

February 20, 2019

On Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at 9:00 a.m., the Police Jury of Sabine Parish, State of Louisiana met in open and regular session.

The Agenda was as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Prayer
4. Pledge of Allegiance
5. Amend the Agenda
6. Adopt the Agenda
7. Accept the Minutes of the Previous Regular Meetings, January 16, 2019
8. Planning Commission
9. Rescind Resolution 8206 of 2018
10. Call Public Hearing to Consider Increase in Police Jurors' Salary
11. Executive Session – Discuss the Professional Competence of a Person
12. Amend Parish Transportation Capital Improvement Priority List
13. Discuss Engaging a Grant Writer for the Sabine Parish Police Jury
14. Discuss Forming an Ad-Hoc Committee for Consideration of Industrial Tax Exemptions
15. Authorize President Bison to Enter a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Town of Many to Overlay McFarland and Henry Streets
16. Establish Employment Position and Hire Solid Waste Site Manager
17. To Adopt Chris Alford Road into the Parish-Wide Road System
18. Abandon the Right-of-Way for South Cortez
19. Abandon the Eastern 525 Feet of the Right-of-Way for Tonti Drive
20. Approve New School Bus Turnaround at 277 Martinez Landing Road
21. Approve New School Bus Turnaround at 1175 Pine Street
22. Authorize Payment of Approved Bills
23. Appropriate Sales Tax for February Operations (\$230,000)
24. Committee Reports
25. Operations
- 25a. Executive Session – Discuss the Professional Competence of a Person
26. Adjournment

1. Call to Order

President Ronald L. Bison called the meeting to order.

2. Roll Call

The roll was called by the Secretary Treasurer. The following jurors were present: Willes Funderburk, Mike McCormic, “Charlie” Brown, William E. Ruffin, “Ronny” Bison, Eric Garcie, Ricky ”K-Wall” Sepulvado, and Kenneth M. Ebarb..

The following member arrived late: “Randy” Byrd

3. Prayer

Prayer was led by Mr. William E. Ruffin.

4. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Charlie Brown.

5. Amend the Agenda

There was no amendment to the agenda.

Police Jury President, Ronald L. Bison, allowed a period of public comment on any item on the agenda. Mr. Bison advised everyone that they would be allowed to comment later during the meeting on particular agenda items, if they desire. There were no public comments at this time.

6. Adopt the Agenda

Resolution No. 8234

Motion by McCormic and seconded by Brown to adopt the agenda.

The voting was as follows:

Yeas: 8 Nays: 0 Absent: 1- Byrd

7. Accept the Minutes of the Previous Regular Meeting, January 16, 2019

All Police Jurors have previously been provided a written copy of the minutes of the regular meeting held on January 16, 2019.

Resolution No. 8235

Motion by Ebarb and seconded by Funderburk to accept the minutes of the regular meeting held on January 16, 2019.

The voting was as follows:

Yeas: 8 Nays: 0 Absent: 1- Byrd

Juror Randy Byrd joined the meeting.

8. Planning Commission

No member of the Sabine Parish Planning Commission was present.

9. Rescind Resolution 8206 of 2018

On December 19, 2018, the Sabine Parish Police Jury adopted Resolution No. 8206 which increased the monthly pay for police jurors by four hundred dollars (\$400.00) to twelve hundred dollars (\$1,200.00) per month for jurors and to one thousand three hundred dollars (\$1,300.00) per month for the president of the police jury.

Louisiana Revised Statute 33:1233 requires that proposed changes in the compensation paid to police jurors must be made by ordinance approved by a majority of the jurors in an open public meeting, after a public hearing which has been advertised in the official journal of the parish on at least two separate occasions within a period of fifteen days preceding the open meeting.

Resolution No. 8236

Motion by McCormic and seconded by Sepulvado to rescind Resolution No. 8206 which increased the monthly pay for police jurors by four hundred dollars (\$400.00) to twelve hundred dollars (\$1,200.00) per month for jurors and to one thousand three hundred dollars (\$1,300.00) per month for the president of the police jury.

