

March 16, 2022

On Wednesday, March 16, 2022, at 9:00 a.m., the Police Jury of Sabine Parish, State of Louisiana met in open and regular session.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Prayer
4. Pledge of Allegiance
5. Amend the Agenda
6. Adopt the Agenda
7. Public Comments
8. Representative Rodney Schamerhorn
9. Chase Jennings - Representative Mike Johnson's Office
10. Planning Commission
11. Sabine Parish EMS Advisory Board
12. Consider an \$11,903.60 Contribution to North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory Commission to Fund an Operating Deficit
13. Consider Tax Exemption Application #20180454-ITE by Boise Cascade Wood Products, LLC
14. Consider Right of Way Abandonment in Holly Lanes Subdivision
15. Consider Adopting Leslie Lane as a Parish Road
16. Review Statement of Qualifications for Engineering Services for Landfill and Award Contract.
17. Discuss Herbicide Spraying Contract
18. Consider Salary Increases for Foremen and Equipment Operators
19. Discuss Toro Bridge Abandonment
20. Approve Membership in The Coordinating & Development Corporation
21. Discuss Police Jurors' Annual Financial Disclosures
22. Authorize Payment of Approved Bills
23. Appropriate and Transfer Sales Tax for March Operations (\$350,000)
24. Committee Reports
25. Operations
26. Adjournment

1. Call to Order

President Ricky L. Sepulvado called the meeting to order.

2. Roll Call

The roll was called by the Secretary Treasurer. The following jurors were present: "Bo" Stewart, Mike McCormic, William E. Ruffin, Stephen Steinke, "Jeff" Davidson, Eric Garcie, Ricky "K-Wall" Sepulvado, Kenneth M. Ebarb, and "Randy" Byrd.

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

There were no amendments to the agenda.

6. Adopt the Agenda

Resolution No. 8982

Motion by Steinke and seconded by Stewart to adopt the agenda.

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, McCormic, Ruffin, Steinke, Davidson, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

7. Public Comments

Police Jury President, Ricky L. Sepulvado, allowed a period of public comment on any item on the agenda. Mr. Sepulvado 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.

8. Representative Rodney Schamerhorn

State Representative Rodney Schamerhorn was not in attendance.

9. Chase Jennings - Representative Mike Johnson's Office

Mr. Chase Jennings, a member of Representative Mike Johnson's staff, briefly described benefits and services provided by Representative Mike Johnson's office.

10. Planning Commission

No member of the Sabine Parish Planning Commission was in attendance.

11. Sabine Parish EMS Advisory Board

Mr. Ebarb reported that the Sabine Parish EMS Advisory Board recently held a meeting and reviewed it's establishing ordinance. They would like the Police Jury to amend the ordinance primarily because it did not include the Town of Many.

The Secretary Treasurer was instructed to review the enabling ordinance, incorporate the desired changes, and present a proposed draft ordinance to the full jury for their consideration at the next regular meeting. Police Jurors McCormic, Davidson, Ebarb and Byrd were assigned to review the ordinance and assist in its completion.

Mr. Ebarb also informed the Police Jury that one of the commissioners did not meet the criteria to be on the Board.

Mr. Cory Clifton addressed the Jury and provided some background information about himself.

Resolution No. 8983

Motion by McCormic and seconded by Stewart to appoint Mr. Cory Clifton to replace Ms. Gretchen Wilkerson as the representative of the Sabine Medical Center on the Sabine Parish EMS Advisory Board.

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, McCormic, Ruffin, Steinke, Davidson, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

12. Consider an \$11,903.60 Contribution to North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory Commission to Fund an Operating Deficit

The Honorable Don Burkett, District Attorney of the 11th Judicial District and Chairman of the North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory Commission met with the Finance Committee on

March 14, 2022, and discussed the work performed by the Laboratory Commission and the causes of the current operating deficit.

