

MINUTES
Of the Regular Meeting, of
The Claiborne Parish Police Jury
10:00 a.m.
July 14, 2021
Police Jury Chambers
507 West Main Street
Homer, LA 71040

The Claiborne Parish Police Jury met in regular session in the Jury Chambers of the Claiborne Parish Police Jury Complex, located at 507 West Main Street in Homer, LA at 10:00 a.m. on the 14th of July 2021. On being called to order by President Scott Davidson, the following Jurors were present:

James Laird, Mark Furlow, Kevin Gray, Mary McDaniel, Paul Cook, and Gil Dowies were present.

The following Jurors were absent: District 7 Juror Joseph Merritt, District 8 Juror Tommy Sanders and District 10 Juror Rev. Willie Young.

There were 18 others in attendance which included Secretary-Treasurer Dwayne R. Woodard, Parish Road Superintendent Tommy Durrett, Director of Libraries Mrs. Pam Suggs, Parish Library Historian Mr. Wesley Harris, Mr. Vince Ory of the Claiborne Parish Library, Claiborne Parish Sheriff Chief Deputy Brian Driscoll, Assistant District Attorney Daniel Bays, Parish Coroner Dr. Mark Haynes, Mr. Jimmy Hand of Main Street Homer, Mr. John Monzingo of Claiborne Parish 4-H, CMMC CIO Mrs. Angie Costakis, CMMC Director of Nursing Mrs. Kristi Copeland, OOCS Director Tim Cain, Ms. Jackie Tripp with the Guardian Journal, Parish Engineer Randall Smoak, Mr. David Greene of Republic Services, and Mr. Weyland Smith of Homer.

There was a Road Committee Meeting held at 9:00 am in the Police Jury Conference Room.

President Scott Davidson called the meeting to order.

The meeting was opened with a word of prayer led by Mary McDaniel followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Paul Cook.

Upon motion by Kevin Gray, duly seconded by Mark Furlow, the Jury unanimously voted to adopt the Regular Agenda as presented.

Upon motion by Mary McDaniel, duly seconded by Kevin Gray, the Jury unanimously approved the following amendments to the agenda:

1. Request from Road Superintendent Tommy Durrett for permission to engage an engineering firm to rate the bridge site on Tenneco Road as required by DOTD. The Parish Engineers will assist Mr. Durrett with this project. (estimated cost \$4,000)
2. Request from the Village of Junction City, in an email received July 14, 2021, requesting assistance with road repairs on Myrtle Street.

Upon motion by Kevin Gray, duly seconded by Gil Dowies, the Jury unanimously approved the following consent agenda:

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the June 16, 2021 regular meeting minutes.
2. Payment of the June 2021 bills as approved by the Claims Committee.

3. Request from Secretary-Treasurer Dwayne R. Woodard to advertise for the purchase of clay and iron ore material for use by the Claiborne Parish Highway Department for the period of sixteen (16) months, August 4, 2021 to December 31, 2022.

Amendments

Upon motion By Gil Dowies, duly seconded by James Laird, the Jury unanimously approved the request from Road Superintendent Tommy Durrett for permission to engage an engineering firm to rate the bridge site on Tenneco Road as required by DOTD. The Parish Engineers will assist Mr. Durrett with this project. (estimated cost \$4,000)

Upon motion by Kevin Gray, duly seconded by James Laird, the Jury unanimously approved the request from the Village of Junction City, in an email received July 14, 2021, requesting assistance with road repairs on Myrtle Street. The work will be performed under the Village's ad valorem tax credit.

Regular Agenda

President Scott Davidson read aloud a notice that all Parish Employees are required to complete one (1) hour of ethics training by December 31, 2021.

President Scott Davidson reminded everyone that one (1) hour of Preventing Sexual Harassment Training is required to be completed by December 31, 2021 by all Parish Employees – Department Heads and Jury Officers have a two (2) hour training requirement.

President Scott Davidson read aloud a notice that the Plan A of the PERS will decrease to 11.50% effective January 1, 2022. (Currently at 12.25%) The employee contribution rate will remain the same at 9.50%.

President Scott Davidson notified those in attendance that on June 29, 2021, the Police Jury had received the "180-day letter" from Republic Services which expressed their desire to negotiate and extend the Police Jury's current waste management agreement with the renewal term beginning on January 1, 2022. There was no action needed at this time.

Upon motion by Kevin Gray, duly seconded by Mary McDaniel, the Jury unanimously approved the request from Road Superintendent Tommy Durrett, to hire Mr. Dennis Williams as a full-time employee at the position of Truck Driver with a pay rate of \$11.50 per hour effective, July 15, 2021. Mr. Williams will be slotted a Class A of our employee wage scale.