The voting was as follows:

Yeas: 9 Nays: 0 Absent: 0

10. Call Public Hearing to Consider Increase in Police Jurors' Salary

Resolution No. 8237

The following resolution was offered by Ebarb and seconded by Ruffin:

WHEREAS, Louisiana Revised Statute 33:1233 requires a public hearing which has been advertised in the official journal of the parish on at least two separate occasions within a period of fifteen days preceding the open meeting to adopt an ordinance to change the compensation paid to police jurors

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that a public hearing be held at the Sabine Parish Police Jury's regular meeting place, the Police Jury Meeting Room in the

Courthouse, 400 S. Capitol Street, Room 101, Many, Louisiana, on Wednesday, March 20, 2019 at Eight-Thirty (8:30) a.m. to consider increasing the monthly salary for police jurors to the amount of one thousand two hundred dollars (\$1,200.00) per month and increasing the salary of the police jury president to one thousand three hundred dollars (\$1,300.00) per month, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the public hearing be advertised in the official journal of the parish on March 6 and 13, 2019

The voting was as follows:

Yeas: 9 Nays: 0 Absent: 0

11. Executive Session – Discuss the Professional Competence of a Person

Resolution No. 8238

Motion by McCormic and seconded by Brown to move consideration of the executive session to item 25a.

The voting was as follows:

Yeas: 9 Nays: 0 Absent: 0

12. Amend Parish Transportation Capital Improvement Priority List

On December 19th, 2018 the police jury passed Resolution No. 8203 adopting a three (3) year Capital Improvements Program Priority List in accordance with the requirements of the Parish Transportation Act.

Mr. Brown informed the jury that he wishes to amend the current priority list to remove Big N Ranch Road and replace it with Holly Grove Road and Rocky Mount Road.

Resolution No. 8239

Motion by McCormic and seconded by Funderburk to remove Big N Ranch Road from the 2019 Capital Improvements Program Priority List and replace it with Holly Grove Road and Rocky Mount Road with the Amended Priority List to be as follows:

Road

Capital Improvement

2019

1. Middle Creek to Blackwell Creek
2. Pump Station
3. Prospect
4. Rocky Mount
5. Holly Grove
6. Wiley Road

- Patching and overlay
- Grinding and rock- 1 mile
- 3/10th mile overlay
- Grind and rock
- Grind and rock
- 1 mile of oil sand

2020

7. Kites Landing
8. Oak Hill
9. Cypress Bend
10. Wyatt
11. Lonestar
12. Park
13. Century Church Road

- Grinding and overlay – 1.5 miles
- Overlay – 1.5 miles
- Shoulder (rock) and culvert repairs
- Oil sand 1 mile off 120
- Re-cut/oil sand overlay – 1.5 miles
- Rocking
- Grinding and oil sand – 1 mile

2021

14. Old LA 476
15. Pleasure Point Road
16. Cedar Grove

- LA 191 West 1.3 miles – patch and seal
- LA 191 West 1.2 miles – overlay to Pleasure Point
- Overlay with oil sand ¾ mile from

17. Many Marthaville	Big N Ranch Road to church ½ mile oil sand
18. Lee Garcie Road	½ mile asphalt
19. McManus Road	Oil sand ½ mile
20. Little Egypt Road	Grinding and oil sand – 1 mile
21. Fire Tower	Oil sand – Pump Station to church
22. Aimwell Road	Oil sand – ½ mile

The voting was as follows:

Yeas: 9 Nays: 0 Absent: 0

13. Discuss Engaging a Grant Writer for the Sabine Parish Police Jury

Mr. Mike McCormic addressed the police jury concerning the need to engage a grant writer to assist the jury in obtaining additional grant funding for road and other infrastructure improvements. He and Mr. Kenneth Ebarb have met with Mrs. Susanne Williams and discussed how she could help the jury.

Mr. McCormic would like to authorize Mrs. Williams to research available grants and present them to the jury. The jury would then select the grants that they would like to pursue.

Resolution No. 8240

The following resolution was offered by Ebarb and seconded by Funderburk:

WHEREAS, the police jury wishes to pursue more grant funding for capital improvements to roads and other infrastructure, and

WHEREAS, the police jury believes that an experienced grant writer will significantly improve its ability to obtain available grant funding,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Mrs. Susanne Williams be engaged as a grant writer for the police jury at the hourly rate of thirty dollars (\$30.00) per hour, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Mrs. Williams is hereby authorized to conduct up to forty (40) hours of research to identify grants that would benefit Sabine Parish, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Mrs. Williams will write only those grants that are selected and approved by the police jury.

The voting was as follows:

Yeas: 8 Nays: 1 - Ruffin Absent: 0

14. Discuss Forming an Ad-Hoc Committee for Consideration of Industrial Tax Exemptions

The Secretary Treasurer reported that the Finance Committee had recently met with representatives of the Tax Assessor's Office, the Sheriff's Office, and the School Board to discuss Industrial Tax Exemptions for businesses located in Sabine Parish. In the past, these tax exemptions were awarded by the State of Louisiana; however, in the future these exemptions will be granted by the affected local governing entities. Mr. Bison noted that these exemptions were previously granted without consultation with, or even notification of, the local governments.

