

Colfax, LA
February 10, 2023

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, February 9, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

The following members were present:

Mr. Don Arnold, Mr. David Merrell, Mr. Mark Ball, Mr. Cephas Bowie Jr., Mr. Brandon DuBois, Mr. Arnold Murrell, and Mr. Winston Roberts, and Mr. Johnny Jamison

The following members were absent:

None

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

Mr. Jeffery Pogue; Operations Manager of Acadian Ambulance gave the monthly call report for the parish.

Mr. Steven Kimball of Rosier, McKay & Willis presented and discussed the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire. This questionnaire is a required part of a financial audit of Louisiana governmental units.

Motion by Mr. Arnold Murrell, seconded by Mr. Don Arnold to adopt the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Brandon DuBois, seconded by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr. to amend the agenda to add a motion to adopt the Amended 2022 Budget and Proposed 2023 Budget of the North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory Commission. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnny Jamison, seconded by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr. to Adopt the Amended 2022 Budget and Proposed 2023 Budget of the North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory Commission. Motion carried.

The agenda was opened to public comment:

Mr. Bobby Thompson of Roy O. Martin asked about road improvements in the areas that their log trucks travel. Their concern is the weight of the log trucks damaging the repairs being made. They will try to get a schedule of areas that they will be logging for this year to work together to avoid scheduling conflicts and preserve the roads as much as possible.

Ms. Emily Vallee and Ms. Virginia Foster questioned the Grant Parish Civic Center being used as an emergency shelter for Colfax Reunion Rehabilitation Center. They wanted to know had the Department of Health and Hospitals inspected and approved this decision. They were both advised that the Civic Center is approved by the Fire Marshall as an emergency shelter and that Colfax Reunion Rehabilitation Center would only utilize the facility in the event of a disaster as short-term holding until they could be transported to the appropriate medical facilities.

The jurors reviewed and discussed the 2023 committee assignments.

Motion by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr., seconded by Mr. Brandon DuBois to approve the 2023 committee assignments. Motion carried.

The jurors discussed the endorsement of Mr. Craig Smith as 3rd Vice President of the Police Jury Association of Louisiana.

Motion by Mr. Brandon DuBois, seconded by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr. to endorse Mr. Craig Smith as 3rd Vice President of the Police Jury Association of Louisiana. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Don Arnold, seconded by Mr. Johnny Jamison to accept the resignation of Mr. Terry Sharbono as Board of Directors for Grant Parish Fire District 6 effective January 1, 2023. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. David Merrell, seconded by Mr. Don Arnold to accept the appointment of Mr. Dallas Baxter as Mr. Terry Sharbono's replacement on the Board of Directors for Grant Parish Fire District 6. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr., seconded by Mr. Don Arnold to declare the Grant Parish Civic Center as an emergency shelter for Colfax Reunion Rehabilitation Center. Motion carried.

The jurors discussed a hardship case in District 8 where a handicapped constituent was unable to receive the home health/emergency care that was needed due to a bad area of the driveway. The jury granted the

Roads Superintendent permission to assist with some pit run and he was able to receive the medical attention needed now that the ambulance could access the driveway.

The jurors discussed the upcoming security position in the courthouse. As the jury does not have the funds to fully compensate a deputy on its own, the departments in the courthouse will meet and discuss options.

The jury discussed increasing late fees for the Consolidated Gas Utilities District from \$1.50 per month to 10% of the billed amount.

Motion by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr., seconded by Mr. Johnny Jamison to amend the agenda to add a motion to increase the late fee for the Consolidated Gas Utilities District from \$1.50 per month to 10% of the billed amount. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr., seconded by Mr. Johnny Jamison to increase the late fee for the Consolidated Gas Utilities District from \$1.50 per month to 10% of the billed amount. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr., seconded by Mr. Brandon DuBois to amend the agenda to add a motion to purchase a new utility truck from state contract for the Consolidated Gas Utilities District and move ownership of the old truck to the Roads Department. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Brandon DuBois, seconded by Mr. Arnold Murrell to purchase a new utility truck from state contract for the Consolidated Gas Utilities District and move ownership of the old truck to the Roads Department.

