

Colfax, LA
July 13, 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, July 13, 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. Johnny Jamison, Mr. Arnold Murrell, Mr. Winston Roberts.

The following members were absent:

None

Motion by Mr. Arnold Murrell, seconded by Mr. Johnny Jamison to open the agenda to public comment. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr., seconded by Mr. Brandon DuBois to accept the minutes of the last meeting as published in the official journal. Motion carried.

Mr. Jeff Pogue, Operations Manager of Acadian Ambulance, gave the monthly call report for the parish and introduced Mr. Cade Bishop, Area Supervisor for Acadian Ambulance. The jurors discussed the need for another emergency response vehicle or “sprint” type vehicle in the parish possibly in a central location like Bentley.

The Police Jury to presented a framed copy of Proclamation 05-2023; Mr. Randell A. Fletcher Week to the Fletcher family in honor of his service to the parish.

PROCLAMATION: 05-2023

MR. RANDELL A. FLETCHER WEEK

WHEREAS, our community wishes to express its sorrow for the passing of Mr. Randell A. Fletcher on Wednesday, April 12, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Randell A. Fletcher served this community in various civic capacities such as board member and Chairman of the Red River Waterway Commission, board member of Grant Parish Soil Conservation & Water, Louisiana State Soil & Water Commission, board member of the Louisiana Baptist Children’s Home and served as President. He was elected to the Louisiana 4-H Hall of Fame for his dedicated work in livestock, was a cattle farmer, taught elementary school at Colfax for nineteen years just to name a few; and

WHEREAS, he served as Police Juror for District 1 from 1972 through 1976 and beginning in 1977, he served as the Grant Parish Assessor for twenty years highlighting his service driven nature; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Randell A. Fletcher’s compassionate quality permeated his life and earned the respect, admiration, and high regard of all with whom he came into contact and our community has sustained a great loss in his death:

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Grant Parish Police Jury extends our sincerest sympathy upon the passing of Mr. Randell A. Fletcher and in recognition does hereby proclaim the week of July 9 -15 2023, as Randell A. Fletcher week in the Parish of Grant.

Duly proclaimed this 11th day of May 2023.

(s) Jessie Pace
Jessie Pace
Secretary - Treasurer
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 11th day of May 2023.

GIVEN UNDR MY OFFICIAL SIGNATURE and Seal of Office on this the 11th day of May 2023.

(s) Jessie Pace
Jessie Pace
Secretary - Treasurer

Motion by Mr. Johnny Jamison, seconded by Mr. Brandon DuBois to adopt Resolution 18-2023; Authorizing and Approving Execution of Equipment – Lease Purchase Agreement with Cadence Equipment Finance for 2024 Mack Terra Pro Garbage Truck. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 18-2023

**AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING EXECUTION OF AN
EQUIPMENT - LEASE PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH CADENCE EQUIPMENT FINANCE, A DIVISION OF CADENCE BANK**

WHEREAS, Grant Parish Police Jury (the "Governing Body") of Grant Parish Police Jury Louisiana (the "Lessee"), acting for and on the behalf of the Lessee hereby finds, determines, and adjudicates as follows:

1. The Lessee desires to enter into an Equipment Lease - Purchase Agreement with the Lease Schedule and Exhibits attached thereto in substantially the same form as attached hereto as Exhibit "A" (collectively, the "Agreement") with Cadence Equipment Finance, a division of Cadence Bank (the "Lessor"), for the purpose of leasing with an option to purchase the equipment as described therein for the total cost specified therein (the "Equipment").
2. It is in the best interest of the public purposes of the Lessee that the Lessee lease with an option to purchase the Equipment pursuant to and in accordance with the terms of the Agreement; and
3. It is necessary for the Lessee to approve and authorize the Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by this Governing Body for and on behalf of the Lessee as follows:

Section 1. The Agreement and Exhibits attached thereto in substantially the same form as attached hereto as Exhibit "A" by and between the Lessor and the Lessee is hereby approved Ad Jessie Pace (the "Authorized Officer") is hereby authorized and directed to execute said Agreement on behalf of the Lessee.

Section 2. The Agreement is being issued in calendar year 2023.

Section 3. Neither any portion of the gross proceeds of the Agreement nor the Equipment identified to the Agreement shall be used (directly or indirectly) in a trade or business carried on by any person other than a governmental unit, except for such use as a member of the general public.

Section 4. No portion of the rental payments identified in the Agreement (a) is secured, directly or indirectly, by property used or to be used in a trade or business carried on by a person other than a governmental unit, except for such use as a member of the general public, or by payments in respect of such property; or (b) is to be derived from payments (whether or not to the Lessee) in respect of property or borrowed money used or to be used for a trade or business carried on by any person other than a governmental unit.

Section 5. No portion of the gross proceeds of the Agreement are used (directly or indirectly) to make or finance loans to persons other than governmental units.

