

Colfax, LA
March 14, 2025

The Police Jury of the Parish of Grant, State of Louisiana, met in regular session at its meeting place, the Grant Parish Police Jury Meeting Room, 200 Main Street, Colfax, Louisiana, on Thursday, March 13, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

The following members were present:

Mr. Mark Ball, Mr. Cephas Bowie Jr., Mr. Brandon DuBois, Mr. Johnny Jamison, Mr. Arnold Murrell, Mr. Winston Roberts, Mr. Roy Edwards, and Mr. Mike Merrell

The following members were absent:

None

Motion by Mr. Johnny Jamison, seconded by Mr. Brandon DuBois to open the meeting to public comments on agenda items. Motion carried unanimously.

No discussions were brought forth

Motion by Mr. Arnold Murrell, seconded by Mr. Roy Edwards to accept the minutes of the last meeting as published in the official journal. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Paul Fuselier, Community Relations Director of Acadian Ambulance, gave the February call report for the parish.

207 calls for an ambulance / 172 emergencies / 127 emergency transports / 43 non-emergency transports
2 Air Med launches / 0 transports

Mr. Fuselier addressed the jury regarding events in neighboring parishes and assured everyone that Acadian Ambulance is still committed to providing the best service possible for the residents of Grant Parish.

Mr. Justin Dufour, Grant Parish 4-H Chair introduced himself to the jury and affirmed that the new staff is set to hit the ground running in Grant Parish and get the 4-H students back on track from the past few months. He looks forward to serving our parish has a very positive outlook on the program moving forward.

Mr. Brendon Gaspard, Engineer with Pan American Engineers, LLC, discussed proposed corrections to the Sewer Use Ordinance. Section 10.3 Sewer Usage Fees needs updating to reflect the jury's policy that was adopted May 9, 2024. Jurors agreed to postpone the matter to the April agenda to get more information.

Mr. Lee Willis was unable to attend the meeting. The findings from the Grant Parish Library 2023 and 2024 audit will be postponed until all information is received and the audit can be completed.

Motion by Mr. Brandon DuBois, seconded by Mr. Winston Roberts to adopt Proclamation 03-2025; Fair Housing Month. Motion carried unanimously.

PROCLAMATION 03-2025

WHEREAS, the 57th Anniversary of the National Fair Housing Law, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, during the month of April, is an occasion for all Americans – individually and collectively – to rededicate themselves to the principle of freedom from housing discrimination whenever it exists.

WHEREAS, this law guarantees for each citizen that critical, personal element of freely choosing a home; and

WHEREAS, a fair housing law has been passed by the State of Louisiana, and implementation of the law requires the positive commitment, involvement, and support of each of our citizens; and

WHEREAS, the department and agencies of the State of Louisiana are to provide leadership in the effort to make fair housing not just an idea, but an ideal for all our citizens; and

WHEREAS, barriers that diminish the rights and limit the options of any citizen to freely choose a home will ultimately diminish the rights and limit the options of all...

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE Grant Parish Police Jury does hereby proclaim the month of April 2025, as FAIR HOUSING MONTH in the Parish of Grant, and do hereby encourage all citizens to abide by the letter and spirit of the Fair Housing Law, and ask the citizens of this parish to join in reaffirming the obligation and commitment to fair housing opportunities for all.

(s) Jessie Pace
Jessie Pace
Parish Manager - Sec/Treas.
Grant Parish Police Jury

(s) Mark Ball
Mark Ball
President
Grant Parish Police Jury

STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH OF GRANT

I, Jessie Pace, Parish Manager of the Grant Parish Police Jury do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Proclamation adopted by the said Police Jury in regular session on the 13th day of March, 2025.

GIVEN UNDR MY OFFICIAL SIGNATURE and Seal of Office on this the 13th day of March, 2025.

Jessie Pace
Jessie Pace
Parish Manager -Sec/ Treas.

