms. Washington then stated that Head Start was doing really well. She stated that last month they spent a lot of money on maintenance and there is a lot more to be spent on maintenance at the Head Start Building in Mansfield. She also stated that they would probably have to make some revisions to the Head Start Budget. Mrs. Barnum then told the Jury that they were going to have to replace the unit in the building at Mansfield. Ms. Washington stated that in the agreement it states they would have to take care of the maintenance of the building. Mr. Paige stated that someone needed to talk with someone in Mansfield about another building. It was suggested that the District Attorney be contacted on this matter. Ms. Washington stated that if they change the form of the building the unit would stay with the building. President Longlois stated that he would go to Mansfield and talk with someone up there. Ms. Washington then stated that they must take care of the children. She also stated that the negative that is showing on the report she has requested the money for those funds.

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On motion by Mr. Dollar, duly seconded by Mr. Jacobs, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby accept the reports of the OCS and Head Start Programs.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Garrett, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby accept the report of the Director of Public Works for emergency expenditures for the period of July 19, 2011 through August 15, 2011 in the amount of **\$316.05**.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Dollar, duly seconded by Mr. Jacobs, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby approve expenditures for the period of July 19, 2011 through August 15, 2011 in the amount of **\$1,152.077.22**.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Hoffpauir, duly seconded by Mr. Collier, 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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Gerald Longlois, President

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Catherine Hamilton,  
Parish Administrator