

Colfax, LA
February 13, 2022

The Police Jury of the Parish of Grant, State of Louisiana, met in regular session at its meeting place, the Courtroom of the Grant Parish Courthouse, 200 Main Street, Colfax, Louisiana, on Thursday, February 10, 2022 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. Johnny Jamison, Mr. Arnold Murrell, Mr. Winston Roberts.

The following members were absent:

None

Motion by Mr. Brandon DuBois seconded by Mr. Arnold Murrell 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. William Jerrell; Morgan Goudeau and Associates sent an email updating the Jury on the South Grant Sewer Project.

Motion by Mr. Johnny Jamison, seconded by Mr. Cephas Bowie Jr. to adopt Resolution 3-2022; Honoring the Resignation of Mrs. Rita B. Roberts. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION: 3-2022

HONORING THE SERVICE OF MRS. RITA ROBERTS

WHEREAS, Mrs. Rita Roberts, has served with distinction and dedication as an employee of the Grant Parish Police Jury for thirteen (13) years and eight (8) months.

WHEREAS, she has served the citizens of Grant Parish and the Police Jury with Honor and Purpose during those thirteen (13) years and eight (8) months.

WHEREAS, Mrs. Rita Roberts resigned from service effective November 30, 2021

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Grant Parish Police Jury in recognition of her dedication and devotion, does hereby Commend and Honor Mrs. Rita Roberts for thirteen (13) years and eight (8) months of meritorious service to the Grant Parish Police Jury and the Citizens of Grant

Passed, approved and adopted this 10th day of February, 2022.

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

(s) Don Arnold
Don Arnold
Parish President
Grant Parish Police Jury

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 February 10th 2022.

(s) Jessie Pace
Jessie Pace, Secretary/Treasurer

Motion by Mr. Brandon DuBois, seconded by Mr. Cephas Bowie Jr. to appoint Jessie Pace Secretary – Treasurer / Parish Manager for a term of 2 years. Motion carried

Motion by Mr. Cephas Bowie Jr. seconded by Mr. Johnny Jamison to adopt the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire. Motion carried

Motion by Mr. Mark Ball, seconded by Mr. Arnold Murrell to amend the agenda to add Motion to Adopt Resolution 5-2022; To Use Local Funds to Pay for Administrative Fees. Motion carried

Motion by Mr. Mark Ball, seconded by Mr. Brandon DuBois to adopt Resolution 5-2022; To Use Local Funds to Pay for Administrative Fees. Motion carried

Motion by Mr. Mark Ball, seconded by Mr. David Merrell to amend the agenda to add Motion to Introduce Ordinance 03-2022; Notice with Intent to Sell 3414 Highway 8 Pollock, Louisiana 71467. Motion carried

Motion by Mr. Brandon DuBois, seconded Johnny Jamison to Introduce Ordinance 03-2022; Notice with Intent to Sell 3414 Highway 8 Pollock, Louisiana 71467. Motion carried

Motion by Mr. Johnny Jamison, seconded by Mr. Brandon DuBois to open meeting to public comments. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Cephas Bowie Jr., seconded by Mr. Brandon DuBois to approve the 2022 Committee Assignments. Motion carried

Motion by Cephas Bowie Jr., seconded by Mr. Mark Ball to amend the agenda to add Motion to sell the Consolidated Gas Utilities District. Motion carried

Motion by Mr. Winston Roberts, seconded by Mr. Cephas Bowie to sell the Consolidated Gas Utilities District pending legal review of a favorable offer. Motion carried

Mr. Wayne Francis; APTIM Corporation addressed Jury about maintenance expenses for South Grant Sewer System

Motion by Mr. Arnold Murrell, seconded by Mr. Johnny Jamison to amend the agenda to allow District Attorney Jay Lemoine to handle litigation with Bank of Montgomery. Motion carried

Motion by Mr. Brandon DuBois, seconded by Mr. Cephas Bowie Jr. to allow District Attorney Jay Lemoine to handle litigation with Bank of Montgomery.

Yeas: Mr. Brandon DuBois, Mr. Cephas Bowie Jr., Mr. Johnny Jamison

Nays: Mr. Winston Roberts, Mr. David Merrell, Mr. Mark Ball, Mr. Arnold Murrell

Abstained: Mr. Don Arnold

Motion failed.

Motion by Mr. Winston Roberts, seconded by Mr. Mark Ball to allow J.R. Whaley of the Whaley Law Firm to draft Resolution to be approved by the Attorney General to Hire Outside Counsel in Litigation with Bank of Montgomery.

Yeas: Mr. Winston Roberts, Mr. David Merrell, Mr. Mark Ball, Mr. Arnold Murrell

Nays: Mr. Brandon DuBois, Mr. Cephas Bowie Jr., Mr. Johnny Jamison

Abstained: Mr. Don Arnold

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Arnold Murrell, seconded by Mr. Mark Ball to adopt Resolution 4-2022; To Hire Outside Counsel for Litigation with Bank of Montgomery.

