

August 16, 2023

On Wednesday, August 16, 2023, 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. Representative Larry Bagley
10. Planning Commission
11. Mr. Clarence Beebe – Candidate for Representative for District 24
12. Accept the Minutes of the Previous Regular Meeting Held July 19, 2023
13. Mr. Michael Fondel, Southwest Louisiana Area Health Education Center – Medicaid Insurance Requalification
14. Adopt an Ordinance to Move the Polling Place for Precinct 9-5 from the Mt. Zion Baptist Church Voting Building, 15064 Highway 175, Many, Louisiana 71449 to Cedar Grove Church, 4560 Cedar Grove Road, Robeline, Louisiana 71469
15. Appoint Individuals to Act as Representatives of the Sabine Parish Police Jury in Mediation with Waste Connections U. S. and Authorize Individuals to Settle the Litigation
16. Consider a Resolution Congratulating and Commending the Sabine Sweetees Softball Team for Winning the 2023 Dixie World Series
17. Godbless Gbenebichie -Adopt a Resolution Approving Payment in Lieu of Tax Agreements in Accordance with a Term Sheet; Requesting the Northwest Louisiana Finance Authority Enter Into Said Payment in Lieu of Tax Agreements; and Providing for Other Matters with Respect Thereto
18. Consider Transfer of Money from the General Fund to the Individual Road Districts
19. Consider Salary Increases for Administrative Office Employees
20. Consider the Re-appointment of David Mains as a Commissioner for Sabine Parish Water District No. 1
21. Consider Authorizing Advertisement for the Purchase of a Sidearm for Road Districts 9 and 16 to be Received During 2024
22. Consider Authorizing Advertisement for the Purchase of a Trackhoe and Trailer for Road District 17 to be Received During 2024
23. Consider Authorizing Request for Proposals for Scrap Metal Recycling Services at the Shop, Sanitary Landfill and Various Compactor Stations
- 23a. Authorize the Purchase of Two New Trash Compactors, One for the Florien Location and One for the Spring Ridge Location.
- 23b. Authorize Hiring Two New Compactor Station Workers with One Employee Assigned to the Noble Station and One Employee Assigned to the Pleasant Hill Station.

24. Consider Approving an Additional Road Employee to Work Primarily in Road Districts 9 and 16
25. Discuss Road Damage Reimbursements
- 25a. Adopt an Ordinance Establishing a 25 Miles Per Hour Speed Limit for Rec Site 4 Road
- 25b. Adopt an Ordinance Establishing a 35 Miles Per Hour Speed Limit for Coker Worsham Road
- 25c. Adopt an Ordinance Establishing a 15 Miles Per Hour Speed Limit for Aimwell Road from Carters Ferry Road to Coulon Lane
26. Discuss Road Projects
27. Authorize Payment of Approved Bills
28. Appropriate and Transfer Sales Tax for August Operations (\$425,000)
29. Committee Reports
30. Financial Report
31. Operations
32. 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, Ronny Bison, 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. Eric Garcie.

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.

Resolution No. 9341

Motion by Stewart and seconded by McCormic to amend the agenda to include the following items:

Item 23a - Authorize the purchase of two new trash compactors, one for the Florien location and one for the Spring Ridge location.

Item 23b - Authorize hiring two new compactor station workers with one employee assigned to the Noble station and one employee assigned to the Pleasant Hill station.

Item 25a - Adopt an ordinance establishing a 25 miles per hour speed limit for Rec Site 4 Road

Item 25b - Adopt an ordinance establishing a 35 miles per hour speed limit for Coker Worsham Road

Item 25c - Adopt an ordinance establishing a 15 miles per hour speed limit for Aimwell Road from Carters Ferry Road to Coulon Lane

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

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

6. Adopt the Agenda

Resolution No. 9342

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

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, McCormic, Ruffin, Steinke, Bison, 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. "Bo" Stewart expressed his appreciation and thankfulness for the support given to citizens in the Florien area who experienced the wildfire on August the 14th.

Mrs. Deb Pennington commended the Sabine Parish Road Department for the work done on Pilcher Road.