Yeas: Mr. Winston Roberts, Mr. Don Arnold, Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr., Mr. Johnny Jamison

Nays: Mr. David Merrell

Motion carried.

The jurors discussed the upcoming appointment of the Coroner for Grant Parish. The current Coroner will resign effective March 1, 2023 as of 2:00 pm. A Special Session has been called for the jury to appoint a new Coroner at this time.

Motion by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr., seconded by Mr. Don Arnold to amend the agenda to add enter into executive session to discuss Coroner candidates. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr., seconded by Mr. Don Arnold to enter into executive session to discuss Coroner candidates. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. David Merrell, seconded by Mr. Don Arnold to enter back into regular session. Motion carried.

The jurors discussed the available Constable position for District C in Grant Parish. The Governor will not appoint a candidate that is interested in running. Elections are to be held in October as of now.

Mr. Johnny Jamison discussed using District 2 Capital Improvement funds for repairs to the following roads:

Fairfield Road	O'Quinn Spur
Lake Road	Patchleg
Hog Island	D'Artigo Road
Cold Branch	Nelms Loop
Iatt Dam Road	Richardson Road

Motion by Mr. Johnny Jamison, seconded by Mr. Brandon DuBois to use District 2 Capital Improvement funds for repairs to the following roads:

Fairfield Road	O'Quinn Spur
Lake Road	Patchleg
Hog Island	D'Artigo Road
Cold Branch	Nelms Loop
Iatt Dam Road	Richardson Road

Motion carried.

Mr. Mark Ball discussed using District 5 Capital Improvement funds for repairs to the following roads:

Walker Gravel Pit	McCoullough Road
Milligan Road	Hudson Creek Road

Motion by Mr. Mr. Mark Ball, seconded by Mr. Brandon DuBois to use District 5 Capital Improvement funds for repairs to the following roads:

Walker Gravel Pit	McCoullough Road
Milligan Road	Hudson Creek Road

Motion carried.

Mr. Winston Roberts discussed using District 6 Capital Improvement funds for repairs to the following roads:

East Meade Road	Lonnie's Landing
Waggoner Road	Lofton Road
Crawford Loop	Golden Lane
Walker Ferry	Day Lane
Perry Loop	Thompson Lane
Hardwater Lake	Beeson Road

Motion by Mr. Winston Roberts, seconded by Mr. David Merrell to use District 6 Capital Improvement funds for repairs to the following roads:

East Meade Road	Lonnie's Landing
Waggoner Road	Lofton Road
Crawford Loop	Golden Lane
Walker Ferry	Day Lane
Perry Loop	Thompson Lane
Hardwater Lake	Beeson Road

Motion carried.

Mr. Cody Gongre, Grant Parish Police Jury Roads Superintendent gave an update on projects from the landfill and roads departments. He discussed the need for fence repairs around the parish dump sites and he will obtain detailed repair quotes. He also presented quotes for sheds at dumpsites on Kateland Road, Airbase Road, and in Montgomery. The jury is looking to fill CDL driving positions, laborer positions, and at least one more motor grader operator.

Motion by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr., seconded by Mr. Winston Roberts to amend the agenda to add a motion to approve a 3% pay raise to Mr. Faron Ashmore for excellent job performance and having the initiative to step into a new position. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr., seconded by Mr. Don Arnold to approve a 3% pay raise to Mr. Faron Ashmore for excellent job performance and having the initiative to step into a new position. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Arnold Murrell, seconded by Mr. Brandon DuBois to amend the agenda to add a motion to approve allowing the Parish Manager and Roads Superintendent purchasing three metal buildings for the parish dump sites. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Arnold Murrell, seconded by Mr. Don Arnold to approve allowing the Parish Manager and Roads Superintendent purchasing three metal buildings for the parish dump sites. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Don Arnold, seconded by Mr. Brandon DuBois to pay bills as funds become available. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Brandon DuBois, seconded by Mr. Don Arnold to adjourn. Motion carried.