

**CONCORDIA PARISH POLICE JURY  
REGULAR MEETING  
OCTOBER 23, 2017  
6:00 P.M.**

**\*\*\*CORRECTED\*\*\***

The Police Jury of Concordia Parish met this day in regular session convened. There were present the following members:

President:	Jimmy Wilkinson
Members:	Jerry Beatty, Carey Cook, Willie Dunbar, Jimmy Jernigan, Joe Parker, Adam Probst, Whest Shirley, and Tommy Tiffie
Absent:	None
Secretary Treasurer:	Sandi T. Burley
Invocation:	Mr. Jernigan
Pledge of Allegiance:	Mr. Probst

A motion was made by Mr. Beatty seconded by Mr. Shirley to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 9, 2017 as mailed. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Jernigan seconded by Mr. Parker to approve the request of the Concordia Parish School Board to help with repairs to the bus ramp at Vidalia High School and cleaning of the alley way around the Special Populations Building. The letter of assistance also asks for repairing the pit holes at the water plant. Motion carried with Mr. Shirley abstaining.

A motion was made by Mr. Beatty seconded by Mr. Jernigan to approve the President to seek record research with Bryant Hammett & Associates for the right-of-way work for the Vidalia Canal. During discussion, the question of which end of the canal would work start. The question of what to do with the sludge from cleaning out the canal was also asked. These issues were tabled until the record research could be done in order to determine how wide of a right-of-way the Parish has to clean the canal. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Parker seconded by Mr. Tiffie to approve the request of the Maintenance Unit for a capital outlay purchase of a sweeper attachment for approximately \$5300. The sweeper is needed to comply with DOTD requirements for bridge cleaning. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Shirley seconded by Mr. Probst to approve the re-appointment of Mr. Wesley Carver to the board for Concordia Recreation District #3. Mr. Dunbar questioned the boards term limits and if procedure was followed with regards to advertising for open positions, vacancies, and renewals. A motion was made by Mr. ~~Dunbar~~ Shirley, seconded by Mr. Probst to rescind the motion to approve until more information could be determined on procedures followed. Motion carried to rescind.

Ms. Heather Malone, Concordia Economic Development, addressed the jury to endorse a resolution supporting Southern Designs. Ms. Malone updated the Jury on the growth Southern Designs has made and its intent to continue growing. The resolution is to offer the Industrial Tax Exemption Program to Southern designs in return for 10 new jobs and an annual payroll of \$300,000 in exchange for the tax abatement. A motion was made by Mr. Tiffie seconded by Mr. Probst to approve the following resolution for Southern Designs:

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-10

A RESOLUTION OF THE **CONCORDIA PARISH POLICE JURY** APPROVING  
**SOUTHERN DESIGNS & GIFTS, LLC** FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE INDUSTRIAL  
TAX EXEMPTION PROGRAM AT **4894 HIGHWAY 84 WEST, VIDALIA, LOUISIANA**  
**71373**

**WHEREAS**, Article 7, Section 21(F) of the Louisiana Constitution provides for the Board of Commerce and Industry (“BCI”), with the approval of the Governor, to approve contracts for the exemption of ad valorem taxes of a new manufacturing establishment or an addition to an existing manufacturing establishment, on such terms and conditions as the board, with the approval of the Governor, deems in the best interest of the state; and

**WHEREAS**, SOUTHERN DESIGNS & GIFTS, LLC has applied for an Industrial Tax Exemption (“ITE”) and seeks approval of the BCI and the Governor for a contract granting that exemption; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Edwards, through Executive Order JBE 16-73, has set forth the conditions for his approval of ITE contracts, and affirmed that those conditions are in the best interest of the state of Louisiana; and

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order JBE 16-73 provides that ITE contracts should be premised upon job and payroll creation at new or expanded manufacturing plants or establishments, and that the percentage of exemption from ad valorem taxes, and length of the contract for such exemption, may vary depending upon the nature of the project and its economic development benefit in accordance with guidance received from the Secretary of Economic Development and concurred in by the appropriate parish and/or municipal council, school board, and sheriff; and

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order JBE 16-73 mandates that each exemption contract approved by the Governor shall include as Exhibit “A” a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement for the ITE between the State of Louisiana, the Louisiana Department of Economic Development, and the applicant for the ITE contract, which provides for the creation or retention of jobs, and provides for the exercise of the option in the Louisiana Constitution for the term or percentage of the parish ad valorem tax exemption granted in the contract, and provides for the reduction or loss of the exemption based upon the applicant’s compliance with the contract.

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order JBE 16-73 further requires that this POLICE JURY, together with the other required local governmental entities signify consent to the terms of the exemption by resolution and the sheriff of this parish shall signify consent to the terms of the exemption by letter. Executive Order JBE 16-73 further provides that the resolutions of approval and the sheriff’s approval shall be attached as Exhibit “B” to the ITE contract between the BCI and SOUTHERN DESIGNS & GIFTS, LLC; and

**WHEREAS**, SOUTHERN DESIGNS & GIFTS, LLC and the Louisiana Department of Economic Development have advised that certain terms and conditions forming Exhibit “A” to the Industrial Tax Exemption Contract pending approval before the Louisiana Board of Commerce and Industry have been reached and have conveyed the same to this POLICE JURY, and thus this matter is now ready for a determination of approval of this POLICE JURY as required by Executive Order JBE 16-73,

