

MINUTES  
Of the Regular Meeting, of  
The Claiborne Parish Police Jury  
10:00 a.m.  
May 9, 2018  
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 9<sup>th</sup> of May. On being called to order by President, Scott Davidson, the following Jurors were present:

Mark Furlow, Kevin Gray, Joe Sturges, Paul Cook, Joseph Merritt, Jr., Tommy Sanders, Gil Dowies, and Rev. Willie Young.

James Laird was absent.

There were over 56 in attendance which included, Secretary-Treasurer Dwayne R. Woodard, Parish Road Superintendent Tommy Durrett, Sheriff Ken Bailey, Executive Director of the CPPJ-OOCS Mr. Tim Cain, Claiborne Parish Director of Libraries Mrs. Pam Suggs, Parish Coroner Dr. Mark Haynes, Claiborne Parish 4-H Chair Mrs. Teresa Raley, Mr. Jerry Whitton and Mr. Sam Dowies of the Claiborne Parish Watershed District, Town of Homer Mayor Roy Lewis, Mr. Sherman Brown of Representative Patrick Jefferson's Office, Former Claiborne Parish Police Jurymen Mr. Bobby Liles, , Mr. Lavelle Penix, and Mr. Roy Mardis, Mrs. Cathy Hightower of the Guardian Journal, Ms. Jackie Roberts of the Haynesville News, Mr. Jimmy Hand of Main Street Homer, Mr. Mark Crenshaw of Homer, and a multitude of friends and family members of District #4 Juror Mr. Joe Sturges.

The meeting was opened with a word of Prayer led Rev. Willie Young, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Paul Cook.

Upon motion by Joe Sturges, duly seconded by Paul Cook, the Jury unanimously voted to adopt the Regular Agenda as presented.

Upon motion by Gil Dowies, duly seconded by Mark Furlow, the Jury unanimously voted to adopt the consent agenda.

**Consent Agenda**

1. Approval of the April 4, 2018 regular meeting minutes.
2. Payment of the April 2018 bills as approved by the Claims Committee.
3. Request from Fireworks for Lake Claiborne, in a letter received April 10, 2018, requesting their budgeted amount of \$500 for the sponsorship of the annual Boat Parade and Fireworks Show to be held on Saturday June 30, 2018 and to be considered for inclusion in the Parish's 2019 budget for the same amount.
4. Request from the Claiborne Parish School Board, in a letter received April 13, 2018, requesting repairs to a bus turnaround at 1717 Mount Sinai Road in Summerfield. The work is to be done on a reimbursement basis.
5. Request from the Village of Athens, in a letter received, April 13, 2018, requesting repairs to the following streets – Mill, Carr, and Jackson Lane – per the quote given by Road Superintendent Mr. Tommy Durrett. The work is to be done under the Village's ad valorem tax credit with the Police Jury.

## **Regular Agenda**

President Scott Davidson reminded the Jurors that their Tier III Financial Disclosure documents are due by May 15, 2018.

President Scott Davidson read aloud a notice, as of July 1, 2018, The Haynesville News will be the Official Journal of the Claiborne Parish Police Jury for the period of July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 as per the rotation schedule adopted by the Claiborne Parish Police Jury on June 4, 2014.

Upon motion by Rev. Willie Young, duly seconded by Paul Cook, the Jury unanimously approved, upon recommendation from the Road Committee, to renew the Parish's health insurance plan for the period of June 1, 2018 through May 31, 2019 with BCBS of Louisiana through Greg Bowman and the Human Resources Dept., Inc. for approximately \$21,470 per month, which represents a 12.87% increase over the prior year.

Upon motion by Gil Dowies, duly seconded by Kevin Gray, the Jury unanimously approved, upon recommendation from the Road Committee, to increase the HRA Source Card benefit for each employee that participates in the Parish's health insurance program by \$200 annually effective June 1, 2018.

Upon motion by Kevin Gray, duly seconded by Joe Sturges, the Jury unanimously approved, upon recommendation from the Road Committee, the installation of awnings from the former Newell Building to the Tax Assessor's Office in the amount of approximately \$49,000. These awnings will be historically correct and will allow for cover entering these buildings in inclement weather.