Mr. James Tuck, president of the Vernon Parish Police Jury, expressed his support for Mr. Clarence Beebe for state representative for District 24.

Mr. Pat Scarborough discussed parish reimbursements for damage to vehicles.

Mr. Keith Brouard expressed his support for the re-appointment of Mr. David Mains as commissioner for the Sabine Parish Water District No. 1.

Mr. Robert Hable, Mayor of the Town of Many, expressed his support for the re-appointment of Mr. David Mains as commissioner for the Sabine Parish Water District No. 1.

Mr. Walter Mains discussed the quality of water service for Sabine Parish. He also requested the Jury to re-appoint Mr. David Mains as a commissioner for the Sabine Parish Water District No. 1.

8. Representative Rodney Schamerhorn

Representative Rodney Schamerhorn discussed some of the issues he has faced during his term of service as a state representative. He requested support for his re-election.

9. Representative Larry Bagley

Representative Larry Bagley reported on his achievements as a state representative. He also discussed his plans if he is re-elected.

10. Planning Commission

No representative from the Sabine Parish Planning Commission was present at the meeting.

11. Mr. Clarence Beebe – Candidate for Representative for District 24

Mr. Clarence Beebe presented his qualifications for state representative for District 24.

12. Accept the Minutes of the Previous Regular Meeting Held July 19, 2023

All police jurors have previously been provided written copies of the minutes.

Resolution No. 9343

Motion by Byrd and seconded by Stewart to accept the minutes of the regular meeting held July 19, 2023.

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

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

13. Mr. Michael Fondel, Southwest Louisiana Area Health Education Center – Medicaid Insurance Requalification

Mr. Michael Fondel stated that the Southwest Louisiana Area Health Education Center is a non-profit organization hired by the State of Louisiana to inform citizens that they must recertify to continue to receive Medicaid assistance. Mr. Fondel receives a monthly list of 300 individuals located in Sabine Parish to contact. He solicited assistance from the Police Jury to contact as many qualifying individuals as possible.

14. Adopt an Ordinance to Move the Polling Place for Precinct 9-5 from the Mt. Zion Baptist Church Voting Building, 15064 Highway 175, Many, Louisiana 71449 to Cedar Grove Church, 4560 Cedar Grove Road, Robeline, Louisiana 71469

ORDINANCE NO. 9 of 2023

AN ORDINANCE TO MOVE THE POLLING PLACE FOR PRECINCT 9-5 FROM THE MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH VOTING BUILDING, 15064 HIGHWAY 175, MANY, LOUISIANA 71449 TO CEDAR GROVE CHURCH, 4560 CEDAR GROVE ROAD, ROBELINE, LOUISIANA 71469

WHEREAS, the polling place for Precinct 9-5 has been the Mt. Zion Baptist Church Voting Building, 15064 Highway 175, Many, Louisiana, and

WHEREAS, the Sabine Parish Registrar of Voters desires the polling place for Precinct 9-5 to be permanently located at the Cedar Grove Church, 4560 Cedar Grove Road, Robeline, Louisiana

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, that the polling place for Precinct 9-5 be permanently moved from the Mt. Zion Baptist Church Voting Building, 15064 Highway 175, Many, Louisiana to the Cedar Grove Church, 4560 Cedar Grove Road, Robeline, Louisiana, and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall be in effect August 16, 2023 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 Byrd and seconded by Garcie was then submitted to an official vote and the vote thereupon was recorded as follows to wit:

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

Thereupon, the President declared this ordinance adopted on this the 16th day of August, 2023, at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Police Jury of the Parish of Sabine.

s/William E. Weatherford

s/Ricky L. Sepulvado

William E. Weatherford
Secretary-Treasurer

Ricky L. Sepulvado
President

15. Appoint Individuals to Act as Representatives of the Sabine Parish Police Jury in Mediation with Waste Connections and Authorize Individuals to Settle the Litigation

Mediation to reach a settlement in the ongoing litigation by the Sabine Parish Police Jury against Waste Connections U. S. is scheduled for August 21st. An integral part of the mediation process is the availability of individuals who are authorized to legally bind their party to a settlement agreement. The Solid Waste Committee has met and considered this matter and recommends that Secretary Treasurer, William E. Weatherford, be authorized to act for the Parish.

