

Colfax, LA
November 18, 2021

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, November 18, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

The following members were present:

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

The following members were absent:

none

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

Mr. Robert Wolfe, Parish Engineer, gave an update on open projects in Grant Parish.

Motion by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr., seconded by Mr. Brandon DuBois to approve Resolution 27-2021; Honoring the Retirement of Mr. Robert L. Wolfe, Jr. Motion carried.



Motion by Mr. Arnold Murrell, seconded by Mr. Winston Roberts to approve 2021 Amended Budget. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnny Jamison, seconded by Mr. Winston Roberts to approve 2022 Operating Budget. Motion carried.

Mr. William Jarrell of Morgan Goudeau and Associates updated the jury on the progress of the South Grant Sewer Project.

Motion by Mr. Winston Roberts, seconded by Mr. Mark Ball to enter into executive session with attorneys from Neblett, Beard & Arsenault and Hunter & Beck to discuss the Opioid Litigation. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Winston Roberts, seconded by Mr. Mark Ball to enter back into regular session. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Arnold Murrell, seconded by Mr. Winston Roberts to adopt Resolution 28-2021; Opioid Litigation. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 28-2021

A Resolution authorizing Grant Parish to join with the State of Louisiana and other local governmental units/subdivisions as a participant in the tentative *NATIONAL SETTLEMENTS* expressed in the *Distributor Settlement Agreement* and the *Janssen Settlement Agreement* (the “National Settlements”)¹ and *LOUISIANA STATE-LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPIOID LITIGATION MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING* (the “Louisiana MOU”),² as well as any subsequent Formal Agreements necessary to implement the Louisiana MOU, including but not limited to, the Subdivision Settlement Participation Form(s)/Agreement(s) in Exhibit K of the *Distributor Settlement Agreement* and the *Janssen Settlement Agreement*.

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

WHEREAS, the National Settlements with the “Big 3” Distributor Defendants⁴ and Johnson & Johnson/Janssen Defendants⁵ were publicly announced on or around July 22, 2021 in the Opioid Litigation;

WHEREAS, that State of Louisiana, through Attorney General Jeff Landry, has announced its intention to participate in the National Settlements, as well as its intention to be bound by the provisions of the Louisiana MOU;

WHEREAS, the State of Louisiana and private lawyers representing certain various local governments involved in the Opioid Litigation have proposed a unified plan for the allocation and use of prospective settlement dollars from opioid related litigation;

WHEREAS, the Louisiana MOU sets a framework of a unified plan for the proposed allocation and use of opioid settlement proceeds and it is anticipated that formal agreements implementing the Louisiana MOU will be entered into at a future date;

WHEREAS, participation in the National Settlements and Louisiana MOU by a large majority of Louisiana cities and parishes will maximize the amount of funds allocated for Louisiana under the

¹ Currently available at https://nationalopioidsettlement.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Final-Distributor-Settlement-Agreement-9.18.21_.pdf, and <https://nationalopioidsettlement.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Janssen-7-30-21-updated-20210920.pdf>.

² Currently available at <https://nationalopioidsettlement.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/2021.10.21-MOU-Opioid-Litigation.pdf>.

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

⁴ The “Big 3” Distributor Defendants include McKesson Corporation, Cardinal Health, Inc., and AmerisourceBergen Corporation, including all of their subsidiaries, predecessors, successors, current officers, directors, employees, representatives, agents, affiliates, parents, and assigns acting on their behalf as defined by Paragraph HHH (page 8) and listed on Exhibit J to the National *Distributors Settlement Agreement*.

⁵ The Johnson & Johnson/Janssen Defendants include Johnson & Johnson, Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., OrthoMcNeil-Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., and Janssen Pharmaceutica, Inc., including all of their subsidiaries, predecessors, successors, joint venturers, current officers, directors, employees, representatives, agents, affiliates, parents, and assigns as explained in Paragraph 60 (pages 8-9) of the *Janssen Settlement Agreement*.

National Settlements and should improve Louisiana's relative bargaining position during additional settlement negotiations;

WHEREAS, failure to participate in the National Settlements and Louisiana MOU 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 the National Settlements and Louisiana MOU to Grant Parish, 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 the (1) National Settlements and (2) Louisiana MOU 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 the National Settlements and Louisiana MOU, and agree to be bound by the terms thereof.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY GRANT PARISH:

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

SECTION 2. That Grant Parish hereby expresses 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.

SECTION 3. That Neblett, Beard & Arsenault is hereby expressly authorized to execute the Louisiana MOU on Grant Parish's behalf.

SECTION 4. That Grant Parish Policy Jury President Donald Arnold is hereby authorized to execute any formal agreements implementing a unified plan for the allocation and use of opioid settlement proceeds that is not substantially inconsistent with the Louisiana MOU and this Resolution, including but not limited to Subdivision Settlement Participation Form(s)/Agreement(s) in Exhibit K of the National *Distributor Settlement Agreement* and the *Janssen Settlement Agreement*.

SECTION 5. That the Secretary be and hereby is instructed to record this Resolution in the appropriate record book upon its adoption.

SECTION 6. The Secretary, or Neblett, Beard & Arsenault, is hereby directed to furnish a certified copy of this Resolution to the Louisiana Attorney General at:
Attorney General Jeff Landry
c/o Bill Stiles
Post Office Box 94005
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

SECTION 7. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the Grant Parish Police Jury in regular session convened on the 18th day of November 2021.

