

**CONCORDIA PARISH POLICE JURY  
REGULAR MEETING  
February 12, 2018  
6:00 P.M.**

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

President:	Jimmy Wilkinson
Members:	Carey Cook, Willie Dunbar, Jimmy Jernigan, Joseph Parker, Sr., Adam Probst, Whest Shirley, and Tommy Tiffie
Absent:	Jerry Beatty
Secretary Treasurer:	Sandi T. Burley
Invocation:	Mr. Jernigan
Pledge of Allegiance:	Mr. Probst

A motion was made by Mr. Probst seconded by Mr. Dunbar to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 22, 2018 as mailed. Motion carried.

Mr. Tiffie arrives at 6:05 pm.

The meeting was open to the discussion of Farrar Road as a Parish road. A motion was made by Mr. Probst seconded by Mr. Shirley to continue to table this matter, as Farrar Road is a parish easement, not a pre-existing roadway and no further requests have been made by the area residents. Motion carried.

Next the Jurors discussed the renewal of the telephone service agreement with TEC. The contract is up for renewal in March for a three year renewal. Ms. Burley has discussed with both TEC and Jay Gamberi of Computer Consultants for the different options available. TEC is recommending staying with Cable One on a copper network and negotiating outside of the phone contract currently up for renewal. Mr. Gamberi is looking into a fiber optics plan with AT&T and upgrades to the phone system. Based on the verbal information received, comparing TEC/Cable One to the AT&T plan, the cost savings is estimated around \$350 a month by switching to the fiber. Due to no formal information received, no decisions were made.

A tabled discussion for a resolution to give Civic Source Power of Attorney to execute adjudicated property sales on behalf of the Parish was once again addressed. Mr. Austin Lipsey with the DA's office was asked to review the resolution and advise on proceedings for the next meeting.

Mr. Guy Murray with Bryant Hammett & Associates updated the Jurors on work and research that needs to be done to continue with the project to clean the Vidalia canal. Mr. Dunbar addressed the Jurors with an update of prior discussions to clean the canal from beginning to end. A recap of a meeting between Mr. Dunbar, Mr. Wilkinson, and Mr. Murray was given where the suggestion was made to go ahead and have all the land owners along the canal to give permission to allow the work to be done, giving the Parish more options to work if one area is too wet then other areas can be addressed.

Mr. Wilkinson explained that the Parish has a fifty foot right away, but we need permission of the land owners to access the canal and to cast and spread the sludge on the land rather than the expense of hauling it off. Mr. Dunbar disclosed recent conversations he held with another parish in which he deliberated that the Parish did not have to get permission for a right of way. He stated he would get more information and present at the next meeting.

Mr. Dunbar expressed some prior issues perceived with work done in the past when Bryant Hammett & Associates was the Parish Engineer. His opinion was that Jordan Kaiser &

Sessions, as the current Parish Engineers, should be doing the research on the project instead. Mr. Jernigan stated he had discussed with JKS about the easements and permissions of the land owners from prior projects and they did not have the information for the area Mr. Dunbar requested to be researched. A discussion further ensued after Mr. Dunbar made a motion to table the work to be done by Bryant Hammett & Associates until information from the DA's office could be received to determine if there is a conflict of interest with Mr. Murray doing the research for the canal with his part time role as OEP Director. Mr. Murray addressed Mr. Dunbar that he had studied the ethics and had supporting documentation that upheld his position as OEP Director did not conflict with his role as an employee with Bryant Hammett & Associates. Mr. Lipsey was asked to share his insight on the matter. Mr. Lipsey stated he had no information on hand in which to reference, but would provide the Attorney General's opinions that would support Mr. Murray's role as OEP Director did not conflict with his role as an employee with Bryant Hammett and Associates. Mr. Probst seconded the motion. A vote was held with the Jurors unanimously voting to table the decision for Mr. Murray to conduct research for the Parish until the DA's office could provide documentation on any Ethics issues.

The Parish received a letter from Ms. Kaylene Baker announcing her retirement as Executive Director of the Housing Choice Voucher Section 8 Program. Ms. Baker has been with the program for over 32 years. With her announcement she made a recommendation to the Jury for her replacement. After discussion of the HUD program and the letter from Ms. Baker, Mr. Parker made a motion to advertise for the open position. Mr. Jernigan seconded the motion. Motion carried to advertise for the position.

At the January 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting, Mr. Dunbar inquired about having the Constables help serve ordinance violations in the Parish in an effort to have these directly served to the violator rather than thru serving through certified mail. After reading the minutes of the meeting in the Concordia Sentinel, Ms. Susan Rabb, Constable for District 3, sent a proposal to Jury to consider her services to deliver the notifications. The State allocated rate for this service is \$50 per attempted delivery. Ms. Rabb also addressed the Jury with solutions on getting these mailed through her as a Constable rather than the Police Jury for out of town notifications. Mr. Shirley discussed the cost of certify mailing these at \$7 versus having the notices served at \$50. Mr. Dunbar also discussed the issue of choosing one Constable over another for work served in other districts. Mr. Dunbar asked Ms. Burley to send a letter to the Constables to meet and discuss their services on February 26<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm. A motion was made by Mr. Dunbar seconded by Mr. Parker to table further decisions until after the meeting. Motion carried.