Resolution No. 9344

On motion by Ruffin and seconded by Bison:

WHEREAS, the Sabine Parish Police Jury is involved in litigation against Waste Connections U. S., and

WHEREAS, mediation is scheduled for August 21, 2023, and

WHEREAS a representative authorized to legally bind the Sabine Parish Police Jury to an agreed settlement between the Parish and Waste Connections, U. S. is required to be in attendance.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individual is authorized to represent the Sabine Parish Police Jury in the mediation:

William E. Weatherford – Secretary Treasurer

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the above-listed individual is authorized to negotiate, accept or reject, and legally bind the Sabine Parish Police Jury to a mediated settlement.

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

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

16. Consider a Resolution Congratulating and Commending the Sabine Sweetees Softball Team for Winning the 2023 Dixie World Series

Resolution No. 9345

The following resolution was offered by Stewart and seconded by McCormic:

A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING THE SABINE
SWEETTES SOFTBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2023 DIXIE WORLD SERIES

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 was undefeated during the 2023 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 2023 Dixie Softball World Series, its fifth consecutive championship.

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 2023 Dixie Softball World Series.

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

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

17. Godbless Gbenebichie - Adopt a Resolution Approving Payment in Lieu of Tax Agreements in Accordance with a Term Sheet; Requesting the Northwest Louisiana Finance Authority Enter into Said Payment in Lieu of Tax Agreements; and Providing for Other Matters with Respect Thereto

Mr. Godbless Gbenebichie, with NextEra Energy, briefly described the solar farm project. He noted that the solar farm will utilize approximately 3,000 acres of land. He described the benefits that the Parish will receive through construction of the solar farm.

Mr. Mike Busada, with the Northwest Louisiana Finance Authority (NWLFA), explained that the NWLFA is a statutorily authorized local public trust permitted to acquire and hold property

for one or more of its public purposes. It is designed to facilitate economic development. He commended the Sabine Parish Police Jury for negotiating a very favorable agreement for the Parish.

Ms. Liz Pierre, with North Louisiana Economic Partnership (NLEP), addressed the Jury. NLEP is an economic development group serving ten parishes in North Louisiana including Sabine Parish. NLEP's primary purpose is to bring economic development to the Parish. NLEP works to facilitate industries located in the Parish.

Resolution No. 9346

SABINE PARISH POLICY JURY RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAX AGREEMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH A TERM SHEET; REQUESTING THE NORTHWEST LOUISIANA FINANCE AUTHORITY ENTER INTO SAID PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAX AGREEMENTS; AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Parish of Sabine, State of Louisiana (the "*Parish*"), is a political subdivision of the state of Louisiana (the "*State*"); and

WHEREAS, the Sabine Parish Policy Jury acts as the governing authority of the Parish (the "*Sabine Parish Policy Jury*"); and

WHEREAS, Forest Trace Solar, LLC, a limited liability company qualified to do business in the State (the "*Company*" or "*Lessee*"), desires to construct a solar photovoltaic facility in the Parish with a capital investment of approximately \$277 million (the "*Project*"); and

WHEREAS, in order to make the Project economically viable, the Company has requested economic development financing in the form of certain tax abatements; and

WHEREAS, the Sabine Parish Police Jury has found and determined that attracting the Project to Sabine Parish would provide substantial benefits including, but not limited to, increased ad valorem and sales and use tax revenue for the Parish and additional energy offerings to attract new business and industry, which when taken together result in benefits to the Parish equal to or greater than the benefits requested by the Company; and

WHEREAS, the Northwest Louisiana Finance Authority ("*NWLFA*") is a statutorily authorized local public trust permitted to acquire and hold property for one or more of its public purposes as set forth in R.S. 9:2341(B) and upon acquisition by NWLFA, such property is declared for purposes of R.S. 9:2347(M) to be public property used for essential and governmental purposes and such property is thereby exempt from all taxes of the Parish, the State, or any political subdivision thereof or any other taxing body; and

