

**CONCORDIA PARISH POLICE JURY
REGULAR MEETING
March 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:	Jerry Beatty, Carey Cook, Willie Dunbar, Jimmy Jernigan, Joseph Parker, Sr., Adam Probst, and Red Tiffie
Absent:	Whest Shirley
Secretary Treasurer:	Sandi T. Burley
Invocation:	Mr. Parker
Pledge of Allegiance:	Mr. Tiffie

A motion was made by Mr. Dunbar seconded by Mr. Cook to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 26, 2018 as mailed. Motion carried.

Discussion of the telephone and internet renewal was brought forward. Ms. Burley was asked to share the proposals received from three different vendors – TEC, BRG, and Hunt Communications. Internet proposals were received by Cable One, Uniti, and AT&T. The proposals provided the opportunity to review options to purchase a PBX system under BRG or use hosted software from TEC and Hunt. The Courthouse Committee had reviewed the information and its options prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Parker, Courthouse Committee Chairman, to renew the three year contract with TEC and use Cable One for internet services on a month to month basis to make sure their connections provided the service that supported the phone systems and the testing of the Court Call system by the Judges' office. Mr. Tiffie seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Tabled from the previous meeting was the discussion of Constables to help with providing their services for the Parish to help with serving ordinance violations. A letter was requested, received, and distributed from Mr. Burget, District Attorney. In the request from the Parish to the DA's office, Mr. Burget was asked to determine a price point the Parish falls under for the services of the Constables. In Mr. Burget's response, civil filing fees are not applicable to the Parish as the Constables are already paid through the Parish. Mr. Dunbar asked that a letter be sent to the Constables to share the DA's opinion on the matter. After discussion, Mr. Parker suggested Mr. Dunbar reach out to the Constables and discuss the matter. All agreed. No motion needed.

Funds were allocated in the 2018 budget to purchase a mower for the drainage department. Mr. Guillory provided three quotes on mowers to the Jurors to consider. One was over the allotted budget at \$16,799.00. On a motion by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Beatty the approval to purchase a Kubota diesel mower at a cost of \$12,106.71 from Cook Lawn & Tractor was made. Motion carried unanimously.

The Parish received a request from private landowners along the south end of Deer Park and Red River Levees. A request was made to the District Attorney's office whether the Parish may enter into an agreement with private landowners to restrict and maintain these sections of the levee. A cost analysis was provided from the Parish Barn which showed the Parish spends an estimated \$47,074.40 in labor, fuel, and parts alone to maintain these sections. Turning these areas over to the levee board and allowing the land owners to maintain the roads would be cost efficient to the Parish. After research, the DA's office found that the statute of LSA R.S.33:1236 lays out the powers and duties of the Police Jury. Among these are the ability to adopt or execute private agreements provided that such agreement does not interfere with public use. Sufficient access would have to be provided to emergency agencies and the Levee Board. These areas are accessed by the owners of the land along the levee. The Police Jury will still maintain any areas in which public access for home owners and residents reside. On a motion by Mr.

Tiffie seconded by Mr. Jernigan a motion was made to turn the tops of the levee back over to the Levee Board and pursue agreements with the private landowners along these areas to be responsible for the maintenance of repairs of the roads. Motion carried unanimously.

Applications were received to establish the Black River Lake Commission. Three of these are residents of the Monterey side of Black River Lake. One applicant is a landowner in Parhams however domiciled in Concordia Parish. After discussion, the applications of Jeff Geogge, Brandon Avery, Jim Graves, and George Tosspon were approved on a motion by Mr. Tiffie seconded by Mr. Parker. Motion carried unanimously.

The purchase order requisitions were reviewed and discussed. A request to send a letter to Sheriff Hedrick to meet with the Courthouse committee regarding increased utilities and costs in the shed were discussed. Upon a motion by Mr. Parker seconded by Mr. Beatty a motion was made to approve the purchase order requisitions and send a letter for a meeting with Sherriff Hedrick. Motion carried.

