

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, September 8, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

The following members were present:

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

The following members were absent: None

Motion by Mr. Brandon DuBois, seconded Mr. Johnny Jamison to accept the minutes of the 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 month of June in Grant Parish.

Sheriff Steven McCain and Detective Zac Daenen presented a slideshow and discussed the hazards of kratom being sold in Grant Parish.

Motion by Mr. Winston Roberts, seconded by Mr. Brandon DuBois to introduce Ordinance 06-2022; Banning the Sale of Kratom in Grant Parish. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 06-2022

To Prohibit the Sale of *Mitragyna Speciosa* Korth (Kratom) in Grant Parish.

WHEREAS, Kratom is an herbal extract that comes from the leaves of an evergreen tree (*Mitragyna speciosa*) grown in Southeast Asia. Although people who take kratom may believe in its value, researchers who have studied kratom opine that its side effects and safety problems more than offset any potential benefits;

WHEREAS, Kratom has been reported to cause abnormal brain function when taken with certain prescription medicine. The effects of Kratom become stronger as the quantity taken increases and is known to cause death. Kratom is not currently regulated in the United States, and federal agencies are taking action to combat false claims about kratom; studies on the effects of kratom have identified many safety concerns and no clear benefits;

WHEREAS, the Grant Parish Police Jury does hereby declare that the use of Kratom is a serious problem affecting the health and welfare of all citizens. The Grant Parish Police Jury does further declare and determine that all reasonable steps should be taken to prohibit the sale of Kratom in Grant Parish; and

WHEREAS, the Grant Parish Police Jury hereby deems it necessary and proper for good government, order and protection of persons and property, and for the preservation of public health, safety and welfare of the Parish and its inhabitants.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Grant Parish Police Jury of the Parish of Grant, State of Louisiana in regular session convened, as follows: to wit:

Section 1. It shall be illegal for any person, vendor, seller or retailer doing business in Grant Parish to sell *Mitragyna Speciosa* Korth (Kratom) in the Parish of Grant.

Section 2. Penalties.

- (1) Whoever violates the provisions of this section shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or imprisoned for not more than six (6) months, or both.
- (2) Whoever violates the provisions of this section for a second offense shall be fined one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisoned for not more than six (6) months, or both.

(3) Whoever violates the provisions of this section for a third or subsequent offense shall be fined one thousand, five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00) or imprisoned for not more than six (6) months, or both.

(4) If the offender is a vendor, seller or retailer doing business in Grant Parish, it shall forfeit and/or have all business licenses revoked by the Parish in addition to the above-stated penalties.

Section 3. If any provision or item of this Ordinance or the application thereof is held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items, or applications of this Ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or application, and to this end the provisions or items of this Ordinance are hereby declared severable.

Date of Enactment – This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon approval and adoption by the Grant Parish Police Jury.

WHEREUPON THIS ORDINANCE WAS ADOPTED TO A VOTE AND RESULTED IN THE FOLLOWING:

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

AND THIS ORDINANCE WAS ADOPTED ON THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2022.

Jessie Pace
Parish Manager/Secretary-Treasurer
Grant Parish Police Jury

Don Arnold
President
Grant Parish Police Jury

Motion by Mr. Brandon DuBois, seconded by Mr. Arnold Murrell to amend the agenda to include motion to introduce Ordinance 07-2022; Prohibiting the Possession of Kratom in Grant Parish. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Winston Roberts seconded by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr. to introduce Ordinance 07-2022; Prohibiting the Possession of Kratom in Grant Parish. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 7-2022

To Prohibit the Possession of *Mitragyna Speciosa* Korth (Kratom) in Grant Parish.