WHEREAS, the Parish requests NWLFA take title to the Project and lease it back to the Company for a period of twenty (20) years pursuant to a term sheet (the "**Term Sheet**"), which is attached hereto as **Exhibit A** and incorporated herein; and

WHEREAS, the Parish desires the Lessee to pay annually to parish or municipal taxing authorities, and to any other taxing body in the Parish, through the entity responsible for collecting ad valorem taxes for each taxing body (collectively, the "**Tax Collector**"), a sum in lieu of ad valorem taxes in an amount not to exceed the amount of taxes that would otherwise be due if the Project were not owned by the NWLFA (a "**PILOT**"), in accordance with the Term Sheet, in order to compensate such authorities for services rendered by them to the Project, which sum the Tax Collector shall collect and enforce payment of in accordance with the statutory provisions of La. R.S. 39:1002 as statutory impositions, subject to the approval of the beneficiary of NWLFA; and

WHEREAS, the Term Sheet provides that the PILOT shall commence upon the conveyance of the Project to the NWLFA and shall terminate at 11:59 P.M. on the last day of the two hundred and fortieth (240) month after commencement (the "**PILOT Termination Date**"), and that full ad valorem taxes will be paid to the Tax Collector following the PILOT Termination Date; and

WHEREAS, the Sabine Parish Police Jury further requests that NWLFA effectuate through a contractual payment in-lieu-of tax (a "**Contractual PILOT**") an exemption from the state-imposed sales and use taxes on construction material and equipment purchased during initial construction of the Project, while facilitating the collection of funds equal to the amount of sale and use taxes that would otherwise be due to all local taxing bodies but for the Contractual PILOT and transferring said funds to each taxing body.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Sabine Parish Police Jury that:

Section 1. The foregoing whereas clauses are hereby adopted as set forth in the preamble to this Resolution.

Section 2. This Parish does hereby request that the NWLFA enter into the PILOT agreements in accordance with the attached and approved Term Sheet.

Section 3. The President and Secretary-Treasurer are hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to take forthwith any and all such action as may be necessary to carry into effect the provisions of this Resolution.

Section 4. If any one or more of the provisions of this Resolution shall for any reason be held to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this Resolution, but this Resolution shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provisions had not been contained herein. Any constitutional or statutory provision enacted after the date of this Resolution which validates or makes legal any provision of this Resolution which would not otherwise be valid or legal, shall be deemed to apply to this Resolution.

Section 5. This Resolution shall immediately take effect upon adoption.

Said Resolution having been read and considered by a quorum of the Police Jury, on motion to adopt by McCormic, seconded by Steinke, a record vote was taken and the following result was had:

YEAS: 9 - Stewart, McCormic, Ruffin, Steinke, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

WHEREUPON, the presiding officer declared the above Resolution duly adopted in full on this 16th day of August, 2023.

s/Ricky L. Sepulvado

Ricky L. Sepulvado, President

s/William E. Weatherford

William E. Weatherford, Secretary-Treasurer

EXHIBIT A

SABINE PARISH POLICE JURY APPROVED
TERM SHEET

Authority: Northwest Louisiana Finance Authority

Company: Forest Trace Solar, LLC

Parish: Sabine Parish, Louisiana

Property: Certain immovable real property located on the Site (as outlined in **Exhibit A**).

Project: Transformation of the Site into a solar photovoltaic facility. The Project will include a capital investment of approximately \$277 million by the Company or its assignee.

Lease Term: The Lease shall expire after twenty (20) years or upon the termination of the Incentive Period (defined below).

Property Tax Incentive: Exemption of Project from eighty percent (80%) of ad valorem taxes for a period of twenty (20) years (the **“Incentive Period”**).

Payment in Lieu of Taxes: During the time in which the Authority owns the Project, the Company shall be responsible for making an annual payment in lieu of taxes (the **“Annual PILOT”**). The payments reflect a percentage of ad valorem taxes that would otherwise be paid by the Company if not for the abatement.

