

August 21, 2019

On Wednesday, August 21, 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 Meeting, July 17, 2019
- 7(a). Adopt a Resolution Commending the Sabine Sweetees for 2019 Dixie Softball World Series Championship
- 7(b). Shawn Bozzell – Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with American Youth Soccer Organization
8. Dr. Greg Lord, Candidate for State Representative District 24
9. Mr. Douglas Brown, Candidate for State Senator District 31
10. Mr. Carrol Elzey, Candidate for Tax Assessor
11. Planning Commission
12. Announce Public Hearing for Consideration of Ad valorem Tax Millage Roll-Forward
13. Remove Emma Wysinger as a Tenant Board Member of the Housing Authority of Sabine Parish and Appoint Roberta Vhoories as a Tenant Board Member to Complete Ms. Wysinger's Term
14. Consider an Ordinance to Set 25 MPH Speed Limit on Middle Creek Road Between Blackwell Creek and Georges Loop
15. Consider Extending Employment of Administrative Assistant Until December 31, 2019
16. Authorize Payment of Approved Bills
17. Appropriate Sales Tax Transfer for August Operations (\$230,000)
18. Committee Reports
19. Operations
20. 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, Ricky "K-Wall" Sepulvado, Kenneth M. Ebarb, and "Randy" Byrd.

The following juror arrived late: Eric Garcie

3. Prayer

Prayer was led by Mr. William E. Ruffin.

4. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Kenneth M. Ebarb.

5. Amend the Agenda

Public comments on the motion to amend the agenda were allowed prior to any vote to add an item to the agenda. There were no comments.

Resolution No. 8356

Motion by Ebarb and seconded by Brown to amend the agenda to include the following item:

Item 7(a) - Adopt a Resolution Commending the Sabine Sweetees for 2019 Dixie Softball World Series Championship

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

Yeas: 8 - Funderburk, McCormic, Ruffin, Bison, Brown, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 - Garcie

Resolution No. 8357

Motion by Ebarb and seconded by Funderburk to amend the agenda to include the following item:

Item 7(b) Shawn Bozzell – Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with American Youth Soccer Organization

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

Yeas: 8 - Funderburk, McCormic, Ruffin, Bison, Brown, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 - Garcie

Mr. Eric Garcie joined the meeting at this time.

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.

Mr. Rodney Schamerhorn, candidate for State Representative for District 24 introduced himself to the police jury and briefly reviewed his qualifications for that office.

Mrs. Linda McCormic requested the police jury to consider changing the day and time of the regular meetings to increase public attendance and participation. There was a brief discussion of the possible advantages and disadvantages of changing the meeting day and time.

Resolution No. 8358

Motion by Ebarb and seconded by Brown to reschedule the day and time for the regular meeting for the month of September from Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 a.m. to Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m.

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

Yeas: 9 - Funderburk, McCormic, Ruffin, Bison, Brown, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

6. Adopt the Agenda

Resolution No. 8359

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

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

Yeas: 9 - Funderburk, McCormic, Ruffin, Bison, Brown, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

7. Accept the Minutes of the Previous Meeting, July 17, 2019

All Police Jurors have previously been provided a written copy of the minutes of the regular meeting held on July 17, 2019.

Resolution No. 8360

Motion by Sepulvado and seconded by Byrd to accept the minutes of the regular meeting held on July 17, 2019.

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

Yeas: 9 - Funderburk, McCormic, Ruffin, Bison, Brown, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

7(a). Adopt a Resolution Commending the Sabine Sweetees for 2019 Dixie Softball World Series Championship

The six-year-old Sabine Sweetees Dixie softball team had only one loss during the 2019 softball season and they won the 2019 Dixie Softball World Series held in Alexandria, Louisiana. The Sabine Parish Police Jury would like to commend them for their accomplishment.

Resolution No. 8361

Motion by Ebarb and seconded by Sepulvado to adopt the following resolution:

**A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE SABINE SWEETEEES  
FOR 2019 DIXIE SOFTBALL WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONSHIP**

WHEREAS, Sabine Parish has a long-standing history of excelling in sports, and

WHEREAS, the Sabine Parish Dixie Youth Association has further demonstrated such excellence in its long tenure, and

WHEREAS, such success has been and continues to be the result of the dedication of parents, coaches, sponsors, and other persons or entities, and

WHEREAS, the six-year-old Sabine Sweetees Dixie softball team had only one loss during the 2019 softball season, and

WHEREAS, the Sabine Sweetees have continuously exhibited the highest level of sportsmanship and athletic skill, and

WHEREAS, the Sabine Sweetees won the 2019 Dixie Softball World Series held in Alexandria, Louisiana

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sabine Parish Police Jury does hereby congratulate and commend the Sabine Sweetees softball team, their coaches, parents and supporters for winning the 2019 Dixie Softball World Series.