WHEREAS, Kratom is an herbal extract that comes from the leaves of an evergreen tree (*Mitragyna speciosa*) grown in Southeast Asia. Although people who take kratom may believe in its value, researchers who have studied kratom opine that its side effects and safety problems more than offset any potential benefits;

WHEREAS, Kratom has been reported to cause abnormal brain function when taken with certain prescription medicine. The effects of Kratom become stronger as the quantity taken increases and is known to cause death. Kratom is not currently regulated in the United States, and federal agencies are taking action to combat false claims about kratom; studies on the effects of kratom have identified many safety concerns and no clear benefits;

WHEREAS, the Grant Parish Police Jury does hereby declare that the use of Kratom is a serious problem affecting the health and welfare of all citizens. The Grant Parish Police Jury does further declare and determine that all reasonable steps should be taken to prohibit the sale of Kratom in Grant Parish;

WHEREAS, the Grant Parish Police Jury hereby deems it necessary and proper for good government, order and protection of persons and property, and for the preservation of public health, safety and welfare of the Parish and its inhabitants; and

WHEREAS, the Grant Parish Police Jury have concluded that to protect the health, welfare, and safety of the citizens of the Parish of Grant, State of Louisiana, the possession of Kratom should be incorporated as a municipal misdemeanor crime within the Parish of Grant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Grant Parish Police Jury of the Parish of Grant, State of Louisiana in regular session convened, as follows: to wit:

Section 1. It shall be illegal for any person to possess *Mitragyna Speciosa* Korth (Kratom) in the Parish of Grant.

Section 2. Penalties.

(5) On a first conviction, wherein the offender possesses Kratom in violation of the provisions of Section 1 shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or imprisoned for not more than six (6) months, or both.

(6) On a second conviction, wherein the offender possesses Kratom in violation of the provisions of Section 1 shall be fined one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisoned for not more than six (6) months, or both.

(7) On a third or subsequent offense conviction, wherein the offender possesses Kratom in violation of the provisions of Section 1 shall be fined one thousand, five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00) or imprisoned for not more than six (6) months, or both.

Section 3. If any provision or item of this Ordinance or the application thereof is held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items, or applications of this Ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or application, and to this end the provisions or items of this Ordinance are hereby declared severable.

Date of Enactment – This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon approval and adoption by the Grant Parish Police Jury.

WHEREUPON THIS ORDINANCE WAS ADOPTED TO A VOTE AND RESULTED IN THE FOLLOWING:

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

AND THIS ORDINANCE WAS ADOPTED ON THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2022.

Jessie Pace
Parish Manager/Secretary-Treasurer
Grant Parish Police Jury

Don Arnold
President
Grant Parish Police Jury

State Representative Gabe Firment, District 22 updated the jury on recent events and funding regarding rural broadband, the water sector program, and DOTD state roadway funding. He also thanked the jury for their support in banning the sale and possession of kratom as this substance is a state wide problem.

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

Mr. Jimmie R. Bryan addressed the jury regarding dumpsters in Fishville near the skating rink. He asked that they be removed and the parish consider door to door pick up for household trash. Mr. Don Arnold stated that the jury would take his comments into consideration.

Motion by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr, seconded by Mr. Arnold Murrell to recommend Mr. Bobby Chelette as the Governor’s Appointee to the Grant Parish Port Commission. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnny Jamison, seconded by Mr. Winston Roberts to amend Ordinance 8-2021; 213 Dyson Road, Montgomery, Louisiana 71454 to include corrected legal description. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Arnold Murrell, seconded by Mr. Mark Ball to adopt Resolution 15-2022; in Support of the 2022-2023 LGAP Application. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 15-2022

IN SUPPORT OF 2022-2023 LGAP APPLICATION

WHEREAS, The Grant Parish Police Jury will file an application for funds from the 2022- 2023 LGAP program.

WHEREAS, the LGAP program requires a resolution by the Governing body in support of the application,

NOW THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED, that the Grant Parish Police Jury hereby supports filing and funding of the application to be filed by the Grant Parish Police Jury for funds to be used for Road System Maintenance Material Assistance Plan.

THUS DONE, this 8th day of September, 2022 in legal session in the Grant Parish Police Jury, Parish of Grant and State of Louisiana.