Base PILOT Payments: The Base PILOT payments are equal to 20% of the ad valorem taxes that would otherwise be due in a given tax year but for the PILOT Agreement.

Option to Purchase: The Company shall have the option to purchase the Project from the Authority for a purchase price of \$1,000 at any time upon payment in full of any amounts that are actually then due, owing and/or past due under the Lease.

Fees: The Company agrees to pay the following fees:

(a) At the signing of this term sheet, the non-refundable application fee in the amount of \$3,000.

(b) Upon execution of the Act of Conveyance of the Project, or a substantial portion thereof, the closing fee of the Authority in the amount of 1/10th of 1% of the capital cost of the property subject to the exemption under the PILOT,

(c) Upon execution of the PILOT Lease Agreement and S&U PILOT Agreement (defined below), the legal fees of counsel to the Authority; and

(d) On the 1st day of December in each calendar year, commencing the year immediately following the conveyance of the Project, or a substantial portion thereof, to the Authority, the Company shall pay to the Authority an annual administrative fee in the amount of 1/20th of 1% of the capital cost of the property subject to the exemption under the PILOT.

Sales & Use Tax PILOT: The Authority shall effectuate an exemption from the state-imposed sale and use taxes on construction material and equipment purchased during initial construction of the project, which shall commence upon the execution of the sales and use tax PILOT Agreement (the **“S&U PILOT Agreement”**) and end upon the receipt of certificate of occupancy (the **“Construction Period”**).

On a quarterly basis during the Construction Period, Company shall make an administrative payment to the Authority equal to 30% of the state-imposed sales and use taxes that would otherwise be due but for a S&U PILOT Agreement. Additionally, Company shall also make a payment to the Authority equal to 100% of the local, non-state sales and use taxes that would otherwise be due but for a S&U PILOT Agreement, which funds will be provided to all located taxing authorities in amounts corresponding to the amount of sales and use taxes that would have otherwise been collected by those authorities but for the S&U PILOT.

This term sheet (the “**Term Sheet**”) provides a summary of certain financial terms offered to the Company by Sabine Parish and the Authority. The terms herein are subject to additional terms and conditions as negotiated by the parties and contained in a PILOT Lease and a S&U PILOT Agreement, along with related documents (the “**PILOT Documents**”). This Term Sheet serves as a basis to move forward pursuant to the guidelines contained herein. By signing below, the parties agree to work in good faith to negotiate the PILOT Documents. Neither party is bound to execute the PILOT Documents. This Term Sheet is subject to approval of the Sabine Parish Police Jury and the Authority.

Accepted on this ____ day of _____, 2023 by:

NORTHWEST LOUISIANA FINANCE AUTHORITY

By: _____
Name: _____
Its: _____

FOREST TRACE SOLAR, LLC

By: _____
Name: _____
Its: _____

18. Consider Transfer of Money from the General Fund to the Individual Road Districts
The June 2023 the ending cash balance of the General Fund was \$8,572,337.10.

There was a general discussion of the possibility of transferring money from the General Fund to the individual road districts.

Resolution No. 9347

Motion by McCormic and seconded by Ruffin:

WHEREAS, there exists a surplus of cash balance in the General Fund, and

WHEREAS, these surplus funds can be better utilized by spending them on parish road improvements,

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED, that \$1,000,000 be transferred from the General Fund to the individual road districts, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that each road district shall receive a transfer of \$100,000 from the General Fund.

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

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

19. Consider Salary Increases for Administrative Employees

Secretary Treasurer William E. Weatherford noted that the workload of the office staff has increased significantly but there has been no increase in staff. In particular, the human resource work has increased due to growth and employee turnover.

Office employees often report to work shortly after 7:00 a.m. and frequently work through their lunch breaks, for which they do not request or receive overtime pay. It is not unusual for the office manager to work on the weekend without receiving additional compensation.

Mr. Weatherford requested a \$2.00 per hour increase in the base pay for the administrative assistant and the office manager.