A request was received by the Village of Ridgecrest, along with a hold harmless letter, to dig out the back wash pond at the Ridgecrest Water Plant. A motion was made by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Dunbar to approve the work to be done under the contingency that if work is performed on a non-work day for barn employees that the request will be billed to cover hauling equipment as well as the normal costs incurred for work. Motion carried.

A request was also received from the Concordia Parish School Board for road repairs for the Concordia Education Center at 160 Kindergarten Road, Ferriday, LA. A motion was made by Mr. Parker seconded by Mr. Dunbar to approve the work under the same contingency that if work is performed on a non-work day for barn employees that the request will be billed to cover hauling equipment as well as the normal costs incurred for work. Motion carried, with Mr. Shirley abstaining.

Discussion was open for Committee Reports. The Finance Committee discussed the higher rate of prisoner care and utilities paid for January and February. A request was made to get the prisoner housing list that is also given to the DA to review alongside the monthly bills.

Ms. Burley gave her Secretary/Treasurer's report updating the financial status. The postings have been completed for 2017 with no significant postings that would impact the current proposed budget. Mr. Bennett has begun advertising for bids for the ADA Lift Project. This bid process will also use online bidding submissions as well. A pre-bid meeting has been scheduled for February 27<sup>th</sup> at 11 am. The bids are scheduled for opening and reading into record on March 13<sup>th</sup> at 11 am.

The Courtroom Renovation project is progressing. A meeting was held to review the audiovisual requests made by the Judges' and DA's office. A final review of the design and layout is scheduled for Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup> at 9 am with Mr. Brocato, the Judges' office, Mr. Burget, and the Courthouse Committee.

The FEMA approved project – "Brushy Bayou Project" was recently awarded approval to proceed with the completion of Phase I and begin Phase II. The project requires the Parish to pay the costs upfront and submit for reimbursement. Initially, \$109,000 was approved by the Parish to front the costs. A separate bank account was established for such projects some time ago. In an effort to separate and track the costs of the project, Mr. Wilkinson explained that moving the approved funds to this account would allow for easier maintaining of the expenses and reimbursements required. An invoice was received also by Burns & Cooley for Phase I work in the amount of \$1980. A motion was made by Mr. Parker seconded by Mr. Probst to approve the transfer and payment to Burns & Cooley.

Mr. Hayden Kaiser with Jordan, Kaiser, & Sessions gave an update on the Brushy Bayou Project. JKS is in the middle of Phase I. Currently the plans are with the office of Neil Schaffer to review. Once approved, the plans will be forwarded to Hamby for third party review then submitted to the Corp of Engineers to proceed with the project. Mr. Kaiser explained that the time frame to complete the review and submit to the Corp should take a few more weeks. There is no known time frame for completion once they are submitted to the Corp for approval.

Under a motion by Mr. Tiffie seconded by Mr. Shirley, the following occupational licenses were approved:

Ms. Lou Outfitters, Maecee Thornton, 125 Ashley Lane, Vidalia (New Business – Women's Sporting Apparel)

River Sales LLC, Joe Young, 466 Hart Young Road, Monterey (New Business – Deer Feeder Sales)

JRG Industrial Services LLC, Justin Goeggle, 458 Deacon Wayes Rd, Ferriday (New Business – Tuning Service for Commercial Vehicles and Construction Equipment)

Motion carried.

The meeting was open to reporting ordinance violations. Given permissible time, no violations were brought forth.

A motion was made by Mr. Parker seconded by Mr. Tiffie to approve the purchase order requisitions. Motion carried.

The following items were listed under the Superintendent's Work Requests:

Road repairs needed on Timberlane and Centennial (re-requested)

14 yards of wash rock on Emfinger Road

Stop Sign on Emfinger Road is torn down

Potholes on Country Club Road

7 yards gravel on Trading Post Road

7 yards gravel on Margaret Road

Dig ditch out on Sunset Lane

A motion was made by Mr. Tiffie seconded by Mr. Shirley to approve the above work requests. Motion carried.

Mr. Wilkinson opened the meeting for correspondence. Distributed to the Jurors were minutes from meeting of Waterworks District #1; minutes and financials of Concordia Parish Sewer District #1; and agenda of Concordia Recreation District #3. Mr. Jernigan asked that a letter be sent to the DOTD to clean the culvert around 13111 Hwy 84 in Jonesville.

Mr. Kenneth and Amy Dewitt were present to address the Jurors of drainage issues in the area of their home located at 398 Moose Lodge Road. Mr. Wilkinson asked that the Superintendent inspect the area and address what needs to be done.

Ethics training renewals were also discussed. Mr. Tony Guillory has completed his Ethics Training class as a liaison to administer the training and certify completion. A date will be set to gather employees to complete their annual certification.

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

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Sandi T. Burley, Secretary Treasurer