

**PARISH POLICE JURY  
REGULAR MEETING  
APRIL 12, 2021  
6:00 P.M.**

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

President:

Joseph Parker, Sr.

Members:

Maurice Bachus, Willie Yearby, Scottie Whittington, Gary Neal  
Adam Probst, Genesia Allen, Collin Edwards, Brad Adams

Absent:

Secretary Treasurer:

Sandi T. Burley

Invocation:

Mr. Yearby

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mr. Whittington

The Pledge, Invocation, and Roll Call were conducted. A quorum was present.

- 1) A motion was made by Mr. Probst seconded by Mr. Yearby to approve the March 22, 2021 regular meeting minutes as mailed. Motion carried unanimously.
- 2) Mr. Matt Johns, Executive Director of the Rapides Area Planning Commission and Vice Chair of the Louisiana Watershed Initiative for Region 2 presented to the Jurors. Mr. Johns completed an overview of the LWI and its proposed structure. The Regional Watershed Coalition created for the watershed management was reviewed. The planning and development, including technical assistance was explained. Under this assistance, the coalition would coordinate regional planning of river systems in the region. This includes updates to NFIP maps and building standards. The coalition would also help with floodplain management and other flood related technical assistance to communities. Most importantly, the coalition would be tasked with housing and operating a watershed model for Region 2. This would ready data to be used to review and create projects and apply for grant funding as it pertains to drainage and funding.

Mr. Johns further explained the coalition is being proposed to be its own political subdivision under state charter. Many recommendations for full implementation of the coalition are being reviewed. This includes how the coalition is built, funded, composed, and services it would provide. Mr. Johns asked for feedback on the propositions for the coalition. Upon completion of his overview, Mr. Parker thanked him for his presentation.

- 3) A request was received from the Concordia Parish School Board to repair the bus road at Monterey High school. A motion was made by Mr. Yearby seconded by Mr. Bachus to approve the request. Motion carried unanimously.
- 4) A request was received from the Health Unit, approved by the Department of Health to approve the purchase of a new truck for the Sanitarian. A motion was made by Mr. Probst

seconded by Mr. Yearby to approve the purchase of a new truck and amend the budget accordingly. Motion carried unanimously.

5) Committee Reports / Action:

- a) Public Works – Discussion with Waste Pro on garbage on the numerous and repetitive complaints through the course of the last year and a half. Ms. Jolene Johnson, Mr. Karl McCarthy, and Mr. Sedrick Robinson were present to represent Waste Pro. Mr. Parker allowed each Juror to discuss the issues in their district.

Mr. Neal stated that it seems that we are being sent the older trucks which are causing more breakdowns resulting in delays in garbage pickup. He also asked if a lighter truck could be used on some of the less populated dirt roads to prevent from damaging the roads. Mr. McCarthy responded that lead times for parts have been long, causing a shortage in extra equipment.

Mr. Edwards stated that not one week since he has been in office has there not been any problems. His district spans from Clayton to Wildsville which includes multiple days of routes, however the Thursday route seems to be the most problematic. One constituent went six weeks without pickup.

Mr. Adams agreed with Mr. Edwards on the repetition of problems. Specifically, the Friday route. Communication is the biggest part of the problem, as we do not get notified when there are issues to let our constituents know. Mr. Adams also expressed his frustration with the Monterey Compactor Site not being maintained correctly causing service issues. When the compactor is broken, an open top is not brought to service additional garbage needs. This leaves one open top to handle the demands, which typically fills up over the course of a single weekend. Mr. Sedrick stated that the open top containers are in short supply and they have brought in a welder just to fix some of the older containers to have additional inventory. Mr. McCarthy asked to consider having an empty open top scheduled for each Friday as a proactive measure.

In summary, Mr. Parker stated that the repetition of problems needs to get better. The key to working together when problems occur is communication. Mr. Parker then allowed Mr. McCarthy, Ms. Johnson, and Mr. Robinson to address the Jurors.

Mr. McCarthy and Mr. Robinson shared the issues of staffing problems. Many have been let go for failing to perform and finding new employees that can pass a drug test has become harder. Operationally, parts for equipment repairs have had longer lead times causing a shortage in available trucks. Mr. McCarthy shared his cell phone with the Jurors to call him any time there is a problem.

- b) Discussion of new GPS systems and contract was held. The initial GPS systems were implemented in 2018. Since this time, change in point of contacts with Verizon Fleet Management has prevented the Parish from having the GPSs serviced when outages or replacements are needed. Ms. Burley presented a proposal from Acadian Total Security. This company was runner up in the prior requests for proposals. A motion was made by Mr. Adams seconded by Mr. Yearby to proceed with option two of the service proposal for new GPS systems with Acadian. Motion carried unanimously.

- c) The purchase orders and bank statements had been reviewed by the Finance Committee prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Probst seconded by Mr. Bachus to ratify the purchase orders and bank statements as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- d) A state contract quote was received from Brantech Solutions to replace the computers and recording system in the Parish Office. Discussions were held regarding the end result of a new system. The current office computers are ten years old and still operate on Windows 7. A motion was made by Mr. Probst seconded by Mr. Adams to approve the purchase and allocate funding from the Recovery Act. Motion carried unanimously.