Motion by Mr. Brandon DuBois, seconded by Mr. Johnny Jamison to adopt Resolution 04-2025; CDBG – Citizen Participation. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION: 04-2025
BY
GRANT PARISH POLICE JURY, LOUISIANA

WHEREAS, the Grant Parish Police Jury has been informed that the State of Louisiana, Division of Administration, CDBG Section will be accepting applications for FY 2026/2027 Louisiana Community Development Block Grants; and

WHEREAS, the State is requiring communities to revise existing Citizen Participation Plans to conform with current HUD regulations.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the attached Citizen Participation Plan dated March 13, 2025 is hereby adopted and will supersede all previously adopted Citizen Participation Plans.

Passed, approved and adopted this 13th day of March, 2025.

(s) Jessie Pace
Jessie Pace
Secretary/Treasurer

(s) Mark Ball
Mark Ball
President

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Jessie Pace, Secretary/Treasurer of the Grant Parish Police Jury, certify that the above and foregoing constitutes a true and correct copy of a Resolution passed and adopted by the Grant Parish Police Jury on March 13, 2025.

(s) Jessie Pace
Jessie Pace
Secretary/Treasurer

The Grant Parish Police Jury has adopted the Citizens Participation Plan to meet the citizen participation requirements of Section 508 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended. The Grant Parish Police Jury is committed through adoption of this plan to full and total involvement of all residents of the community in the composition, implementation, and assessment of its Louisiana Community Development Block Grant (LCDBG) Program. Attempts will be made to reach all citizens, with particular emphasis on participation by person of low and moderate income, residents of slums and blighted areas and of area in which funds are proposed to be used.

A copy of this plan will be made available to the public upon request and available online at: www.gppj.org

Motion by Mr. Roy Edwards, seconded by Mr. Johnny Jamison to adopt Resolution 05-2025; National Community Development Week. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION 05-2025:
NATIONAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WEEK

WHEREAS, the week of April 1 – April 5, 2025 has been designated as National Community Development week. Grant Parish has been a participant in the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program which funds public infrastructure, economic development, and housing programs in this community, and

WHEREAS, in this community and communities throughout the nation, forty-eight years of Community Development Block Grant Program funding has developed a strong relationship between this local government and its residents, principally those of low-to-moderate income, and

WHEREAS, this community recognizes that the Community Development Block Grant Program is a partnership of federal, state, and local government and community and business efforts, and that the services funded by the CDBG Program relies heavily on the dedication and good will of our combined efforts,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that during National Community Development Week 2025, this community will give special thanks and recognition to all participants whose hard work and devotion to the neighborhoods and their low-and moderate-income residents help ensure the quality and effectiveness of the community Development Block Grant Program, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this community, along with the service providers and others whose names are appended to this resolution, hereby petition the U.S. congress and Administration to recognize the outstanding work being done locally and nationally by the community Development Block Program, and of its vital importance to the community and to the people who lived in its lower income neighborhoods, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be conveyed to the appropriate elected and appointed officials of the federal government and that this community's name be added to the roll of those committed to the preservation and full funding of the Community Development Brock Grant Program and maintenance of its essential features over the course of the next session of Congress

Passed, approved, and adopted this 13th day of March, 2025.

(s) Jessie Pace
Jessie Pace
Secretary - Treasurer
Grant Parish Police Jury

(s) Mark Ball
Mark Ball
President
Grant Parish Police Jury

CERTIFICATE

I, Jessie Pace, Secretary/Treasurer of the Grant Parish Police Jury, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing constitutes a true and correct copy of a Resolution passed, approved and adopted by the Grant Parish Police Jury on the 13th day of March, 2025.

(s) Jessie Pace
Jessie Pace
Secretary – Treasurer
Grant Parish Police Jury

Resolution 06-2025 was postponed to the April meeting.