Under Committee Reports, a reminder that the ADA Lift bid opening meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 13th at 11 am in the Jury meeting room. The Courthouse Committee had met with Mr. Burget to discuss construction to build out more office space in the downstairs area. Upon motion by Mr. Beatty seconded by Mr. Probst, approval was given to allow Mr. Burget to pursue renovations of the downstairs area for offices. Mr. Dunbar discussed the need to find the Council on Aging a location. As previously discussed, there has been consideration by the COA to move its office to their Ferriday distribution site. Mr. Dunbar was aware of other options in the Vidalia area. After a brief discussion, Mr. Dunbar will reach out to the COA to discuss options of alternate locations.

Under the Secretary Treasurer's Report, Ms. Burley updated the Jurors that an election will be held on March 24th to include the millage renewal for the Council on Aging. First quarter financials will be discussed and distributed at the second meeting in April. The position of Section 8 Supervisor had been advertised as necessary. Two applications were received by the March 9th deadline. A motion was made by Mr. Beatty seconded by Mr. Probst to have the Personnel Committee meet and review the applications. Motion carried.

Mr. Brant Jones with Jordan, Kaiser & Sessions gave an update on the Brushy Bayou project. They have submitted a 408 application to the Corp of Engineers of the study of the structure to approve. The 404 application will be sent next week. He reviewed a timeline of the project noting that after the permits are approved, they can begin to advertise for construction. This will be done by June 1st and have bids opened by July 1st and proceed with construction by August. The project completion date is schedule for August 2019.

On a motion by Mr. Beatty seconded by Mr. Parker, payment to Burns and Cooley for geotechnical investigation and professional services for the Brushy Bayou project in the amount of \$17,378.50 was made. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Beatty seconded by Mr. Probst to approve the following occupational licenses:

84 Flea Lagniappe – Resale Shop – 5005 Hwy 84, Vidalia, LA
Swilley Consulting – Land Rig Drilling Consulting – 1315 Doty Rd, Ferriday
Centerpoint Energy Services - New Owner – Joe Vortherms - Utilities

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Jernigan seconded by Mr. Tiffie to approve the Superintendent's Material & Work Requests:

18 x 26 culvert for Ames Road

Mr. Parker discussed issues with drainage along the Hwy 900 area.

Mr. Dunbar discussed the findings of the culvert and road area on Leroy Williams Road.

Mr. Dunbar will talk with the Sewer Board in the area to see if there is an underlying problem.

Motion carried.

Under correspondence, a letter received from the Lieutenant Governor's Office announcing the early resignation and open position held by Mr. Glen McGlothlin on the

Atchafalaya Trace Commission was discussed. The Police Jury has been asked to appoint a replacement for his remaining term which expires April 2, 2020. Under a motion by Mr. Parker seconded by Mr. Beatty the recommendation to advertise for this position was made. Motion carried. The minutes from the February 13th meeting and March 13th agenda of Fire District #2 were distributed.

Mr. Wilkinson opened the meeting to the audience to address the Jurors. Mr. Zack Cothren brought forward issues of East Road. Mr. Cothren stated that two culverts are too high to allow water to pass and that the shoulders of the road are being driven on, causing further damage and issues. The repairs made in previous years were discussed. In prior years, the sewer board received a grant to make upgrades to their system. When this was done, chip seal was placed on the roads in an effort to build a foundation for the road but the road was never completed and the project has been closed out as completed. On a motion by Mr. Parker seconded by Mr. Probst a motion was made to request the Superintendent, Mr. Pugh, prioritize the review of the road to determine what needs pertaining to road repairs and drainage could be addressed. Motion carried.

Mr. Jernigan brought forward the issue of the VA office needing a new location. An agreement had been reached with the City of Ferriday for an alternate location, but had provided further issues where relocating was not optimal. Mr. Jernigan is going to speak with the Ferriday Mayor, Sherrie Jacobs, on the options and ability to relocate to the shopping center in Ferriday instead.

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

Sandi T. Burley, Secretary Treasurer