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, upon consideration of the foregoing and the public discussion held this day, that this POLICE JURY approves the terms of the Industrial Tax Exemption contract based on the inclusion of the following terms and conditions into Exhibit “A” ( the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the State of Louisiana, the Louisiana Department of Economic Development, and Southern Designs & Gifts, LLC) to the Industrial Tax Exemption contract between the Board of Commerce and Industry and Southern Designs & Gifts, LLC with respect to its manufacturing plant located at 4894 Highway 84 West, Vidalia, Concordia Parish, Louisiana:

10 New Direct Permanent Jobs at the Manufacturing Establishment  
\$300,000 Annual Payroll  
5 Years Term of Initial Exemption Contract  
100% Percentage of Initial Exemption Contract  
3 Years Term of Renewal Exemption Contract  
80% Percentage of Renewal Exemption Contract  
Yes Reduction/Loss of Exemption for non-compliance

This Police Jury will allow Southern Designs & Gifts, LLC 2 years from the date of their contract to hire 10 new direct permanent jobs at the facility. If Southern Designs & Gifts, LLC falls below 8 new jobs this Police Jury requests a reduction in contract by 3 years. If Southern Designs & Gifts, LLC falls below 5 new jobs this Police Jury request termination of the contract. This POLICE JURY further authorizes the Louisiana Department of Economic Development, on behalf of the Board of Commerce and Industry, to include this resolution in Exhibit "B" to the Industrial Tax Exemption Contract between the Board of Commerce and Industry and SOUTHERN DESIGNS & GIFTS, LLC.

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by this POLICE JURY that a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to Board of Commerce and Industry and the Louisiana Department of Economic Development.

**THE FORGOING RESOLUTION WAS READ, AND, AFTER PUBLIC DISCUSSION, THE ROLL WAS CALLED ON THE ADOPTION THEREOF AND RESULTED AS FOLLOWS:**

**YEAS: 9**

**NAYS: 0**

**ABSENT: 0**

**ABSTAIN: 0**

AND the resolution was declared adopted on this **October 23, 2017**.

/s/ JIMMY WILKINSON  
JIMMY WILKINSON, PRESIDENT

/s/ SANDI T. BURLEY  
SANDI T. BURLEY, SECRETARY TREASURER

Mr. Wilkinson opened the floor to Committee Reports. Discussed were the progress on the bids and contract for Solid Waste services. The Solid Waste Committee met to review the contract for solid waste services. A pre-bid meeting for Solid Waste Providers will be held Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm.

Updates were given on the status of the Courtroom Renovation project. A meeting was held with the District Attorney, Judge's Office, Juror Members, and Joe Brocato, Engineer on October 19, 2017. Those present reviewed the current plans and made suggestions for changes to better the current area. Mr. Parker stated that we were on the right track to getting things done. Mr. Wilkinson elaborated on what still needs to be done after a conference call was held with the Mr. Brocato and his staff, Mr. Wilkinson, Ms. Burley, and James Lee of the Office of State Planning and Control with regards to the technical components of the courtroom. Mr. Burgett was present and described some of the technical issues that the current courtroom has and his desire to get the courtroom up to date. Once the criteria for the technical components are received and reviewed by Mr. Lee, he can make the necessary recommendations for funding and design to proceed with the courtroom renovation project.

Ms. Burley gave her Secretary Treasurer's report asking for permission from the jury to begin advertising for bids for Chemicals and Materials. She gave further update on the Solid Waste bid process and stated that minimal corrections and changes were needed to the contract proposed. In getting ready for the solid waste for 2018, she asked the jurors to review their districts and if there was any entity that needed to be addressed as a commercial unit where curbside pickup would not be available, to let her know so letters could be sent to address this in advance.

Ms. Burley also discussed a memo addressed to the Jurors recapping the requests of work to be done for Concord Youth Program and notifying the DOTD that an area of Vail Acres at Hwy 84 needed to be addressed. Distributed to the jurors were Attorney General findings on how work by the Parish cannot be donated to any entity regardless of public or private, profit or nonprofit status. The DOTD is to conduct a site visit to review what is needed to fix the area at Vail Acres.

Ms. Burley also asked the jury to approve a transfer from the General Fund to the Witness and Jury fund to cover the costs of the recent grand jury selection process for the 2018 year. A motion was made by Mr. Shirley seconded by Mr. Parker to approve the transfer. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Parker seconded by Mr. Beatty to approve sending the Solid Waste Contract with recommended changes to District Attorney Burgett's office for review and recommendations. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Parker seconded by Mr. Beatty to approve the Secretary Treasurer to begin advertising for bids for chemicals and materials. A few changes have been made to the required chemicals list and SDS sheets will be needed for all chemicals purchased to abide by new guidelines. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Shirley seconded by Mr. Probst to approve the occupational license renewal for The Grooming Shoppe, a pet grooming business, located at 296 Westside Drive in Vidalia.

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Beatty seconded by Mr. Parker to approve Superintendent's material and work requests as follows:

98 yards for wash rock on Como Road  
Clean out culverts on Moose Lodge Road

Motion carried.

Mr. Wilkinson opened the floor to discuss correspondence received through the Concordia Parish Police Jury office. A motion was made by Mr. Tiffie seconded by Mr. Jernigan to send a letter to a resident at 521 Patsy Brown Road in Monterey to remove plywood build up causing drainage issues. Mr. Jernigan asked for bids to clean up an area at 217 Levens Addition and bill the tenant after no response from two certified letters from the Parish. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Jernigan seconded by Mr. Shirley to go into executive session. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Probst seconded by Mr. Jernigan to return to regular session. Motion carried.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Dunbar seconded by Mr. Probst to adjourn. Motion carried.

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Sandi T. Burley, Secretary Treasurer