Motion by Mr. Brandon DuBois, seconded by Mr. Roy Edwards to adopt Resolution 07-2025; Federal Procurement Policy 2 CFR 200. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION: 07-2025
BY THE
GRANT PARISH POLICE JURY
FEDERAL PROCUREMENT POLICY

WHEREAS, the use of federal funds requires the establishment of uniform procedures in compliance with 2 CFR 200;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the GRANT PARISH POLICE JURY, that the attached policy entitled "GRANT PARISH POLICE JURY Federal Procurement Policy" dated March 10, 2025, is hereby adopted.

Passed, approved and adopted this 13th day of March, 2025.

(s) Jessie Pace
Jessie Pace
Secretary/Treasurer/Parish Manager
Grant Parish Police Jury

(s) Mark Ball
Mark Ball
President
Grant Parish Police Jury

CERTIFICATE

I, Jessie Pace, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing constitutes a true and correct copy of a Resolution passed and adopted by the Grant Parish Police Jury on this 13th day of March, 2025.

(s) Jessie Pace
Jessie Pace
Secretary/Treasurer
Grant Parish Police Jury

A copy of the Grant Parish Police Jury Federal Procurement Policy will be available to the public upon request and available online at: www.gppj.org

Motion by Mr. Roy Edwards, seconded by Mr. Arnold Murrell to introduce taking JW Green Road in District 8 out of the parish road maintenance system and closing it permanently per the landowners' request. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr., seconded by Mr. Winston Roberts to adopt Ordinance 01-2025; Revised Livestock Ordinance.

Yeas: Mr. Johnny Jamison and Mr. Arnold Murrell

Nays: Mr. Brandon DuBois, Mr. Mike Merrell, and Mr. Roy Edwards

Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE 01-2025
REGULATING UNAUTHORIZED ENTRY
OF LIVESTOCK ONTO PROPERTY**

WHEREAS there is a need to protect the public safety, health, and welfare of the citizens of the Parish of Grant in regard to the hazards associated with livestock at large or on the public roads and highways within the Parish of Grant, Louisiana, and

WHEREAS the ordinances adopted by the various wards and the Parish have not been updated in many years;

WHEREAS Louisiana law empowers the Police Jury to pass ordinances regulating and policing livestock and imposing the penalties identified below (*see* La. R.S. 33:1236(5), (25); La. R.S. 33:1243(A)); and

WHEREAS There is hereby found and declared a necessity to prohibit livestock from roaming at large in Grant Parish, Louisiana, on any of the parish roads or public highways; and

BE IT ORDAINED that, subject to La.R.S. 3:2803, it shall be unlawful for any person owning livestock to knowingly, willfully, or negligently permit their livestock to go at large at any time or upon any of the parish roads and public highways in Grant Parish, with the exception that (1) livestock may go on the levees, or the space between the base of the levees and the draining ditch at any time, except where, in the judgment of the levee commissioners of a district and the office of engineering, damage would occur to the levees from exposure to wear, tear, and abuse and (2) where the water is against the levee on both sides, that is, where the grounds on the river and land side are both covered with water, people living in the vicinity may put stock on these levees temporarily; and

BE IT ORDAINED that, it shall further be unlawful for any person owning livestock to knowingly, willfully, or negligently permit their livestock to go at large upon the private property of another person, without the consent of the private property owner. This Ordinance shall not be construed to impose any liability upon the Parish or the Police Jury for damage caused by livestock to any property; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the following words, terms, and phrases, when used in this Ordinance, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Livestock means any quadruped livestock; i.e. horse, equine, pony, cow, bull, ox, mule, donkey, bovine, sheep, hog, pig, goat, llama, or alpaca. Livestock also means any barnyard fowl, i.e. chicken, guinea fowl, avian species, geese, bird, ducks, emu, turkey, or peacock.

Owner means any person having a right of property or custody of an animal or who keeps or harbors or finds and knowingly permits the animal to remain on or about their premises.