Louisiana Revised Statute 40:2264(A) (4) states that the governing authorities from each of the twenty-nine parishes served by the Laboratory Commission may pay from their general fund the pro-rata share of the amount necessary to eliminate the deficit based upon the ratio which the assessed valuation of property in that parish bears to the total assessed valuations of property in all parishes. Sabine Parish's pro-rata share is \$11,903.60.

The Finance Committee has considered Mr. Burkett's request and recommends that the Police Jury contribute the requested amount to the North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory Commission.

Resolution No. 8984

Motion by McCormic and seconded by Ruffin to contribute to the North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory Commission Sabine Parish's pro-rata share of the Commission's operating deficit (\$11,903.60) as allowed by LA-R.S. 40:2264(A) (4).

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

Yeas: 8 - McCormic, Ruffin, Steinke, Davidson, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 1 - Stewart

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

13. Consider Tax Exemption Application #20180454-ITE by Boise Cascade Wood Products, LLC

The Sabine Parish Police Jury is in receipt of a Tax Exemption Application by Boise Cascade Wood Products LLC (Application #20180454-ITE). The application is for modernization of the Log Utilization Center located in Florien, Louisiana. Estimated costs of the plant modernization is \$27,184,077. The application has been approved by the Louisiana Economic Development. Sabine Parish may approve or deny the application.

Resolution No. 8985

Motion by Stewart and seconded by McCormic to send a copy of the agenda for today's meeting to the Louisiana Department of Economic Development and request an additional thirty days to take action on the Tax Exemption Application by Boise Cascade Wood Products LLC (Application #20180454-ITE).

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, McCormic, Ruffin, Steinke, Davidson, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

Resolution No. 8986

Motion by Ebarb and seconded by Byrd to refer the Tax Exemption Application by Boise Cascade Wood Products LLC (Application #20180454-ITE) to the Finance Committee for review and for them to make a recommendation of action to be taken by the Police Jury.

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, McCormic, Ruffin, Steinke, Davidson, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

14. Consider Right of Way Abandonment in Holly Lanes Subdivision

Road Superintendent Bobby Hughes reported that the Police Jury had received a request from a resident to abandon a portion of Sumac/Beech Street. The subdivision plat and dedication to public use included plans for a road that had never been constructed.

Resolution No. 8987

Motion by Garcie and seconded by Davidson:

WHEREAS, Holly Lanes Subdivision plat was recorded in the Sabine Parish Clerk of Courts records, Instrument Number 204266, Plat Cabinet 1, Jacket 91 on March 18, 1969. "The streets are hereby dedicated to Public Use" and signed by A. A. Dewitt and Evans Calvert is included on the plat. The Restrictions for Holly Lanes Subdivision as filed Instrument Number 204267 or as Amended by Instrument Numbers 208476 or 221205 does not include any additional information on the Streets as dedicated by the Holly Lanes Subdivision Plat. The Holly Lane Subdivision being in compliance with LA RS 33:5051 was accepted by the Sabine Parish Police Jury in an open and regular meeting.

WHEREAS, Brenda Truxillo, ETAL, 4627 Tartan Dr., Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70816 did purchase Lot 4 Holly Lane Subdivision, via Instrument Number 481450, as filed with the Sabine Parish Clerk of Court on November 15, 2021, Book 84, Page 851.

WHEREAS, Patrick and Virginia Stokes, P.O. Box 80303, Lafayette, Louisiana, 70598, did purchase Lot 5 Holly Lanes Subdivision, via Instrument Number 465974, as filed with the Sabine Parish Clerk of Court on July 23, 2018, Book 789, Page 229.