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

Yeas: 9 - Funderburk, McCormic, Ruffin, Bison, Brown, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

7(b). Shawn Bozzell – Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with American Youth Soccer Organization

Mr. Bozzell informed the Jury that he was working with the American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) to provide access to the sport of soccer to the youths of Sabine Parish. The soccer league provides the opportunity to participate to youths ages 3 through 19.

The police jury entered a cooperative endeavor agreement with the AYSO last year to assist in providing this opportunity to the youths of the parish. Mr. Bozzell requested the police jury enter a cooperative endeavor agreement with the AYSO for the current season to provide equipment, materials and labor to clear and level those areas located at the parish fairgrounds that have been designated by the Sabine Parish Fair Board for soccer fields.

Resolution No. 8362

Motion by McCormic and seconded by Ebarb to enter a cooperative endeavor agreement with the American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) to provide equipment, materials and labor to clear and level those areas located at the parish fairgrounds that have been designated by the Sabine Parish Fair Board for soccer fields and to authorize President Ronald L. Bison to execute the agreement.

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

Yeas: 9 - Funderburk, McCormic, Ruffin, Bison, Brown, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

8. Dr. Greg Lord, Candidate for State Representative District 24

Dr. Greg Lord, candidate for State Representative District 24, addressed the police jury. He introduced himself and briefly reviewed his qualifications for that office.

9. Mr. Douglas Brown, Candidate for State Senator District 31

Mr. Douglas Brown, Candidate for State Senator District 31, notified the police jury that he is unable to attend the meeting due to an accident. He has requested to be rescheduled to speak during the September meeting.

10. Mr. Carrol Elzey, Candidate for Tax Assessor

Mr. Carrol Elzey, candidate for Sabine Parish Tax Assessor was not present at the meeting.

11. Planning Commission

No member of the Sabine Parish Planning Commission was present at the meeting.

12. Announce Public Hearing for Consideration of Ad valorem Tax Millage Roll-Forward

Secretary Treasurer Weatherford announced that the Sabine Parish Police Jury will hold a **public hearing** at its regular meeting place, the Police Jury Meeting Room in the Courthouse, 400 S. Capitol Street, Room 101, Many, Louisiana on Wednesday, September 4, 2019 at Nine O'clock (9:00) a.m. The hearing will be to consider "Rolling Forward" (increasing the millage rate after reassessment from the adjusted millage rate to a rate not in excess of the prior year's maximum rate) the millage rate as adjusted by reassessment.

The police jury intends to consider levying additional or increased millage rates without further voter approval or adopting the adjusted millage rates after reassessment and rolling forward to rates not to exceed the prior year's maximum. The amount of increase in taxes attributable to the millage increase as a result of "Rolling Forward" is estimated to be \$1,047,478.54.

13. Remove Emma Wysinger as a Tenant Board Member of the Housing Authority of Sabine Parish and Appoint Roberta Vhoories as a Tenant Board Member to Complete Ms. Wysinger's Term

The Sabine Parish Police Jury has been notified by Ms. Jurlean Wilson, Executive Director of the Housing Authority of Sabine Parish, that Ms. Emma Wysinger will not be able to complete her term, which expires November 18, 2019. The Housing Authority of Sabine Parish recommends that Ms. Wysinger be removed as a tenant board member and that Ms. Roberta Vhoories be appointed to complete her term of office.

Resolution No. 8363

Motion by McCormic and seconded by Funderburk to remove Ms. Emma Wysinger as a tenant board member of the Housing Authority of Sabine Parish and appoint Ms. Roberta Vhoories as a tenant board member to complete Ms. Wysinger's term, which ends November 18, 2019.

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

Yeas: 9 - Funderburk, McCormic, Ruffin, Bison, Brown, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

14. Consider an Ordinance to Set 25 MPH Speed Limit on Middle Creek Road Between Blackwell Creek and Georges Loop

Mr. Ruffin stated that because of recent improvements made to Middle Creek Road a restricted speed limit is in the public interest. He also requested that the speed limit be established from Blackwell Creek to the city limits of the Town of Many.