Parish means the Parish of Grant.

Person means any individual, corporation, partnership, organization, or institution commonly recognized by law as a unit.

State means the State of Louisiana, the United States.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Police Jury that, by enacting this Ordinance:

The penalty for a person's first violation of this Ordinance may be a fine of up to \$100.00. In addition to, or in lieu of, the foregoing penalty for a person's first violation of this Ordinance, a person may be compelled to perform up to ten (10) hours of community service for his or her first violation of this Ordinance.

The penalty for a person's second violation of this Ordinance may be a fine of up to \$250.00 or imprisonment of up to 5 days in the parish jail, or both. In addition to, or in lieu of, the foregoing penalties for a person's second violation of this Ordinance, a person may be compelled to perform up to twenty (20) hours of community service for his or her second violation of this Ordinance.

The penalty for a person's third violation of this Ordinance, and all subsequent violations of this Ordinance, may be a fine of up to \$500.00 or imprisonment of up to 15 days in the parish jail, or both. In addition to, or in lieu of, the foregoing penalties for a person's third violation and subsequent violations of this Ordinance, a person may be compelled to perform up to forty (40) hours of community service for his or her third violation and/or subsequent violations of this Ordinance; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED if any part of this Ordinance shall be held invalid, such part shall be deemed severable and the invalidity thereof shall not affect the remaining parts of this Ordinance.

DATE OF ENACTMENT - This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon approval and shall repeal all Ordinances in conflict herewith.

WHEREUPON THIS ORDINANCE WAS ADOPTED TO A VOTE AND RESULTED IN THE FOLLOWING:

YEAS: 4 NAYS: 3 ABSENT: 0

THIS ORDINANCE WAS ADOPTED ON THIS 13th DAY OF March, 2025.

(s) Jessie Pace
Jessie Pace
Secretary-Treasurer
Grant Parish Police Jury

(s) Mark Ball
Mark Ball
President
Grant Parish Police Jury

CERTIFICATE

I, Jessie Pace, Secretary/Treasurer of the Grant Parish Police Jury, do hereby certify the forgoing is a true and correct copy of an Ordinance adopted by the said Police Jury in a regular session on the 13th day of March, 2025, at which a quorum was present.

(s) Jessie Pace
Jessie Pace
Parish Manager / Sec-Treas
Grant Parish Police Jury

Jurors discussed the current Grant Parish Leash and Animal Protection Ordinance regarding dogs being restrained on private property.

Jurors reviewed and discussed the Hardship Ordinance revisions.

Motion by Mr. Brandon DuBois, seconded by Mr. Arnold Murrell to adopt Ordinance 02-2025; Revised Hardship Ordinance.

Yeas: Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr., Mr. Winston Roberts, Mr. Mike Merrell, and Mr. Roy Edwards

Nays: Mr. Johnny Jamison

Motion carried.

[ORDINANCE NO. 02-2025

REVISED HARDSHIP ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE REASONABLE ROAD ACCESS OF POOR AND NEEDY CITIZENS AS HARDSHIP CASES, SET THE PENALTY OF VIOLATIONS THEREOF AND PROVIDE FOR OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Grant Parish Police Jury in regular session convened on this 13th day of March, 2025 that the following ordinance be enacted:

***Article 1. General
HARDSHIP CASES***

SECTION 1. POLICY

Pursuant to the provisions of Article 7, Section 14 (B) of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974 and R.S. 33:1236 (11), it shall be the policy of the Grant Parish Police Jury to provide for the poor and needy within Grant Parish by, among other things, appropriating each year a sum of money to be dedicated to the purpose of providing reasonable access for poor and needy people from their homes to the nearest public road and who will be extremely disadvantaged without such assistance.