Resolution No. 9348

Motion by Garcie and seconded by Ruffin:

WHEREAS, the workload of the administrative staff at the courthouse has increased significantly in the past several months, and

WHEREAS, the Police Jury is not able to increase administrative staff size at this time due to the capacity of the courthouse, and

WHEREAS, the Secretary Treasurer has requested a merit raise for the administrative assistant and the office manager.

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED, that the base salary of the administrative assistant and the office manager, computed on an hourly basis, be increased by two dollars (\$2.00) per hour, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOVED, that this pay increase be effective August 16, 2023.

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

Yeas: 8 – Stewart, McCormic, Ruffin, Steinke, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, and Byrd

Nays: 1 - Ebarb

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

20. Consider the Re-appointment of David Mains as a Commissioner for Sabine Parish Water District No. 1

The Sabine Parish Police Jury has received correspondence from the Sabine Parish Waterworks District No. 1 requesting Mr. David Mains be re-appointed as a commissioner.

Mr. Mains reported the progress achieved by the Water District.

Resolution No. 9349

On motion by McCormic and seconded by Garcie:

WHEREAS, the appointment of Mr. David Mains as a commissioner for the Sabine Parish Water District No. 1 expires August 19, 2023, and

WHEREAS, the Sabine Parish Water District No. 1 has requested that Mr. David Mains be re-appointed as a commissioner.

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED, That Mr. David Mains be re-appointed as a commissioner for the Sabine Parish Water District No. 1, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Mr. Mains be appointed for a five-year term expiring August 19, 2028.

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

Yeas: 8 - Stewart, McCormic, Ruffin, Steinke, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, and Ebarb

Nays: 0

Abstain: 1 - Byrd

Absent: 0

21. Consider Authorizing Advertisement for the Purchase of a Sidearm for Road Districts 9 and 16 to be Received During 2024

Road Superintendent Bobby Hughes reported that the side boom currently used for mowing in Road Districts 9 and 16 is worn out and needs replacement. He requested the purchase of a purpose-built boom mowing machine. Due to the long waiting period to receive equipment from manufacturers, he suggested that equipment that is planned to be budgeted in 2024 be ordered so that it will be received during 2024 early enough to be of use that year.

Resolution No. 9350

Motion by McCormic and seconded by Ruffin to authorize Road Superintendent Bobby Hughes to develop specifications for a purpose-built boom mowing machine for Road Districts 9 and 16 and to authorize Secretary Treasurer William E. Weatherford to prepare and issue a bid request for said equipment with a delivery date during 2024.

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

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

22. Consider Authorizing Advertisement for the Purchase of a Trackhoe and Trailer for Road District 17 to be Received During 2024

Road Superintendent Bobby Hughes reported that the trackhoe currently used by Road District 17 needs replacement. Due to the long waiting period to receive equipment from manufacturers, he suggested that equipment that is planned to be budgeted in 2024 be ordered so that it will be received during 2024 early enough to be of use that year.

Resolution No. 9351

Motion by Ruffin and seconded by Steinke to authorize Road Superintendent Bobby Hughes to develop specifications for a trackhoe and trailer for Road District 17 and to authorize Secretary Treasurer William E. Weatherford to prepare and issue a bid request for said equipment with a delivery date during 2024.

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

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

23. Consider Authorizing Request for Proposals for Scrap Metal Recycling Services at the Shop, Sanitary Landfill and Various Compactor Stations

Road Superintendent Bobby Hughes noted that parish residents frequently drop old appliances and other metal trash at the compactor sites. He suggested that one entity be given a contract to collect all metal garbage disposed of in the parish. The Solid Waste Committee has considered this item and recommends requesting proposals from service providers.

Resolution No. 9352

Motion by Bison and seconded by Steinke to authorize Secretary Treasurer William E. Weatherford to prepare and issue a request for proposals for scrap metal recycling services for the shop, the sanitary landfill, and various compactor stations, specifically including the Noble, Kites and Toledo Town compaction sites.