Mr. Ruffin stated that previously granted exemptions and continuations will remain in affect as granted but all new industrial tax exemptions will be presented at the parish level for approval by the local government entities.

Mr. Ebarb recommended forming a committee to initially review the new industrial tax exemptions and to recommend a uniform response by the parish governing entities. Mr. McCormic suggested that there be a committee formed with two members each from the

police jury, the sheriff, and the school board. Police Jury committee members would be appointed by the president for five-year terms.

15. Authorize President Bison to Enter a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Town of Many to Overlay McFarland and Henry Streets

The Town of Many, Louisiana and the Sabine Parish Police Jury would like to enter into a cooperative endeavor agreement to overlay McFarland and Henry Streets. The Town of Many has agreed to pay one half of the cost of overlaying the streets. The estimated costs of the project are as follows:

McFarland Street- \$35,000
Henry Street - \$13,000

Resolution No. 8241

Motion by Ruffin and seconded by Ebarb to authorize President Bison to execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Town of Many, Louisiana to overlay McFarland and Henry Streets.

The voting was as follows:

Yeas: 9 Nays: 0 Absent: 0

16. Establish Employment Position and Hire Solid Waste Site Manager

President Bison noted that the police jury has historically had problems with the waste compaction sites. These problems seem to result from a lack of maintenance. The road superintendent has been responsible for the maintenance of the compaction stations.

President Bison stated that he would like to remove this responsibility from the road superintendent to allow him to concentrate on road maintenance. Mr. Bison indicated that he would like to establish a part-time position to perform general maintenance of the compaction stations.

Resolution No. 8242

Motion by McCormic and seconded by Brown:

WHEREAS, the solid waste compaction stations have historically lacked adequate maintenance, and

WHEREAS, the employees operating the solid waste compaction stations have not always had effective supervision,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that a new employment position to address these issues be hereby authorized, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Solid Waste Committee prepare a proposed job description for this position and recommend the rate of pay and the number of hours that the employee will be authorized to work, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the proposed job description, recommended rate of pay and hours of employment be presented to the full jury for approval.

The voting was as follows:

Yeas: 9 Nays: 0 Absent: 0

17. To Adopt Chris Alford Road into the Parish-Wide Road System

Chris Alford Road, located in Ward 4, Road District 17, has been maintained by the police jury for many years and has been tacitly dedicated to the parish. It has been determined that the road meets the criteria to be adopted into the Parish Wide Road System.

Resolution No. 8243

Motion by Brown and seconded by Ruffin to adopt Chris Alford Road in Ward 4, Road District 17, into the Parish Wide Road System.

The voting was as follows:

Yeas: 9 Nays: 0 Absent: 0

18. Abandon the Right-of-Way for South Cortez

Mr. McCormic explained to the Jury that a subdivision has been developed on Tonti Drive. The right-of-way for South Cortez; located in Ward 3, Road District 9, was planned and transferred to the Sabine Parish Police Jury. The subdivision has been completed without this road being constructed.

Mr. McCormic recommended abandonment of the right-of-way for South Cortez.

Resolution No. 8244

Motion by Ebarb and seconded by Funderburk to abandon the right-of-way for South Cortez located in Ward 3, Road District 9.

The voting was as follows:

Yeas: 9 Nays: 0 Absent: 0

19. Abandon the Eastern 525 Feet of the Right-of-Way for Tonti Drive

Mr. McCormic explained to the Jury that a subdivision has been developed on Tonti Drive. The eastern 525 feet of right-of-way for Tonti Drive; located in Ward 3, Road District 9, was planned and transferred to the Sabine Parish Police Jury. The subdivision has been completed without these 525 feet of road being constructed.

Mr. McCormic recommended abandonment of the eastern 525 feet of right-of-way for Tonti Drive

Resolution No. 8245

Motion by Ebarb and seconded by Funderburk to abandon the eastern 525 feet of right-of-way for Tonti Drive located in Ward 3, Road District 9.

The voting was as follows:

Yeas: 9 Nays: 0 Absent: 0

20. Approve New School Bus Turnaround at 277 Martinez Landing Road

The police jury has received a request from the Sabine Parish School Board, dated February 6, 2019, to build a new school bus turnaround at 277 Martinez Landing Road. Road Superintendent Hughes has examined the proposed site and estimates that the cost to construct the school bus turnaround will be approximately \$800.

Resolution No. 8246

Motion by McCormic and seconded by Sepulvado to construct a new school bus turnaround located at 277 Martinez Landing Road.