SECTION 2. ADMINISTRATION

The funds shall be administrated under the following rules:

(A) Persons who qualify:

1. A person must execute an application stating that he or she is the owner of a home without reasonable access to a public road and have resided in said home for six (6) months or longer.
2. Require assistance providing a passable road for Home Health/Nursing Care service.
3. Be incapable of providing their own reasonable access due to illness, income, or age.

(B) Assistance to be rendered:

1. Each hardship case is to be brought before the Grant Parish Police Jury for discussion in open meeting and each will be handled individually and on an each time basis.
2. The assistance to be rendered under this policy is limited to the grading and graveling of a road not to exceed 500 feet in length and not to exceed 12 feet travel surface in width, not to exceed 150 cubic yards of pit-run and/or 15 yards of washed gravel, not to be spread unless approved by the Parish Superintendent and the Grant Parish Police Jury.
3. No maintenance or upkeep will be provided after initial work is completed. All requests thereafter must be presented to the jury as a new hardship case.
4. Only one repair per person is permitted.

(C) Project Approval:

1. The Grant Parish Police Jury will screen all applicants and applications. After verifying the qualifications of the applicant within sources available, the applicant shall certify in writing to the Grant Parish Police Jury, those persons, and projects which in their opinion qualify for assistance under this program. Thereafter, the Parish Superintendent, after reviewing said applications, shall certify as to the amount of assistance deemed appropriate and its cost estimate.

No assistance shall be provided by the Grant Parish Police Jury to any private persons by the Parish Superintendent or any other personnel of the Jury unless and until a work order has been issued by the Grant Parish Police Jury under this ordinance.

SECTION 3. PENALTY FOR VIOLATION

Whoever intentionally falsifies an application or otherwise violates any provision of this ordinance shall be fined no more than two hundred fifty (\$250.00) dollars or imprisoned no more than thirty (30) days or both; at the discretion of the court.

Following a public hearing on the above ordinance, the contents therein being discussed, the vote went as follows:

YEAS: 6 NAYS: 1 ABSENT: 0

AND THIS ORDINANCE WAS ADOPTED ON THIS 13th DAY OF MARCH, 2025.

(s) Jessie Pace
Jessie Pace
Secretary-Treasurer
Grant Parish Police Jury

(s) Mark Ball
Mark Ball
President
Grant Parish Police Jury

CERTIFICATE

I, Jessie Pace, Secretary/Treasurer of the Grant Parish Police Jury, do hereby certify the forgoing is a true and correct copy of an Ordinance adopted by the said Police Jury in a regular session on the 13TH day of March, 2025, at which a quorum was present.

(s) Jessie Pace
Jessie Pace
Secretary/Treasurer
Grant Parish Police Jury

Mr. Roy Edwards discussed a potential hardship case in District 8 off Antonio Hill Road. Application will be completed and presented at the April Meeting.

Motion by Mr. Johnny Jamison, seconded by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr. to use Capital Improvement funds from District 2 for repairs on the following roads:

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| Dartigo Road | Slayter Nichols Road |
| Claudes Road | Douglas Road |
| Rice Patch Road | Richardson Loop |
| Viney Ridge Road | Richardson Road |
| Iatt Dam Road | Lemoine Cutoff Road |
| Nelms Loop | |

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Arnold Murrell, seconded by Mr. Mike Merrell to use Capital Improvement funds from District 4 for road repairs to Grays Creek Road. Motion carried unanimously.

Jurors discussed the request to either provide a cell phone or allow a stipend for the mechanic position at the maintenance shop. Jurors all agreed that a cell phone was not a necessary part of the position and the mechanic should utilize the phones at the maintenance shop for work related communication.

Mr. Cody Gongre, Grant Parish Roads Superintendent, updated the jury on current projects from the Landfill and Roads departments.

Motion by Mr. Winston Roberts, seconded by Mr. Arnold Murrell to pay bills as funds become available. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Brandon DuBois, seconded by Mr. Johnny Jamison to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Disclaimer: These minutes are not official until adopted by the jury at the next meeting.