The request from Mr. Joseph Mitchell of the Friendship Road Community in reference removal of a group of abandoned vehicles located on Friendship Road was discussed and District #8 Juror Tommy Sanders informed the Jury that he is was in discussions with Mr. Mitchell about the proper steps that had to be followed to have these abandoned vehicles legally removed.

Upon motion from Mark Furlow, duly seconded by Joe Merritt, the Jury unanimously approved the request from Mrs. Erin White of the Claiborne Parish Health Unit, in a letter received April 26, 2018, requesting the purchase of a medical refrigerator for the Health Unit (estimated cost \$800) and to use the Jury Administration Building as a temporary storage site for their vaccines in instances of power outages do to the fact that it has an emergency generator.

Upon motion by Gil Dowies, duly seconded by Joe Sturges, the Jury unanimously approved the request from OEP Director Dennis Butcher for a 3% increase (\$12.00 per hour to \$12.36 per hour) for Assistant Director Cindy Singleton effective with the payroll period beginning May 17, 2018. OEP reimburses the Police Jury for the Asst. Director's salary.

Upon motion by Joe Sturges, duly seconded by Paul Cook, the Jury unanimously approved the request from Road Superintendent Tommy Durrett, for the Highway Department to start their "4/10's" schedule on May 21, 2018, for the summer work season.

Upon motion by Joe Sturges, duly seconded by Kevin Gray, the Jury unanimously approved the request from Road Superintendent Tommy Durrett to hire Jarvis Vernon from Manpower as a Truck Driver for the Hwy Dept. at \$10.50 per hour effective May 17, 2018.

Upon motion by Rev. Willie Young, duly seconded by Joe Sturges, the Jury unanimously tabled the request from Kathi Williams of LRPIC (Parish's insurance & general liability carrier) for the Parish to consider adopting a "Social Media Policy" in an email dated May 1, 2018, until our Parish Attorney Danny Newell can review the proposed policy. This item will be placed on June 6, 2018 Agenda.

Claiborne Parish Coroner, Dr. Mark Haynes gave his monthly report from the Coroner's Office – There were 9 deaths, which also included (3) Hospice/ER (2) Autopsy (1) CEC.

At this time President Scott Davidson presented District Four Juror Mr. Joe Arthur Sturges with a Resolution honoring his over 45 years of service as a Police Juror for Claiborne Parish. This day was deemed “Joe Sturges Day” in Claiborne Parish in his honor.

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IN HONOR  
A RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION & GRATITUDE  
PRESENTED TO  
MR. JOE ARTHUR STURGES, DISTRICT FOUR JUROR CLAIBORNE PARISH

WHEREAS, the Claiborne Parish Police Jury wishes to officially recognize JOE ARTHUR STURGES for his outstanding dedication to the citizens of Claiborne Parish during his forty-five (45) years of public service; and

WHEREAS, Joe Arthur Sturges was sworn in as District Four Juror on April 4, 1973 and has served the Parish continuously ever since, Mr. Joe presently serves as Chairman of the Claims Committee and is a member of the Building and Grounds Committee; during his tenure, he has served on every committee and worn many hats for the Police Jury; and

WHEREAS, Joe A. Sturges has served on numerous Parish, Civic, and Church boards and committees during his forty-five plus years; and

WHEREAS, “Mr. Joe” has provided an outstanding example of leadership, personal integrity and a devotion to personally serving the need of all the citizens of Claiborne Parish; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Claiborne Parish Police Jury, both collectively, individually and severally, wish to recognize the successful career of a public service professional in Joe Arthur Sturges for his many years of distinguished service to the citizens of Claiborne Parish;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the members of the Claiborne Parish Police Jury meeting in regular session on this the 9<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2018, that it wishes to record for posterity in the Minutes of the Claiborne Parish Police Jury, that it declares today “Joe Arthur Sturges Day” in Claiborne Parish Louisiana for what “Mr. Joe” is, has done and continues to be to the citizens of Claiborne Parish; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that each member of the Claiborne Parish Police Jury puts his hand to this Resolution and wishes to express in the form of its content this permanent record to be on file and made a permanent record of the proceedings of the Claiborne Parish Police Jury this day.