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

Yeas: 7 - McCormic, Ruffin, Steinke, Bison, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 2 – Stewart and Garcie

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

23a. Authorize the Purchase of Two New Trash Compactors, One for the Florien Location and One for the Spring Ridge Location

Mr. Barry Goss, Compactor Site Supervisor, has recommended purchasing two stationery trash compactors to replace the compactor located at the Florien site and to install a compactor at the Spring Ridge site. This request has been considered by the Solid Waste Committee and the Committee recommends purchase of the two compactors.

Resolution No. 9353

On motion by McCormic and seconded by Ruffin:

WHEREAS, the compactor located at the Florien compactor site has deteriorated and will soon have to be replaced, and

WHEREAS, The Spring Ridge compactor site does not presently have a compactor located there; however, an analysis indicates that a compactor on site would be financially beneficial to the Parish.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sabine Parish Police Jury purchase two stationary compactors, one for the Florien compaction site and one for the Spring Ridge site, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Barry Goss, Compactor Site Supervisor, and Secretary Treasurer, William E. Weatherford, are hereby instructed to develop specifications and obtain quotes for the said compactors.

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

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

23b. Authorize Hiring Two New Compactor Station Workers with One Employee Assigned to the Noble Station and One Employee Assigned to the Pleasant Hill Station.

Barry Goss, Compactor Site Supervisor, reported that only one employee currently works the Noble compactor site. He stated that due to the volume of intake at the Noble site he believes that two employees are needed to properly manage the site. Both employees would be needed to work when the site is open.

Mr. Goss also reported that only one employee is currently assigned to the Spring Ridge compactor site located in Pleasant Hill. He requested that another employee be hired to work whenever the existing employee is off. Mr. Goss stressed that the additional employee will only work as a substitute and two workers will not be on the site at the same time.

The Solid Waste Committee favorably considered these requests and recommends the hiring of the additional employees.

Resolution No. 9354

On motion by Ruffin and seconded by Steinke:

WHEREAS only one employee is currently assigned to work at the Noble compactor site at any given time, and

WHEREAS, the volume of intake at the Noble compactor site is sufficient to require two employees to properly manage the site, and

WHEREAS, both assigned employees would be working the Noble compactor site at the same time, and

WHEREAS, there is currently only one employee assigned to work the Spring Ridge compactor site, and

WHEREAS, an additional employee is needed to substitute for the current employee whenever he needs time off, and

WHEREAS, only one employee will be working at any given time at the Spring Ridge compactor site.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sabine Parish Police Jury hereby authorizes the hiring of two part-time compactor employees working no more than 29½ hours per week, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that one employee will be assigned to work at the Noble compactor site and the other will be assigned to work as a substitute at the Spring Ridge compactor site.

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

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

24. Consider Approving an Additional Road Employee to Work Primarily in Road Districts 9 and 16

Road Superintendent Bobby Hughes requested an additional road employee (equipment operator) position be added and assigned primarily to work in Road Districts 9 and 16. After considerable discussion, it was proposed to amend Resolution No. 9337 of July 19, 2023 to reduce the number of approved road maintenance positions from eight (8) to six (6) and utilize the cost savings to fund the proposed additional equipment operator.

Resolution No. 9355

On motion by Stewart and seconded by Bison:

WHEREAS, Road Districts 9 and 16 have a need for an additional equipment operator, and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 9337 of July 19, 2023, authorized the establishment of two four-man crews of road maintenance employees (pothole crews), and

WHEREAS, existing labor costs prohibit the addition of another equipment operator without reducing other costs.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Resolution 9337 of July 19, 2023, is hereby amended to establish two three-man crews of road maintenance employees (pothole crews), and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an additional equipment operator position be established, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the equipment operator be hired primarily to work in Road Districts 9 and 16, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the equipment operator will be hired at the existing base rate commensurate with his level of skill and he will participate in the STEP Plan and be eligible to participate in all employee benefits normally offered.

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

Yeas: 8 - Stewart, McCormic, Steinke, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 1 - Ruffin

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

25. Discuss Road Damage Reimbursements

Road Superintendent Bobby Hughes reported that, to this date, the Parish has received approximately \$2,301,000 in reimbursements for road damages for 2023.