**ORDINANCE 9 of 2019**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE SPEED LIMIT FOR MIDDLE CREEK ROAD BETWEEN BLACKWELL CREEK AND THE CITY LIMITS OF THE TOWN OF MANY, LOUISIANA**

WHEREAS, the Sabine Parish Police Jury is responsible for the safety of individuals traveling on parish roads, and

WHEREAS, the current speed limit for Middle Creek Road between Blackwell Creek and the city limits of the Town of Many, Louisiana allows drivers to travel at speeds of up to forty-five (45) miles per hour without being issued a citation, and

WHEREAS, the Sabine Parish Police Jury has determined that this is a dangerous speed for travel on Middle Creek Road between Blackwell Creek and the city limits of the Town of Many, Louisiana.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, that the maximum speed limit for any vehicle travelling on Middle Creek Road between Blackwell Creek and the city limits of the Town of Many, Louisiana shall be twenty-five (25) miles per hour, and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall be in effect September 1, 2019 and it shall be published one time in the Official Journal of the Parish of Sabine, State of Louisiana, along with any other minutes of the meeting.

The foregoing ordinance having been offered upon a motion by Ruffin and seconded by Sepulvado was then submitted to an official vote and the vote thereupon was recorded as follows to wit:

Yeas: 9 - Willes Funderburk, "Mike" McCormic, "Charlie" Brown, William E. Ruffin, "Ronny" Bison, Eric Garcie, Ricky "K-Wall" Sepulvado, Kenneth M. Ebarb, and "Randy" Byrd.

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

Thereupon, the President declared this ordinance adopted on this the 21<sup>st</sup> day of August 2019, at the regular meeting of the Police Jury of the Parish of Sabine.

s/ Ronald L. Bison  
Ronald L. Bison  
President

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

**15. Consider Extending Employment of Administrative Assistant Until December 31, 2019**

Ms. Helena Janssen with the State of Louisiana will begin reviewing the documentation supporting the 2016 FEMA Disaster Recovery Grant on August 22, 2019. She will be giving the police jury guidance on the documentation needed to obtain the additional 25% matching funds reimbursement available through a Louisiana Community Development Block Grant. It is expected that additional work will be necessary to satisfy the LCDBG requirements for this reimbursement.

The administrative assistant position was authorized on April 17, 2019 by Resolution No. 8292 until August 31, 2019. It is expected, that she will be needed to work with the LCDBG grant until December 31, 2019.

Resolution No. 8364

Motion by Sepulvado and seconded by Byrd to authorize the continued employment of an administrative assistant to work primarily with the FEMA grant until December 31, 2019 with the position limited to 28 hours of work each week at the rate of pay of \$11.61 per hour.

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

Yeas: 9 - Funderburk, McCormic, Ruffin, Bison, Brown, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

16. Authorize Payment of Approved Bills

Resolution No. 8365

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

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

Yeas: 9 - Funderburk, McCormic, Ruffin, Bison, Brown, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

17. Appropriate Sales Tax Transfer for August Operations (\$230,000)

Resolution No. 8366

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

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

Yeas: 9 - Funderburk, McCormic, Ruffin, Bison, Brown, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

18. Committee Reports

Solid Waste Committee:

President Bison informed the police jury that the Solid Waste Committee met on August 20, 2019 with Mr. Roy Walters, a consultant the police jury has engaged to assist in negotiations with the Louisiana Regional Landfill Company for management of the Sabine Parish Landfill. Mr. Bison then briefly discussed options available to the jury.

Courthouse and Jail Committee:

Mr. Sepulvado reported that the upgrade of the elevator in the courthouse has been completed and the refurbished elevator is fully operational.

19. Operations

Road Superintendent Hughes reported that the two mechanics employed by the Road Department are using their personal cell telephones for parish business. He requested that the police jury consider paying them the customary amount for use of their personal telephones for parish business.

Resolution No. 8367

Motion by Byrd and seconded by Brown to pay each of the two mechanics employed by the Road Department fifty dollars (\$50.00) per month for the use of their personal cell telephones while conducting parish business.

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

Yeas: 9 - Funderburk, McCormic, Ruffin, Bison, Brown, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

Road Superintendent Hughes discussed adopting Morriss Road into the parish-wide road system.

Resolution No. 8368

Motion by Ebarb and seconded by Byrd to Adopt Morriss Road in Ward 6, Road District 1, into the Parish Wide Road System.

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

Yeas: 9 - Funderburk, McCormic, Ruffin, Bison, Brown, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

20. Adjournment

Resolution No. 8369

Motion by Ruffin and seconded by Ebarb to adjourn.

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

Yeas: 9 - Funderburk, McCormic, Ruffin, Bison, Brown, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0



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

s/Ronald L. Bison  
Ronald L. Bison  
President