Upon a motion by Mark Furlow and duly seconded by Rev. Willie J. Young, Sr. this motion was unanimously carried and officially adopted by the Claiborne Parish Police Jury meeting in regular session convened on Wednesday, May 9, 2018.

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At this time Mr. Sherman Brown of Representative Patrick Jefferson’s Office, presented Mr. Joe A. Sturges with a Resolution from the House of Representatives declaring May 9, 2018, Joe Sturges Day.

At this time District Four Juror Mr. Joe A. Sturges thanked everyone. Mr. Joe told the Jury that people in the Parish have been good to him, during his life he has worn many hats, including Claiborne Sheriff’s Officer, Haynesville Police Officer, and Police Juror. Mr. Joe expressed his thanks to the people of Claiborne Parish for allowing him to do his job. Mr. Joe went back to his first election as Police Juror, he said that he never told anyone that he was running and he knocked on every single door in Ward Three. Mr. Joe worked closely with the Sheriff Oakes, at this time and said that this man could do more in one phone call, than anyone else. He closed with expressing his thanks to the Lord for allowing him to accomplish the work in the past 45 years.

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**ITEM #24 – May 9, 2018 – AGENDA**

**SECRETARY-TREASURER – UPDATE ON GRANTS AND OTHER ITEMS**

1. LGAP Projects –

CPPJ – Gas Line Extension on Hwy 2 to Parish Owned Property  
Contract #1415-CLB-0001 Amount - \$25,000 now \$0  
Project – extension of natural gas line to the Police Jury owned property on Hwy 2  
Status – Change of scope approved by Office of Community Development – transferred to 0002

CPPJ – Emergency Generator for CPPJ Public Works Building on Hwy 2  
Contract #1415-CLB-0002 Amount - \$14,167 now \$39,167  
Project – standby emergency generator for the CPPJ Public Works Building on Hwy 2  
Status – Bid awarded to Arcco Power Systems of Bossier City, LA for \$27,099 - delivered

CPPJ – Pine Hill Water System  
Contract #1516-CLB-0001 Amount \$21,500  
Project – repaint exterior of elevated storage tank located on Hwy 70  
Status – contracts submitted to the State and approved

CPPJ – South Claiborne Water System  
Contract #1516-CLB-0002 Amount \$21,500  
Project – install ATS on emergency generators at well sites  
Status – contracts submitted to the State and approved

2. CWEF Projects

Leatherman Creek Water System  
Contract #1415-CWEF-CLB-0001 Amount - \$25,000  
Project – Repair and rehab of ground storage tank  
Status – Construction complete, applying for reimbursement

3. Sales Tax Collections for March 2018 – net of \$47,266 from gross collections of \$48,511 on taxable sales of \$4,822,807.  
Net sales tax collections for February 2018 – \$39,046 – increase \$8,220 (21.05%)  
Net sales tax collections for March 2017 - \$47,288 – decrease \$-22 (0.00%)

4. Cash position at April 30, 2018 - \$8,791,882  
Cash position at April 30, 2017 - \$9,512,300 (decrease of \$-720,418)  
Cash position at March 31, 2018 - \$8,977,403 (decrease of \$-185,521)

See Deposit Balances by Institution for breakdown at April 30, 2018 –

5. Total Receipts for the month of April 2018 – \$804,450

6. Upcoming important dates and meetings I plan to attend –

- 5/10 – Economic Development Board Meeting
- 5/11 – Road Committee Meeting
- 5/18 – LRPIC Meeting – Monroe
- 5/22 – CPHSD#3 Meeting
- 6/4 – Committee Meetings
- 6/6 – Regular Meeting

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**Public Comments:**

Each and every Juror thanked Mr. Joe for his service and informed him what he meant to them individually and the example he has set for them on how to conduct the business of managing the Parish.

Upon motion by Rev. Willie Young, duly seconded by Joe Sturges, the meeting was adjourned.

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Dwayne R. Woodard  
Secretary-Treasurer

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Scott Davidson  
President