Upon motion by Mark Furlow, duly seconded by Gil Dowies, the Jury unanimously approved, upon recommendation from the Personnel Committee, to advertise the position for OOCS Director to replace Mr. Tim Cain, who has submitted his notice of resignation. The job notice will be advertised in the official journal the weeks of July 23 and 30. Interviews will be conducted on Wednesday, August 11 at 3:00 pm and a Special Called meeting of the Police Jury will take place on Wednesday, August 18 at 3:00 pm.

Upon motion by Paul Cook, duly seconded by Kevin Gray, the Jury unanimously approved, the request from Mr. Jimmy Hand of Main Street Homer, for the Police Jury to write a letter of support for the SPARC Grant for the Art Signage Project for the Highways and Byways Program on Hwy 2.

Claiborne Parish Coroner Dr. Mark Haynes gave his month report from the Coroner's Office: 14 Deaths - (6) ER, (3) requiring autopsy, (2) other, (1) on scene no autopsy, (2) hospital/other facility and there was (1) CEC in the parish for the month.

Dr. Mark gave a quick update on the Covid situation in the Parish. The situation is beginning to get very bad again with the increase in the number of positive tests and hospitalizations, including "variant" migrations of the virus. He stated that over 97% of the confirmed cases are in unvaccinated individuals – primarily in the age group of 18 to 45 years old. He stated that the demand or desire for vaccines in the Parish has dropped off tremendously in the last few months. He also informed the Jury and those in attendance that there have been only (2) two confirmed cases of vaccinated individuals in the parish getting Covid for the second time and in both

instances the cases were mild and did not require hospitalization. He encourages everyone to get vaccinated.

ITEM #18 – July 14, 2021 – AGENDA

SECRETARY-TREASURER – UPDATE ON GRANTS AND OTHER ITEMS

1. LGAP Projects –

No open grant contracts at this time.

2. CWEF Projects -

Lisbon Water System
Contract #1516-CWEF-CLB-0001
PO #2000288442
Amount - \$31,000
Project – Replacement of water lines
Status – Contracts signed and approved

Summerfield Water System
Contract #1819-CWEF-CLB-0001
PO #2000441879
Amount - \$16,200
Project – Repairs at central pump station and installation of master meter
Status – Contracts signed and approved, work is completed, reimbursement received.

3. LCDBG Grant

Norton Shop Water System
FY2021 LCDBG
Amount - \$381,080
Project – New water well
Status – Awarded and contracts received.

4. Sales Tax Collections for May 2021 – net of \$56,494 from gross collections of \$58,234
Net sales tax collections for April 2021 – \$58,155 – decrease \$-1,661 (-2.86%)
Net sales tax collections for May 2020 - \$40,129 – increase \$16,365 (40.78%)

5. Cash position at June 30, 2021 - \$11,204,930
Cash position at May 31, 2021 - \$9,935,553 (increase of \$1,269,377)
Cash position at June 30, 2020 - \$9,243,041 (increase of \$1,961,889)

See Deposit Balances by Institution for breakdown at June 30, 2021 –

6. Total Receipts for the month of June 2021 – \$1,938,747

7. Upcoming important dates and meetings –

7/15 – CP Economic Devlp Board Meeting
7/19 – CP Library Board Meeting
7/20 – Construction Progress Meeting @ PJ
7/22 – CPHSD #3 Meeting, CPWSD Meeting
7/23 – LRPIC Meeting
7/26 – Committee Meetings (if needed)
7/27 - Construction Progress Meeting @ CID
8/03 – Construction Progress Meeting @ CID
8/04 – Regular Meeting

Additional Public Comments:

Mr. Jimmy Hand of Main Street Homer invited everyone to the planning stages of the upcoming Harmonica Festival on Saturday, October 30, 2021, honoring legendary blues singer Bobby Rush who was raised here in Claiborne Parish and grew up in Haynesville.

John Monzingo announced the dates for the Claiborne Parish Fair Livestock show will be October 11-14th. He invited everyone to come out and support the kids of Claiborne Parish. Mr. Monzingo also invited everyone to the Golf Tournament being held on August 14th at the Haynesville Golf Course which will benefit the Claiborne Parish 4-H Foundation.

Upon motion by Kevin Gray, duly seconded by James Laird, the meeting was adjourned.

Dwayne R. Woodard
Secretary–Treasurer

Scott Davidson
President