The voting was as follows:

Yeas: 9 Nays: 0 Absent: 0

21. Approve New School Bus Turnaround at 1175 Pine Street

The police jury has received a request from the Sabine Parish School Board to build a new school bus turnaround at 1175 Pine Street. Superintendent Hughes has examined the proposed site and estimates that the cost to construct the school bus turnaround will be approximately \$2,570.

Resolution No. 8247

Motion by Sepulvado and seconded by Ebarb to construct a new school bus turnaround located at 1175 Pine Street.

The voting was as follows:

Yeas: 9 Nays: 0 Absent: 0

22. Authorize Payment of Approved Bills

Resolution No. 8248

Motion by Ruffin and seconded by Garcie to pay the approved bills.

The voting was as follows:

Yeas: 9 Nays: 0 Absent: 0

23. Appropriate Sales Tax for February Operations (\$230,000)

Resolution No. 8249

Motion by Ruffin and seconded by Garcie to appropriate and transfer \$230,000.00 from the Sales Tax Fund to the Parishwide Transportation Fund for February 2019 operations.

The voting was as follows:

Yeas: 9 Nays: 0 Absent: 0

24. Committee Reports

There were no committee reports.

25. Operations

Road Superintendent Hughes requested that an ordinance to reduce the speed limit on Brumley Road be placed on the agenda for the March meeting.

Road Superintendent Hughes requested the police jury to authorize hiring a temporary employee to fill the position of a full-time employee absent due to a long-term illness.

Resolution No. 8250

Motion by Ruffin and seconded by Byrd to authorize the Road Superintendent to hire a temporary employee working 45 hours per week at a regular rate of pay of \$11.61 per hour for a period which is the less of six months from date of hire or the return of the full-time employee whose position he is filling.

The voting was as follows:

Yeas: 9 Nays: 0 Absent: 0

Road Superintendent Hughes then discussed problems associated with hiring new employees. It was noted that new employees work a six-month probationary period. During this probationary period employees not performing well can be terminated. Mr. Hughes requested authority to terminate employees during their probationary period.

Resolution No. 8251

Motion by McCormic and seconded by Sepulvado to authorize the Road Superintendent to terminate employees working under his supervision during their six-month probationary period.

The voting was as follows:

Yeas: 9 Nays: 0 Absent: 0

25a. Executive Session – Discuss the Professional Competence of a Person

President Ronald L. Bison requested that the Police Jury enter an executive session to discuss the professional competence of a person. The Police Jury may go into executive session by a two-thirds vote of the members present at an open meeting that has been properly convened.

Resolution No. 8252

The following resolution was offered by Ruffin and seconded by Ebarb:

WHEREAS, the Sabine Parish Police Jury desires to discuss the professional competence of a person,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sabine Parish Police Jury enter executive session.

This resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

<u>MEMBERS</u>	<u>YEAS</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>	<u>ABSTAINING</u>
Willes Funderburk	<u>X</u>			
Mike McCormic	<u>X</u>			
Charlie Brown	<u>X</u>			
William E. Ruffin	<u>X</u>			
Ronald L. Bison	<u>X</u>			
Eric Garcie	<u>X</u>			
Ricky Sepulvado	<u>X</u>			
Kenneth M. Ebarb	<u>X</u>			
Randy Byrd	<u>X</u>			

And the resolution was declared adopted on this, the 20th day of February 2019.

All members of the audience were requested to leave the Police Jury meeting room and the Police Jury went into executive session.

Resolution No. 8253

Motion by Sepulvado and seconded by Byrd to exit executive session.

The voting was as follows:

Yeas: 9 Nays: 0 Absent: 0

The audience was requested to return to the Police Jury meeting room.

Resolution No. 8254

Motion by Ebarb and seconded by Ruffin to terminate employee number 002-3840 effective immediately.

This resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

<u>MEMBERS</u>	<u>YEAS</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>	<u>ABSTAINING</u>
Willes Funderburk	<u>X</u>			

Mike McCormic	<u>X</u>
Charlie Brown	<u>X</u>
William E. Ruffin	<u>X</u>
Ronald L. Bison	<u>X</u>
Eric Garcie	<u>X</u>
Ricky Sepulvado	<u>X</u>
Kenneth M. Ebarb	<u>X</u>
Randy Byrd	<u>X</u>

And the resolution was declared adopted on this, the 20th day of February 2019.

26. Adjournment

Resolution No. 8255

Motion by Funderburk and seconded by Ebarb to adjourn.

The voting was as follows:

Yeas: 9 Nays: 0 Absent: 0

s/William E. Weatherford
William E. Weatherford
Secretary Treasurer

s/ Ronald L. Bison
Ronald L. Bison
President