

**CONCORDIA PARISH POLICE JURY
SPECIAL MEETING
APRIL 19, 2018
5:00 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, and Whest Shirley
Absent:	Jerry Beatty and Red Tiffie
Secretary Treasurer:	Sandi T. Burley
Invocation:	Mr. Parker
Pledge of Allegiance:	Mr. Jernigan

Mr. Wilkinson introduced Heather Malone with Concordia Economic Development to discuss the ITEP program as it pertains to “Project Pencil”.

Ms. Malone introduced Paul John, COO of Syrah Technologies. Syrah Technologies is an Australian company established in 2010 and is publicly traded. Louisiana will be the first production facility in the United States for Syrah Technologies. Syrah Technologies is looking for a location to produce spherical graphite to be used in lithium ion batteries particularly used in vehicles.

Concordia Parish is being considered as its first US location and would potentially occupy the “old rubber plant” outside of Vidalia. Syrah Technologies plans to target the automotive industry in the United States and diversifying suppliers. There plans will be to sell both domestic and exporting.

Ms. Malone explained to the Jurors that the Louisiana Economic Development is supportive of this project and its request for ITEP. Ms. Malone requested approval of the proposed resolution supporting an industrial property tax exemption. The request was a tax break on the first five years at 100% and renew for 3 years at 80%. According to information provided, Syrah Technologies would have an assessed value of \$1.95 million. The exemption in the first five years would approximate at \$60,000 per year and the following three years at \$48,000 per year. The figures project approximately \$1.5 million in exemptions over the eight year span.

Ms. Malone continued to explain that the impact analysis resulted in a \$25 million investment by Syrah Technologies. Over the course of a ten year payroll, this would generate approximately \$14 million directly and approximately \$9.5 million in payroll from indirect jobs

created as a result of this project. This would equate to approximately \$50 million return over the next ten years for the estimated \$1.5 million in exemptions.

Once the property and assets of Syrah Technologies is placed on the tax roll, the Parish should begin to see revenue as soon as year six. Syrah Technologies plans to create approximately 25 jobs. They would bring three current team members to the Parish and would provide job training with the help of the “Fast Start” program. The facility will run a twenty four hour operation creating two – 12 hour shifts and four sets of crew members. The intended jobs to be created would include labor in the form of general operations, maintenance, laboratory for raw materials, and quality control measures.

Discussion ensued amongst the Jurors with Mr. Wilkinson noting that the Parish isn’t receiving this revenue now. Therefore the Parish is not giving up any revenues we are receiving, rather only investing in the future of the Parish.

A motion was made by Mr. Parker seconded by Mr. Shirley to adopt the following resolution to support Syrah Technologies.

RESOLUTION NO. 18-003

A RESOLUTION OF THE **CONCORDIA PARISH POLICE JURY** APPROVING **SYRAH TECHNOLOGIES, LLC** FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE INDUSTRIAL TAX EXEMPTION PROGRAM AT **2001 D. A. BIGLANE ROAD, VIDALIA, LA**

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, SETA, 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 the Concordia Parish 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 SYRAH TECHNOLOGIES, LLC; and **WHEREAS**, SYRAH TECHNOLOGIES, 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 the Concordia Parish Police Jury, and thus this matter is now ready for a determination of approval of the Concordia Parish 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 Concordia Parish 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 SYRAH TECHNOLOGIES, LLC) to the Industrial Tax Exemption contract between the Board of Commerce and Industry and SYRAH TECHNOLOGIES, LLC with respect to its manufacturing plant located at 2001 D. A. Biglane Road, Vidalia, Concordia Parish, Louisiana:

- 25 New Direct Permanent Jobs at the Manufacturing Establishment
- \$1,500,000 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

The Concordia Parish 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 SYRAH TECHNOLOGIES, LLC.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by this CONCORDIA PARISH 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: 7

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 2

ABSTAIN: 0

AND the resolution was declared adopted on this **April 19, 2018**.

_____/s/
Jimmy Wilkinson, President

_____/s/
Sandi T. Burley, Secretary/Treasurer

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

Sandi T. Burley, Secretary Treasurer