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

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

CERTIFICATE

I, Jessie Pace, do hereby 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 this 8th day of September, 2022

(s) Jessie Pace
Jessie Pace, Secretary/Treasurer

Motion by Cephas Bowie Jr., seconded by Mr. Winston Roberts to approve Resolution 16-2022; Community Water Enrichment Fund for fiscal year 2022-2023. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION

16-2022

COMMUNITY WATER ENRICHMENT FUND FISCAL YEAR 2022 - 2023

WHEREAS, The parish of Grant will apply for a grant known as the Community Water enrichment Fund to be implemented by the office of Community Development for the purposes of enhancing and improving rural water systems.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Police Jury of the Parish of Grant does hereby authorize, empower and direct its President, to execute on behalf of the Parish all applications, agreements, contracts and necessary documents to complete the project.

The above Resolution was introduced at regular meeting of the Police Jury on September 8th, 2022.

The Resolution having been put to a vote, the roll call vote thereupon was recorded as follows, to-wit:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Thereupon, Mr. Don Arnold, President, declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 7 Ayes to 0 Nays, this 8th day of September, 2022

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

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

CERTIFICATE

I, Jessie Pace, do hereby 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 this 8th day of September, 2022.

(s) Jessie Pace
Jessie Pace, Secretary/ Treasurer

Motion by Mr. Winston Roberts, seconded by Mr. Johnny Jamison to approve Resolution 17-2022; to Authorize Pan American Engineers, LLC to prepare the Capital Outlay Budget Request for the 2022-2023 Term. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 17-2022
2023-2024 Capital Outlay Application

WHEREAS, The Grant Parish Police Jury has a need for funding for projects that will improve the health and welfare of its residents.

WHEREAS, certain actions by the Parish are necessary for the project(s) to be implemented.

WHEREAS, the State of Louisiana has funds available through its Capital Outlay Program that would make it possible for the Parish to implement those project(s).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Grant Parish Policy Jury does hereby authorize Pan American Engineers, LLC to act on the Parish's behalf and prepare the necessary application including all documents, correspondence and any and all other related matters necessary to obtain funding for the Parish project(s). The Grant Parish Policy Jury further authorizes its President to execute on behalf of the Parish all agreements and contracts necessary for the securing of funding for the project(s).

THUS DONE AND SIGNED, this 8th day of September, 2022.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

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

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

CERTIFICATE

I, Jessie Pace, do hereby 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 this 8th day of September, 2022.

(s) Jessie Pace
Jessie Pace, Secretary/Treasurer

Motion by Mr. Mark Ball, seconded by Mr. Arnold Murrell to reschedule the March 9, 2023 meeting to March 16, 2023 due to the Police Jury Association of Louisiana Convention being the week of March 6, 2023. Motion carried.

Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr., Chairman of the Personnel Committee discussed the need for a mechanic due to the current mechanic being out on Workman's Comp. During the Personnel Committee there was a motion by Mr. Brandon DuBois, seconded by Mr. Johnny Jamison to advertise and hire a mechanic. Motion carried.

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

Mr. Mark Ball updated the jury on topics discussed at the Sewer Committee Meeting regarding negotiations with South Grant Water to handle billing for sewage, the need for a SCADA system as soon as possible, using FLYGT pumps being installed for new service, and ongoing operational/mechanical issues with the new plant.

Mr. Brandon DuBois and Mr. Johnny Jamison discussed the need for a loader to push the new asphalt zipper.

Motion by Mr. Winston Roberts, seconded by Mr. Johnny Jamison to amend the agenda to include motion to purchase a front-end loader with funds from the Solid Waste account on state contract pending specs from the Equipment Committee. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Johnny Jamison, seconded by Mr. Winston Roberts to purchase a front-end loader with funds from the Solid Waste account on state contract pending specs from the Equipment Committee. Motion carried.

Mr. David Merrell discussed the need for two bushhog tractors.

Sissy Pace discussed/advised the jury the upcoming 2022-2023 LGAP application and the need to close out the 2019-2020 LGAP application. Bob Community Waterworks received \$25,000.00 from the 2019-2020 grant to construct a new office building/voting precinct but to date has not begun construction and therefore must return the 2019-2020 funds that were provided for that grant to be properly closed before the next open request can be submitted.

Motion by Mr. Arnold Murrell, seconded by Mr. Mark Ball to adjourn. Motion carried.