WHEREAS, Ms. Truxillo and ETAL and Mr. and Mrs. Stokes desires that the portion of the dedicated street shown on the Holly Lanes Subdivision plat as Beech Street between Lots 4 and 5 be abandoned. The portion of the street to abandon extends from the West boundary of Horseshoe Circle and extends the entire length of the South side of Lot 4 a distance of 199.7 feet and North side of Lot 5 a distance of 193.3, being 40' wide. The Beech Street name was changed to Sumac.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the portion of Sumac/Beech Street between Lots 4 and 5 of Holly Lanes Subdivision no longer serves a public purpose and has not served a public purpose for many years, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above referenced portion of Sumac/Beech Street is formally abandoned (abandonment excludes any road beyond the limits of the South Line of Lot 4 and North Line of Lot 5); abandonment applicable whether originally dedicated under either a formal dedication or tacit dedication, whichever may apply, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the abandoned portion of Sumac/Beech Street referenced above all become the property of the adjacent landowners, the North 20 feet adjacent to the South Line of Lot 4, to Brenda Truxillo, ETAL and the South 20 feet along the North line adjacent to Lot 5, become the property of Mr. and Mrs. Stokes, split evenly as shown on the Holly Lanes Subdivision, Instrument Number 204266, Sabine Parish Clerk of Courts records.

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, McCormic, Ruffin, Steinke, Davidson, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

15. Consider Adopting Leslie Lane as a Parish Road

Resolution No. 8988

Motion by Garcie and seconded by Davidson to adopt Leslie Lane, located in Ward 5 (Road District 15), into the parish road system.

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, McCormic, Ruffin, Steinke, Davidson, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

16. Review Statement of Qualifications for Engineering Services for Landfill and Award Contract.

The Sabine Parish Police Jury accepted written Statements of Qualifications to perform engineering services associated with the maintenance and operation of a solid waste landfill until 10:00 a.m. on February 25, 2022. The Jury received three (3) Statements of Qualifications.

On March 8, 2022, the Solid Waste Committee met and reviewed the Statements of Qualifications. The Solid Waste Committee recommended accepting Mader Engineering for a one-year contract with both parties having the right to terminate the agreement with sixty days written notice and authorizing the President to execute the agreement on behalf of the Parish.

Resolution No. 8989

Motion by Ruffin and seconded by McCormic to accept Mader Engineering for a one-year contract to provide engineering services associated with the maintenance and operation of a solid waste landfill with both parties having the right to terminate the agreement with sixty days written notice and to authorize the president to execute the agreement on behalf of the Parish.

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, McCormic, Ruffin, Steinke, Davidson, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

17. Discuss Herbicide Spraying Contract

The Police Jury has advertised for bids for the 2022 Roadside Vegetation Herbicide Program until 10:00 a.m. on April 6, 2022. At this time the sealed bids will be opened and read aloud. Subsequently, the bids will be reviewed and a contract for the services will be issued.

18. Consider Salary Increases for Foremen and Equipment Operators

On March 14, 2022, the Finance Committee met and reviewed proposed salary increases for Road Department foremen and equipment operators. It is proposed that the base salary for

foremen be increased to \$18.00 per hour with skilled equipment operators receiving a base salary of \$16.00 per hour and unskilled (less than one year experience) receiving \$14.00 per hour.

Mr. Ruffin, Chairman of the Finance Committee, reported that the Finance Committee recommends that the Jury approve all the proposed raises to become effective April 1, 2022.

Resolution No. 8990

Motion by Ruffin seconded by McCormic:

WHEREAS, the Sabine Parish Police Jury desires to increase the rate of pay for road foremen and equipment operators, and

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee has reviewed proposed salary increases and recommends that they be accepted.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the base salary for foremen be increased to \$18.00 per hour, that the base salary for skilled equipment operators be increased to \$16.00 per hour, and that the base salary for unskilled equipment operators (operators with less than one year experience) be established at \$14.00 per hour, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the individual employees STEP rate be applied to the base salary to determine the current rate of pay, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the said salary increases shall become effective on April 1, 2022.

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, McCormic, Ruffin, Steinke, Davidson, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

19. Discuss Toro Bridge Abandonment

State Representative Rodney Schamerhorn is continuing to search for funds to repair or replace the bridge over Toro Creek. President Sepulvado reminded the Jury that there is currently a possibility of getting the bridge dismantled at little or no cost to the Parish. He expressed his concern that this option might be lost if the Jury does not act in a timely manner.