25a. Adopt an Ordinance Establishing a 25 Miles Per Hour Speed Limit for Rec Site 4 Road

ORDINANCE No. 10 of 2023

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A TWENTY-FIVE (25) MILES PER HOUR SPEED LIMIT ON REC SITE 4 ROAD IN ROAD DISTRICT 1 (WARD 6)

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

WHEREAS, the current posted speed limit for Rec Site 4 Road, located in Road District 1 (Ward 6), 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 for Rec Site 4 Road, located in Road District 1 (Ward 6).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, that the maximum speed limit for any vehicle travelling on Rec Site 4 Road, located in Road District 1 (Ward 6) shall be twenty-five (25) miles per hour.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall be in effect August 31, 2023, 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 above ordinance was offered by Stewart and seconded by McCormic and adopted by the following yeas and nays vote:

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

25b. Adopt an Ordinance Establishing a 35 Miles Per Hour Speed Limit for Coker Worsham Road

ORDINANCE No. 11 of 2023

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A THIRTY-FIVE (35) MILES PER HOUR SPEED LIMIT ON COKER WORSHAM ROAD IN ROAD DISTRICT 1 (WARD 6)

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

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, that the maximum speed limit for any vehicle travelling on Coker Worsham Road, located in Road District 1 (Ward 6) shall be thirty-five (35) miles per hour, and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall be in effect August 31, 2023, 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 above ordinance was offered by Stewart and seconded by McCormic and adopted by the following yeas and nays vote:

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

25c. Adopt an Ordinance Establishing a 15 Miles Per Hour Speed Limit for Aimwell Road from Carters Ferry Road to Coulon Lane

ORDINANCE No. 12 of 2023

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A FIFTEEN (15) MILES PER HOUR SPEED LIMIT ON AIMWELL ROAD FROM CARTERS FERRY ROAD TO COULON LANE IN ROAD DISTRICT 15 (WARD 5)

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

WHEREAS, the current posted speed limit for Aimwell Road from Carters Ferry Road to Coulon Lane, located in Road District 15 (Ward 5), 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 Aimwell Road from Carters Ferry Road to Coulon Lane, located in Road District 15 (Ward 5).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, that the maximum speed limit for any vehicle travelling on Aimwell Road from Carters Ferry Road to Coulon Lane, located in Road District 15 (Ward 5) shall be fifteen (15) miles per hour.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall be in effect August 31, 2023, 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 above ordinance was offered by Garcie and seconded by Stewart and adopted by the following yea and nay vote:

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

26. Discuss Road Projects

Road Superintendent Bobby Hughes discussed the Police Jury's plan for road repairs and improvements that was adopted in February of 2023. He noted that in July of 2022 the Police Jury

adopted a resolution to overlay Pilcher Road by December of 2023. He stated that the work currently being done in the parish has been discussed, budgeted, and planned for some time.

27. Authorize Payment of Approved Bills

Resolution No. 9356

Motion by Stewart and seconded by Ruffin 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, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

28. Appropriate and Transfer Sales Tax for August Operations (\$425,000)

Resolution No. 9357

Motion by Ruffin and seconded by Stewart to appropriate and transfer \$425,000.00 from the Sales Tax Fund to the Parish-wide Transportation Fund for August 2023 operations.

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

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

29. Committee Reports

Mr. "Bo" Stewart, Chairman of the Courthouse & Jail Committee, reported that a mini-split air conditioning and heating unit is to be placed in the courtroom.

30. Financial Report

Secretary Treasurer William E. Weatherford provided the police jurors with a summary of the cash available to the Parish as of July 31, 2023.

He reported cash of \$34,489,818.21 available for the following purposes:

Roads - \$ 9,332,961.63
Broadband - \$ 1,000,000.00
Landfill - \$ 13,272,543.55
Health Unit - \$ 2,177,797.03
General - \$ 8,410,493.36
Payroll - \$203,687.35
Industrial Development - \$ 92,335.29

31. Operations

Mr. Bobby Hughes presented the monthly operation reports to the jurors.

32. Adjournment

Resolution No. 9358

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 - Stewart, McCormic, Ruffin, Steinke, Bison, 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