

Colfax, LA
March 2, 2023

The Police Jury of the Parish of Grant, State of Louisiana, met in special session at its meeting place, the Grant Parish Police Jury Meeting Room, 200 Main Street, Colfax, Louisiana, on Wednesday, March 1, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.

The following members were present:

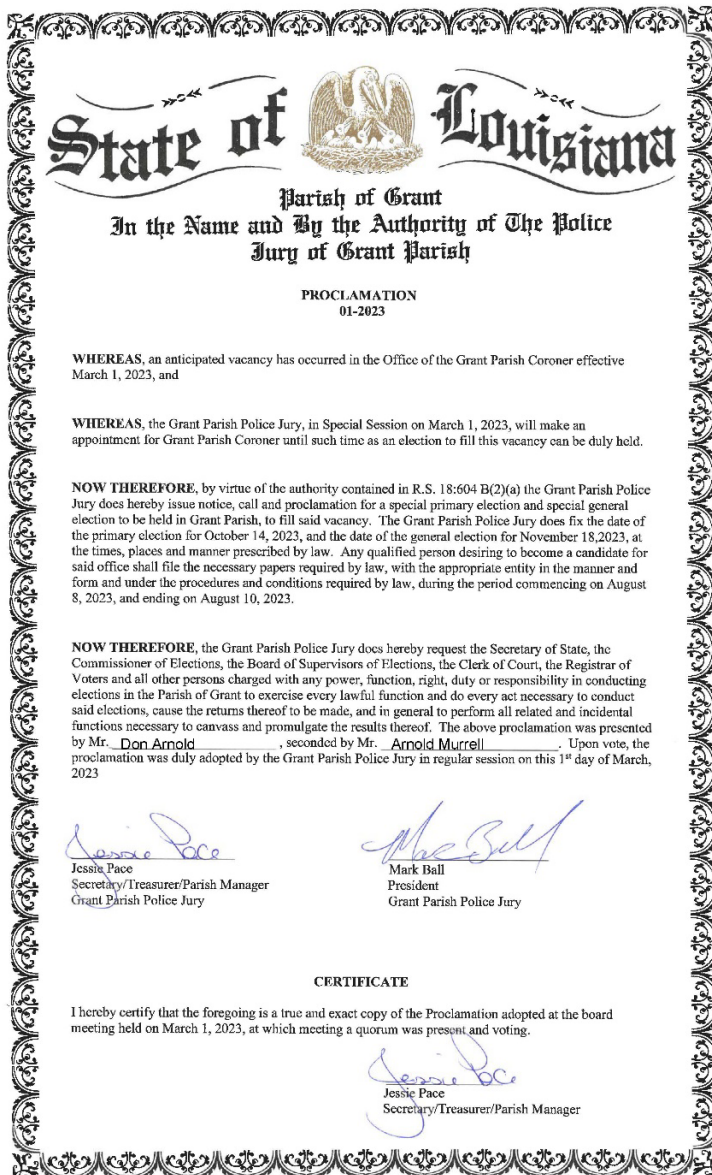
Mr. Mark Ball, Mr. Don Arnold, Mr. Cephas Bowie Jr., Mr. Arnold Murrell, Mr. Winston Roberts, and Mr. Johnny Jamison

The following members were absent:

Mr. David Merrell, and Mr. Brandon DuBois

The meeting was opened to public comment. No speakers came forward.

Motion by Mr. Don Arnold, seconded by Mr. Arnold Murrell to accept the resignation of Mrs. Amy Brewer as Coroner of Grant Parish. Motion carried.



Motion by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr., seconded by Mr. Don Arnold to select and appoint Mr. Dan Fletcher to fill the office of Coroner for Grant Parish. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnny Jamison, seconded by Mr. Don Arnold to approve Resolution 2-2023 Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the Opioid Abatement Administration Corporation and a Non-qualified/Non-lead Parish. Motion carried.

State of Louisiana
Parish of Grant
In the Name and By the Authority of The Police
Jury of Grant Parish

Motion by Mr. Johnny Jamison, seconded by Mr. Don Arnold
and carried to adopt the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 02-2023

A Resolution authorizing Grant Parish to participate in additional *NATIONAL SETTLEMENTS* as expressed in the recent national *Pharmacy Defendants' Settlement Agreements* (CVS, Walgreens and Walmart Defendants),¹ in conjunction with and pursuant to the previously agreed to Louisiana Memorandum of Understanding with the Louisiana Attorney General's Office ("MOU"),² as well as any subsequent Formal Agreements necessary to effect participation in the these National Settlements, including but not limited to, any Subdivision Settlement Participation Form(s)/Agreement(s), Release(s) or other documents required by any Settlement Agreements arising from or relating to resolution of the Grant Parish's claims against the Settling Defendants in the National Opioid Litigation.

