

MINUTES  
Of the Regular Meeting, of  
The Claiborne Parish Police Jury  
10:00 a.m.  
June 16, 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 16<sup>th</sup> of June 2021. On being called to order by Vice-President Mark Furlow, the following Jurors were present:

James Laird, Kevin Gray, Mary McDaniel, Joseph Merritt, Tommy Sanders, Gil Dowies and Rev. Willie Young were present.

The following Jurors were absent: President Scott Davidson and District 6 Juror Paul Cook.

There were 16 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, Claiborne Parish Sheriff Sam Dowies, Parish Coroner Dr. Mark Haynes, Mr. Jimmy Hand of Main Street Homer, Mrs. Teresa Raley of Claiborne Parish 4H, CMMC CEO Mrs. Tina Haynes, CMMC CIO Mrs. Angie Costakis, OPCS Director Tim Cain, Mrs. Kathy Hightower and Ms. Jackie Tripp with the Guardian Journal, Mrs. Eva Johnson, Mr. Mark Crenshaw, Mr. Cedric Floyd and Mrs. Rose Floyd.

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

Vice-President Mark Furlow called the meeting to order.

The meeting was opened with a word of prayer led by Rev. Willie Young, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Tommy Sanders.

Upon motion by Kevin Gray, duly seconded by Tommy Sanders, 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 amendment to the agenda:

1. Request from Town of Haynesville, in a letter received June 14, 2021, for one (1) load of cold mix and for help with street repairs on McDonald, Fairgrounds and Bridgeman Ave.

Upon motion by Joseph Merritt, duly seconded by Kevin Gray, the Jury unanimously approved the request from the Town of Haynesville, in a letter dated June 14, 2021, for one (1) load of cold mix and for assistance with street repair work on McDonald, Fairgrounds, and Bridgeman Ave. This work will be reimbursed through the Town's Ad Valorem Tax Credit.

Upon motion by Tommy Sanders, duly seconded by Joseph Merritt, the Jury unanimously approved the following consent agenda:

**Consent Agenda**

1. Approval of the May 5, 2021, regular meeting minutes.
2. Payment of the May 2021 bills as approved by the Claims Committee.
3. Request from the Village of Junction City, in an email received May 7, 2021, requesting assistance on road repair at 101 South Myrtle Street. Work is to be performed under the Village's ad valorem tax credit.

4. Request from the Village of Athens, in a letter received May 26, 2021, requesting help with the clean-up and removal of a downed tree on College Street. Work is to be performed under the Town's ad valorem tax credit.
5. Request from Secretary-Treasurer Dwayne R. Woodard to move the July 2021 to Wednesday, July 14, 2021, due to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday and the fact that we are having a late June 2021 meeting.

**Regular Agenda**

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

Vice-President Furlow 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.

A thank you letter was read aloud from the Summerfield Water System, received on May 11, 2021, for the Police Jury's help with the securing and completion of a CWF Grant that allowed the system to install two master flow meters on their two main wells which helped improve the efficiency of their overall system.

Upon motion by Gil Dowies, duly seconded by Mary McDaniel, the Jury unanimously approved, upon request from Secretary-Treasurer Dwayne Woodard, to re-appoint the Guardian Journal as the Official Journal of the Claiborne Parish Police Jury for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. The Guardian Journal is the only qualifying weekly publication in operation in the Parish and the only publication that meets the requirements as defined by LA R.S. 43:150 and La R.S. 43:174.

Upon motion by Gil Dowies, duly seconded by Kevin Gray, the Jury unanimously approved the Acknowledgement and Abandonment Affidavit of Non-Use of original 40' road easement of Bluebird Lane.

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**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ABANDONMENT AND AFFIDAVIT OF NONUSE**

**STATE OF LOUISIANA**

**PARISH OF CLAIBORNE**

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public, duly commissioned and qualified in and for the Parish of Claiborne, State of Louisiana, and in the presence of the competent witnesses hereinafter undersigned:

PERSONALLY, CAME AND APPEARED: The Claiborne Parish Police Jury, a political subdivision of the State of Louisiana (the "Police Jury"), represented herein by its President, Scott Davidson, and its Secretary-Treasurer, Dwayne R. Woodard, duly authorized by Resolution of the Police Jury to appear and act herein, who after being duly sworn did depose and say the following:

By act recorded under File No. 236072 at Conveyance Book 307, Page 1 of the records of Claiborne Parish, Louisiana, the property owner caused to be recorded a subdivision plat for the "Garrett-Whitehurst Haynesville Subdivision" which depicts a 40' Road Easement ("Easement"). The aforementioned "Garrett-Whitehurst Haynesville Subdivision" plat (the "Plat") is incorporated herein by reference.

The Police Jury constructed and maintains a paved road within portions of the Easement depicted on the Plat, which is more commonly known as Bluebird Lane. The Police Jury's maintenance and use of Bluebird Lane only extends to the actual paved portion of Bluebird Lane and five (5) feet on either side of the paved road. With respect to the Easement and the Police Jury's exercise

of use, anything beyond the aforementioned maintenance and use of Bluebird Lane has not been used in more than 10 years and, thus, is extinguished pursuant to Louisiana Civil Code Article 753. The Police Jury hereby acknowledges that it abandons such non-used portions of the Easement depicted on the Plat and that the non-used portions and any rights attendant thereto are hereby extinguished.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ABANDONMENT AND AFFIDAVIT OF NONUSE

THUS DONE AND SIGNED in Homer, Louisiana, on this 16th day of June, 2021, in the presence of the undersigned competent witnesses, who sign their names with said appeared and me, Notary, after reading of the whole.