Section 6. The Authorized Officer is further authorized for and on behalf of the Governing Body and the Lessee to do all things necessary in furtherance of the obligations of the Lessee pursuant to the Agreement, including execution and delivery of all other documents necessary or appropriate to carry out the transactions contemplated thereby in accordance with the terms and provisions thereof.

Section 7. The Lessee desires to designate the Agreement as a "qualified tax-exempt obligation" of the Lessee, as defined in Section 265(b)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the "Code"). The aggregate face amount of all tax-exempt obligations (excluding private activity bonds other than qualified 501(c)(3) bonds) issued or to be issued by the Lessee and all subordinate entities thereof during the current calendar year is not reasonably expected to exceed \$10,000,000. The Lessee and all subordinate entities thereof will not issue or enter into in excess of \$10,000,000 of tax-exempt obligations (including the Agreement, but excluding private activity bonds other than qualified 501(c)(3) bonds) during the current calendar year, without first obtaining an opinion of nationally recognized counsel in the area of tax-exempt municipal obligations acceptable to the Lessor that the designation of the Agreement as a "qualified tax-exempt obligation" will not be adversely affected.

Passed, approved, and adopted this 13th day of July, 2023.

(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 July, 2023.

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

Mr. David Merrell discussed using capital improvement funds from District 7 for New Prospect Road, Dyson Creek Road, Rob Wallace Road, Stuart Lake Road, Roy Dewitt Road, East Meade Road, and Shadow Road.

Motion by Mr. Don Arnold, seconded by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr. to use capital improvement funds from District 7 for New Prospect Road, Dyson Creek Road, Rob Wallace Road, Stuart Lake Road, Roy Dewitt Road, East Meade Road, and Shadow Road. Motion carried.

Mr. Don Arnold discussed using capital improvement funds from District 8 for Hugart Road and Selma Loop.

Motion by Mr. Don Arnold, seconded by Mr. Johnny Jamison to use capital improvement funds from District 8 for Hugart Road and Selma Loop. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr., seconded by Mr. Brandon DuBois to accept the appointment of Ms. Jessica Fowler to the Grant Parish Fire District 1 Board. Motion carried.

Mr. Winston Roberts discussed making the unpaved portion at the end of Hardwater Lake Road 25 miles per hour.

Motion by Mr. Winston Roberts, seconded by Mr. David Merrell to make the unpaved portion at the end of Hardwater Lake Road 25 miles per hour. Motion carried.

Mrs. Jessie Pace discussed the available DRA Grant; Strategic Planning Program. Communities across DRA's eight-state region lack the capacity and resources to strategically plan. This program will give public entities access to strategic planning funds to address long-standing issues and develop a roadmap for economic growth and opportunity. Applicants for this program have the autonomy to apply for a plan that fits the unique needs and challenges in their community. The program is funded through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law signed by President Biden and has no requirements for the parish to produce matching funds.

Motion by Mr. Arnold Murrell, seconded by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr. to allow the Parish Manager, Jessie Pace to apply for the DRA Strategic Planning Program Grant. Motion carried.
The jury discussed Mr. Sean McGlothlin's candidacy for the Region Eight Executive Board Member.

The Jury discussed the need to replace doors at the maintenance shop building for safety and security. Quotes were obtained from three bidders but they did not include what gauge metal they were using. The matter was deferred to the Building Committee and if the same specs were used for the doors, the job will be awarded to the lowest quote.

Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr. discussed the results of the Personnel Committee Meeting regarding compensation hours for employee call outs. They proposed that all police jury employees who are called to work outside of regular working hours will receive a minimum of three hours pay/comp time.

Motion by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr., seconded by Mr. Don Arnold to pay all police jury employees who are called to work outside of regular working hours will receive a minimum of three hours pay/comp time. Motion carried.

Mr. Cody Gongre, Grant Parish Police Jury Roads Superintendent, updated the jury on projects from the landfill and roads departments

Motion by Mr. Don Arnold, seconded by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr. to add the motion to enter executive session to discuss personnel matters. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr., seconded by Mr. Don Arnold to enter executive session to discuss personnel matters. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Brandon DuBois, seconded by Mr. Don Arnold to return to regular session. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Arnold Murrell, seconded by Mr. Winston Roberts to amend agenda to include motion to uphold the termination of two (2) CGUD employees per the recommendation of the Personnel Committee. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr., seconded by Mr. Don Arnold to uphold the termination of two CGUD employees per the recommendation of the Personnel Committee. Motion carried.

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

Mr. Don Arnold discussed the recent vandalism to police jury equipment and the need to find safe and monitored areas for staging overnight.

Mr. Mark Ball gave an update on recent repairs to the LSU Ag Center Extension Office including a new roof, a/c unit, and ceiling. They have been temporarily relocated to the second floor of the Old Bank Building until repairs are completed. He also updated the jury on the progress of the new voting precinct building/multipurpose building on Landfill Road.

Motion by Mr. Arnold Murrell, seconded by Mr. Johnny Jamison to adjourn. Motion carried.