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

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

I, Jessie Pace, Secretary/Treasurer of the Grant Parish Police Jury, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is true and correct copy of the resolution adopted by the Grant Parish Police Jury, meeting in regular session on Thursday, November 18, 2021 at which meeting a quorum was present and voting.

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

Motion by Mr. Brandon DuBois, seconded by Mr. Mark Ball to open the agenda to public comments on agenda items. Motion carried. (no public comments)

Motion by Mr. Johnny Jamison, seconded by Mr. Brandon DuBois to reduce the speed on Maxwell Road to 25 MPH. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr., seconded by Mr. Brandon DuBois to approve the updated Civic Center Rental Contract. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Winston Roberts, seconded by Mr. Johnny Jamison to approve the updated Solid Waste Disposal Contract. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr., seconded by Mr. Mark Ball to approve Resolution 26-2021; Accepting Ownership of LA Highway 3169 and LA Highway 524 Into the Parish Road Maintenance System. Motion carried.

Yays: Arnold Murrell, Mr. Johnny Jamison, Mr. Winston Roberts, and Mr. David Merrell

Nays: Mr. Brandon DuBois.

Resolution 26-2021; Accepting Ownership of LA Highway 3169 and
LA Highway 524 Into the Parish Road Maintenance System

WHEREAS, The Grant Parish Police Jury agrees to accept ownership of whatever rights the State of Louisiana, through the Department of Transportation and Development (“DOTD” or “Department”), may own, with the exception of any and all mineral rights, in and to the following described property and agrees to accept all future rights, obligations and liabilities, including, but not limited to, all future operation, maintenance, and repairs associated therewith, for its operation and maintenance as a parish road, subject to the conditions stated herein below:

Segment 1 – State route LA 3169 in its entirety from its northwest junction with state route LA 8 (known as Alexandria-Colfax Highway) proceeding southeasterly approximately 1.05 miles to its intersection with state route US 71(known as Alexandria-Colfax Highway), inclusive of the dead end treatments and any remaining features of the abandoned bridge located approximately 0.27 miles southeast of state route LA 8 (known as Alexandria-Colfax Highway).

Segment 2 – The western portion of state route LA 524 from its junction with state route US 165 proceeding northerly approximately 4.39 miles to its terminus as a state route located approximately 0.37 miles northeast of state route LA 123, inclusive of the bridge located approximately 0.95 miles northwest of state route US 165, the bridge located approximately 1.111 miles northwest of state route US 165, the bridge located approximately 1.99 miles northwest of state route US 165, and inclusive of the dead end treatments and any remaining features of the abandoned bridge located approximately 1.55 miles southeast of state route LA 123.

The Grant Parish Police Jury agrees to accept ownership of whatever rights the Department may own in and to the aforesaid described property at the proper time and under the conditions specified herein below:

CONDITION I:

Segment 1 – Provide repairs to include base stabilization, overlay with hot mix asphaltic concrete, and striping the resurfaced pavement for the portion of state route LA 3169 to be transferred to Grant Parish. The removed bridge on state route LA 3169 between the dead end treatments will not be repaired or replaced and will be transferred in its current condition to Grant Parish.

Segment 2 – Provide repairs to include mill, patch, overlay with hot mix asphaltic concrete, and striping the resurfaced pavement for the portion of state route LA 524 to be transferred to Grant Parish. The closed bridge on state route LA 524 between the dead end treatments located approximately 1.55 miles southeast of state route LA 123 will be removed prior to transfer to Grant Parish.

CONDITION II: DOTD shall provide Road Transfer credit in the form of funds in the amount of THREE MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTEEN THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED FIFTY AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$3,715,250) to the Grant Parish Police Jury for the portions of state routes LA 3169 and LA 524, that are not part of the federal system, to be transferred to Grant Parish. These funds may only be expended on activities allowed under R.S. 48:753.

- (a) The amount of Road Transfer credit to be provided under this condition is calculated pursuant to a present worth 40-year maintenance valuation whereby DOTD determines the cost of maintaining the road in the state highway system for 40 years from the present date.

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Grant Parish Police Jury shall accept ownership of whatever rights the Department may own in and to the aforesaid described property as a binding agreement between the Department and the Grant Parish Police Jury, provided the Department shall comply with the relevant condition(s) stated herein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Grant Parish Police Jury authorizes the presiding President of the Grant Parish Police Jury to execute an Intergovernmental Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the Department and the Grant Parish Police Jury, and any amendments or necessary modifications thereto, memorializing the agreement between the parties relative to the above-stated property transfers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Grant Parish Police Jury authorizes the presiding President of the Grant Parish Police Jury to execute any and all documents necessary to effect the transfer of the aforesaid described property at the proper time.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Grant Parish Police Jury hereby represents that it has received approval from a majority of the state legislative delegation from Grant Parish of the actions contemplated herein.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the Grant Parish Police Jury in regular session convened on the 18th day of November 2021.

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

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

I, Jessie Pace, Secretary/Treasurer of the Grant Parish Police Jury, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is true and correct copy of the resolution adopted by the Grant Parish Police Jury, meeting in regular session on Thursday, November 18, 2021 at which meeting a quorum was present and voting.

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

Jury discussed the receipt of and disbursement of Community Water Enrichment Fund (CWEF) funds.

Mr. Cody Gongre Grant Parish Roads Superintendent updated the Jury on progress and projects for the Roads/Landfill Departments.

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

Motion by Mr. Winston Roberts, seconded by Mr. Mr. Brandon DuBois to adjourn. Motion carried.