WITNESSES

Printed Name: Shelia Washington

/s/ Scott Davidson, President

/s/ Dwayne R. Woodard, Sec-Treas

Printed Name: Leigh Ann Sanders

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NOTARY PUBLIC

*PARISH OF CLAIBORNE*

BAR ROLL/NOTARY ID NO. \_\_\_\_\_

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: \_\_\_\_\_

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A verbal complaint was received by the Jury concerning possible timber damage in the area of Jenny Hay Road. Road Superintendent Tommy Durrett inspected the supposedly damaged tree and Mr. Durrett noted and reported that the said tree was already decayed and vines grown up around it and looked to have been dead for numerous years as evidenced by photos he sent to all the Jurors.

District One Juror James Laid made a motion for the Parish to pay \$75.00 for a damaged tree that had been reported by a resident on Jennie Hay Road that was supposedly damaged by a Parish Motor Grader. The request died on the table due to the lack of a second of the motion.

Upon motion by Tommy Sanders, which was duly seconded by Kevin Gray, the Police Jury passed via vote of seven (7) FOR – Gray, McDaniel, Furlow, Sanders, Merritt, Dowies and Young with one (1) AGAINST – Laird; not paying \$75 for the supposedly damaged tree on Jenny Hay Road.

Upon motion by Tommy Sanders, duly seconded by Gil Dowies, the Jury unanimously approved the replacement of the Courthouse Fire Alarm System, which will be cellular based, in the amount of \$6,100 from Johnson Controls.

Coroner Dr. Mark Haynes gave his report for the month of April 2021 – he stated there were (14) deaths in total. (8) Hospice/ER, (1) requiring autopsy, (3) on scene and there were (5) CEC’s.

Dr. Mark Haynes also gave his report for the month of June 2021 – he stated there were (10) deaths in total. (7) Hospice/ER, (2) requiring autopsy, (1) on scene and there were (5) CEC’s.

Dr. Mark Haynes also reported that there has been an uptick of new COVID-19 cases at the hospital. There are presently three patients in the ICU with the virus. One person was elderly and the other two patients were in the 20–40-year-old age group. None of the individuals had been vaccinated.

CMMC CEO Mrs. Tina Haynes gave an update from Claiborne Memorial Medical Center. She stated that there are currently 31 patients in the hospital. There are 10 in the new opioid facility which most are from neighboring parishes. All of the clinics in the Parish are now under CMMC umbrella and are taking in new patients. CMMC is presently remodeling the former Haynes Clinic.

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**ITEM #19 – June 6, 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 submitted.

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 April 2021 – net of \$58,155 from gross collections of \$60,259  
Net sales tax collections for March 2021 – \$57,665 – increase \$490 (0.85%)  
Net sales tax collections for April 2020 - \$61,785 – decrease \$-3,630 (-5.88%)

5. Cash position at May 31, 2021 - \$9,935,553  
Cash position at April 30, 2021 - \$10,310,033 (decrease of \$-374,480)  
Cash position at May 31, 2020 - \$9,240,667 (increase of \$694,886)

See Deposit Balances by Institution for breakdown at May 31, 2021 –

6. Total Receipts for the month of May 2021 – \$281,106

7. Upcoming important dates and meetings –

6/17 – OPCS Board Meeting  
6/22 - Construction Progress Meeting @ CID  
6/24 – CPHSD #3 Meeting, CPWSD Meeting

- 6/29 – Construction Progress Meeting @ CID
- 7/06 – Construction Progress Meeting @ CID
- 7/12 – Committee Meetings (if needed)
- 7/13 – Construction Progress Meeting @ CID
- 7/14 – Regular Meeting
- 7/16 – LRPIC Meeting

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**Additional Public Comments:**

Juror Mark Furlow requested an update on the new library building. Secretary-Treasurer Woodard stated the closing should be completed sometime after July 1<sup>st</sup>. There are interested parties in the drive-thru branch that comes with the purchase of the bank property and that the Jury will be declare it surplus and sell it to the highest bidder sometime later in the year. After the completion of the new library branch, the Jury we will be declaring the old branch building surplus and placing it up for bid as well.

Claiborne Parish Historian Mr. Wesley Harris invited everyone to the Claiborne Parish Library program about Stagecoach Travel Through North Louisiana on Thursday night at 6:00 pm at the library.

Rev. Willie Young reassured OOCS Director Tim Cain that the Jury has not forgotten about the repairs to be done at his office.

Secretary-Treasurer and Fireworks Committee Member Dwayne R. Woodard reminded everyone of the Lake Claiborne Fireworks Show on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. He also announced that there would not be a sponsored boat parade this year. Mr. Woodard thanked their title sponsor Claiborne Memorial Medical Center for sponsoring the fireworks show and Mrs. Kathy Hightower of the Guardian Journal for helping with the advertising for the fireworks show.

Upon motion by James Laird, duly seconded by Tommy Sanders, the meeting was adjourned.

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Dwayne R. Woodard  
Secretary-Treasurer

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Scott Davidson  
President