Yeas: Mr. Winston Roberts, Mr. David Merrell, Mr. Mark Ball, Mr. Arnold Murrell

Nays: Mr. Brandon DuBois, Mr. Cephas Bowie Jr., Mr. Johnny Jamison

Abstained: Mr. Don Arnold

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 4-2022

WHEREAS, the Grant Parish Police Jury seeks to enforce any and all available remedies it may have and to seek any damages it may be entitled to related to misappropriation of funds in certain bank accounts and that a real necessity exists to pursue its rights and remedies;

WHEREAS, the Grant Parish Police Jury acknowledges that there may be an apparent or actual conflict of interest that would impact the legal representation of the Police Jury by its general counsel, the Grant Parish District Attorney's Office, a "real necessity exists" for the employment of special counsel to represent the Parish's interest therein.

WHEREAS, the Grant Parish Police Jury seeks to retain outside counsel with specific expertise to handle this matter on a contingency fee basis, as the Parish does not possess the resources to pay the potential attorney fees on an hourly basis, nor the potential expenses in advance;

WHEREAS, the Grant Parish Police Jury has sought to retain and has agreed to a proposed contingency fee contract with attorney, J. R. Whaley of Whaley Law Firm, subject to the provisions of LSA-R.S. 42:263. Said Contract calls for a flat fee of \$5,000.00 for preliminary investigation and exploration of settlement opportunities, with a maximum contingency of 25% should litigation be necessary, with Grant Parish Police Jury receiving credit for the initial payment of \$5,000.00 against the contingent percentage fee;

WHEREAS, the Grant Parish Police Jury acknowledges that LSA-R.S. 42:263 requires a specific resolution and approval of the Louisiana Attorney General before retaining such specific outside counsel;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Grant Parish Police Jury in a duly conveyed session on February 10, 2022, voted formally to approve the contingency fee contract and to formally request that the Louisiana Attorney General approve the hiring of such special counsel pursuant to the proposed contingency fee contract as is required by LSA-R.S. 42:263;

This resolution was declared adopted on February 10, 2022 at its regular meeting where a Quorum was present. The vote was as follows:

YEAS: Mr. Arnold Murrell, Mr. David Merrell, Mr. Winston Roberts, Mr. Mark Ball

NAYS: Mr. Johnny Jamison, Mr. Cephas Bowie Jr., Mr. Brandon DuBois

ABSTAIN: Mr. Don Arnold

APPROVED: (s) Don Arnold

DON ARNOLD, PRESIDENT GRANT PARISH POLICE JURY

ATTEST: (s) Jessie Pace JESSE PACE, SECRETARY

Motion by Mr. Cephas Bowie Jr., seconded by Mr. Arnold Murrell to enter into Cooperative Agreement Between the State of Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and Grant Parish Police Jury for a portion of LA 502. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Arnold Murrell, seconded by Mr. David Merrell to use Capital Improvement Funds from District 4 to overlay R.A. Magee Road. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Arnold Murrell, seconded by Mr. Mark Ball to adopt Hill Top Road in the Forest Ridge Subdivision, District 4 into the Grant Parish Road Maintenance System. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnny Jamison, seconded by Mr. Brandon DuBois to remove a portion of Roger Mercer Road from Grant Parish Road Maintenance System. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Winston Roberts, seconded by Mr. Cephas Bowie Jr. to remove the unpaved portion of Durham Road from the Grant Parish Road Maintenance System. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Cephas Bowie, seconded by Mr. Johnny Jamison to approve the Governor's 2022 Holiday Schedule. Motion carried.

A Special Meeting will be called for the discussion of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds.

No motion was made for approving revisions to the Grant Parish Police Jury Handbook regarding dress code.

Motion by Mr. Winston Roberts, seconded by Mr. Mark Ball to approve salary for Employees that acquired their Class B CDL License per Personnel Committee recommendation. Motion carried.

Motion to adopt Employee Health Insurance Coverage from current quotes is deferred to a Special Meeting on February 14, 2022.

Motion to have Jurors pay their own Insurance benefits beginning with the 2024 Term is deferred to a Special Meeting.

Motion by Mr. Cephas Bowie Jr., seconded by Mr. Mark Ball to declare the Grant Parish Civic Center as an Emergency Shelter for Colfax Reunion. Motion carried.

Jurors discussed Large Commercial Gathering Ordinance.

Motion by Mr. Mark Ball, seconded by Mr. Johnny Jamison to amend agenda to approve Large Commercial Gathering Ordinance. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnny Jamison, seconded by Mr. Mark Ball to vote on Large Commercial Gathering Ordinance

Yeas: Mr. Mark Ball, Mr. Johnny Jamison

Nays: Mr. Cephas Bowie Jr., Mr. Arnold Murrell, Mr. David Merrell, Mr. Brandon DuBois, Mr. Winston Roberts

Motion failed.

Mr. Cody Gongre, Grant Parish Roads Superintendent, gave an update on the Landfill and Roads departments. He requested to spend a portion of ARPA funds on equipment. Request is deferred to the Equipment Committee.

Motion by Mr. Arnold Murrell, seconded by Mr. Mark Ball to pay bills as funds become available. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnny Jamison, seconded by Mr. Mark Ball to adjourn. Motion carried.