6) The Projects of the Parish were next discussed. Ms. Burley provided updates and explanations of the open projects.

Brushy Bayou: Further meetings have been held with FEMA to approve the revised BCA; USACE expects to have the permitting complete by end of May. DOTD has no requests for information or changes to date.

DR-4462: Working on 406 mitigation details to complete the damage inventory;  
LCDBG – Two CDBG projects are in progress. The first public hearing will be held April 20<sup>th</sup> at 10 am.

One of the projects to be reviewed is a renovation of the sewer lagoon ran by the Concordia Sewer District. A motion was made by Mr. Yearby seconded by Mr. Adams to appropriate up to \$400,000 of the American Recovery Act Funds toward the engineering and cost overrun propensity of the project. Motion carried unanimously.

DR4590 – Ten Requests for Public Assistance (RPA) have been submitted to FEMA. The parish and municipalities are waiting for FEMA to make Category A, E, F, and G available for funding reimbursement requests. All are waiting on the Category A – Debris Removal to proceed with vegetation pickup from the storm.

7) Ordinance Violations of the Parish were next discussed. A motion was made by Mr. Probst seconded by Mr. Yearby and carried unanimously to site the following properties.

Probst – 163, 175, 177, 184 Burl Roberts – grass ordinance

Neal – 251, 249, 247, 254, 241, 341, 343 North Grove – ordinance violations

8) Under the Secretary / Treasurer's report, Ms. Burley discussed the upcoming millage renewal process. She also updated the Jurors on the Sewer and Water Districts refinancing debt. The Sewer District will be refinancing revenue bonds previously issued under USDA, while the Water District is looking to refinance under a lower interest rate.

Ms. Burley also brought forward the request by the Fifth Levee District to build a temporary coffer dam at the beginning of Six Mile Bayou at the levee in order to make repairs to the stem valve and gate. If any heavy rains occur while the coffer dam is in place, it will be removed to allow for water flow. A motion was made by Mr. Adams seconded by Mr. Yearby to approve the request. Motion carried unanimously.

Lastly, Ms. Burley presented the Jurors with a new resolution requesting to be executed for designation of authority to execute documents with LRPIC, the Parish's self-funded liability policy. A motion was made by Mr. Adams seconded by Mr. Yearby to approve the resolution (assigned as 21-005).

9) A motion was made by Mr. Yearby seconded by Ms. Allen and approved unanimously to approve the following occupational license:

- a. Rose Luxury Boutique – Malika Williams – 2198 Hwy 65 – Clothing Boutique
- b. Mr. B's Seafood – Brian Keith Seals – 1046 Moose Lodge – Mobile Food Trailer
- c. D&M Professional Services – Derrick Turner – 207 Levee Heights – lawn care, floors, paint and sanitize buildings
- d. Triple C Bladeworks – Shelia Maxwell – 307 Stephens Road – knives, wallets, etc

Discussion was held to uphold the ordinance mandate requiring all commercial businesses to have a dumpster; to prevent further demands on residential pickup and hold the business responsible for properly disposing of waste conducted by their business activities.

10) Under the Superintendent's Materials and Work Requests, Mr. Guillory brought forward: Limestone – 14 yards on Roundtree; 30 yards on Poole Road, Ferriday; 30 yards on Bob Rife; 15 yards on Doty Road; 15 yards on Ron Road; 75 yards on Red River Landing; 8 yards on Dan Howard

Maintenance gravel – 15 yards on Lee Circle; 45 yards on Jackson Cranfield; 90 yards on Archer; 7 yads on Furr Road

Pitrun – 15 yards on Mack Moore; 45 yards on Ferguson; 45 yards on Lee Circle; 15 yards on Passman Road

Culverts – 4 culverts are needed for Wildcow (1 – 24x36; 3-36x36); Lee Circle – 18x30; LS Wade - 15x33; Oscar Finley – 18x24; Bodark – 18x32; Mack Moore – 24x30; Mr. Guillory approximated \$12-15 thousand dollars for the culvert request.

A motion was made by Mr. Probst seconded by Ms. Allen to approve the material request. Motion carried unanimously.

11) Superintendent's work order requests were next discussed. A motion was made by Mr. Probst seconded by Ms. Allen and carried unanimously to approve the following:

Yearby – Concordia Park – pipe under Road at 565 and 575 is clogged; Freeman Road needs maintenance; 221 Freeman Road, tree down over ditch.

Whittington – Forrest Road needs a major undertaking to build up part of the road; at the end of Airport Road there are culvert and drainage issues; overall drainage issues in the area were discussed

Allen – Drainage issues around Harper and Townsend Road

Probst – ditch on Little Acres needs cleaning

Neal – tree needs removing off of Lee and Bea, also blow out in culvert in this area; Crestview has tree needing to be removed

Edwards – potholes on Robert Webber Drive need attention

Parker – Lower Levee Road needs "Children at Play" and MPH signage

12) Correspondence / Public Comments –

a) Water leak in women's bathroom in Courthouse

13) There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Allen and seconded by Mr. Probst to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

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Sandi T. Burley, Secretary / Treasurer