WHEREAS, Grant Parish has suffered harm from the opioid epidemic;

WHEREAS, Grant Parish recognizes that the entire State of Louisiana has suffered harm as a result from the opioid epidemic;

WHEREAS, the State of Louisiana has a pending action in state court, and a number of Louisiana Parishes and Cities have also filed actions in state court or have been transferred to, or directly in, *In re: National Prescription Opiate Litigation*, MDL No. 2804 (N.D. Ohio) (the "Opioid Litigation");

WHEREAS, the Grant Parish is a litigating subdivision and has a pending action in the Opioid Litigation;³

¹ Available at: <https://nationalopioidsettlement.com/>; <https://nationalopioidsettlement.com/ing-ophiatory-chart/>; <https://nationalopioidsettlement.com/pharmacy-settlements/>; <https://nationalopioidsettlement.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/2023-National-Opioid-Settlement-FAQs-2-2-2023.pdf>.

² See <https://nationalopioidsettlement.com/state/loisiana/> and <https://nationalopioidsettlement.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/2021-10-21-MOU-Opioid-Settlement.pdf>.

³ *Grant Parish, Louisiana v. Purdue Pharms L.P. et al.*, Case No. 1:19-cv-45277-DAP (N.D. Ohio).

WHEREAS, these National Settlements with the Pharmacy Defendants⁴ were publicly announced in or around December 2022 in the Opioid Litigation;

WHEREAS, Grant Parish recognizes, acknowledges and accepts that it is eligible to participate in the recently announced National Settlements with the Pharmacy Defendants;

WHEREAS, Grant Parish recognizes, acknowledges and accepts that it is not eligible to participate in the recently announced national/global Teva and Allergan Settlements⁵ by virtue of the State of Louisiana's separate, preceding Settlement Agreements with the Teva and Allergan Defendants pursuant to State Attorney General's authority in the Louisiana MOU, and further recognizes that its claims against the relevant Teva and Allergan Defendants will be dismissed pursuant to those Settlement Agreements;

WHEREAS, participation in these National Settlements by a large majority of Louisiana cities and parishes will maximize the amount of funds allocated for Louisiana under these National Settlements and should improve Louisiana's relative bargaining position during additional settlement negotiations;

WHEREAS, failure to participate in these National Settlements will reduce funds available to the State, Grant Parish, and every other Louisiana City and Parish;

WHEREAS, Grant Parish's private attorneys from Neblett, Beard & Arsenault (and other co-counsel firms) have sufficiently explained the details of these National Settlements to Grant Parish (through the Parish Police Jury's General Councils), Grant Parish has had an opportunity to ask questions concerning same, and Grant Parish's private attorneys have satisfactorily answered those questions to the best of their ability and based on currently available information;

WHEREAS, Grant Parish's private attorneys from Neblett, Beard & Arsenault (and other co-counsel firms) firmly believe that Grant Parish's participation in these National Settlements is in Grant Parish's best interest; and

WHEREAS, Grant Parish's private attorneys from Neblett, Beard & Arsenault (and other co-counsel firms) strongly recommend that Grant Parish participate in these National Settlements, and agree to be bound by the terms thereof.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GRANT PARISH POLICE JURY:

SECTION 1. That Grant Parish finds that participation in these National Settlements is in the best interest of Grant Parish and its citizens.

SECTION 2. That Grant Parish hereby re-affirms its support of a unified plan for the allocation of any funds and use of opioid settlement proceeds as generally described in the Louisiana MOU.

⁴ The Pharmacy Defendants include all those listed in the relevant Settlement Agreements, including those listed in each Parish's approved to Settlement Agreements with CVS, Walgreens and Walmart and including all of their subsidiaries, predecessors, successors, joint ventures, current officers, directors, employees, representatives, agents, affiliates, parents, and assigns.

⁵ See <https://nationalopioidsettlement.com/teva-allergan-settlements/>; <https://nationalopioidsettlement.com/state-participation-status/>; <https://nationalopioidsettlement.com/teva-allergan-settlement-documents/>.

SECTION 3. That the Police Jury President is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents or formal agreements to effectuate Grant Parish's participation in these National Settlements, including but not limited to, Settlement Participation Form(s)/Agreement(s), Releases and other necessary documents.

SECTION 4. That the Secretary be and hereby is instructed to record this Resolution in the appropriate record book upon its adoption.

SECTION 5. The Secretary is hereby directed to furnish a certified copy of this Resolution to the Neblett, Beard & Arsenault:

Neblett, Beard & Arsenault
c/o Dustin C. Carter
P.O. Box 13120
Alexandria, LA 71315

SECTION 7. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.
Adopted this 1st day of March, 2023.

POLICE JURY PRESIDENT: 

ATTEST:

Secretary-Treasurer



Motion by Mr. Don Arnold, seconded by Mr. Johnny Jamison to select the President, Mr. Mark Ball, as authorized signatory for all documents relating to the Opioid Settlement Litigation. Motion carried.

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