Resolution No. 8991

Motion by Steinke and seconded by Davidson to abandon the Toro Creek Bridge located in Ward 1, (Road District 18).

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

Yeas: 5 - Steinke, Davidson, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 4 - Stewart, McCormic, Ruffin, and Garcie

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

Mr. Ruffin expressed concern that once the Police Jury abandons the bridge there will be no opportunity to obtain outside financing for repairs to or replacement of the bridge.

Resolution No. 8992

Motion by Davidson and seconded by Byrd to rescind Resolution No. 8991 abandoning the Toro Creek Bridge located in Ward 1, (Road District 18).

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

Yeas: 7 - Stewart, McCormic, Ruffin, Davidson, Garcie, Sepulvado, and Byrd

Nays: 2 - Steinke and Ebarb

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

Resolution No. 8993

Motion by McCormic and seconded by Byrd to table consideration of the possible abandonment of the Toro Creek Bridge located in Ward 1, (Road District 18) until the regularly scheduled Police Jury meeting on April 20, 2022.

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

Yeas: 8 - Stewart, McCormic, Ruffin, Davidson, Garcie, Ebarb, Sepulvado, and Byrd

Nays: 1 - Steinke

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

20. Approve Membership in The Coordinating & Development Corporation

The Sabine Parish Police Jury has received a statement requesting the payment of 2022 annual membership dues for The Coordinating & Development Corporation in the amount of \$9,220.00.

Resolution No. 8994

Motion by Ruffin and seconded by McCormic to approve and authorize parish membership in The Coordinating & Development Corporation, payment of the 2022 annual membership dues in the amount of \$9,220.00, and to authorize the President to execute any necessary documents.

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, McCormic, Ruffin, Steinke, Davidson, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

21. Discuss Police Jurors' Annual Financial Disclosures

President Ricky L. Sepulvado reminded the Police Jurors that their financial disclosures are due May 15, 2022.

22. Authorize Payment of Approved Bills

Resolution No. 8995

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

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, McCormic, Ruffin, Steinke, Davidson, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

23. Appropriate and Transfer Sales Tax for March Operations (\$350,000)

Resolution No. 8996

Motion by Ruffin and seconded by Stewart to appropriate and transfer \$350,000.00 from the Sales Tax Fund to the Parish-wide Transportation Fund for March 2022 operations.

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, McCormic, Ruffin, Steinke, Davidson, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

24. Committee Reports

Finance Committee:

Mr. McCormic reported that the Finance Committee plans to meet to review the salaries of employees who have not recently received salary increases.

Solid Waste Committee:

President Sepulvado discussed the problem of out-of-state household garbage being brought to Police Jury compactor sites. He suggested issuing a permit to allow out-of-state residents to dump at Sabine Parish sites. The permit would be an annual permit with an annual fee of \$150.00.

Resolution No. 8997

Motion by Davidson and seconded by Steinke:

WHEREAS, a large volume of out-of-state household garbage is being dumped at Sabine Parish compactor sites, and

WHEREAS, prior efforts to curtail said dumping have not been successful

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Police Jury hereby authorizes the issuance of annual permits to allow out-of-state residents (except commercial entities) to legally dump household garbage at compactor sites.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the annual fee of an out-of-state household garbage permit shall be \$150.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said permit shall be prominently displayed on the customer's vehicle.

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, McCormic, Ruffin, Steinke, Davidson, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

25. Operations

There was no discussion under operations.

26. Adjournment

Resolution No. 8998

Motion by Stewart and seconded by Ruffin to adjourn.

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, McCormic, Ruffin, Steinke, Davidson, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

s/William E. Weatherford

William E. Weatherford
Secretary Treasurer

s/Ricky L. Sepulvado

Ricky L. Sepulvado
President