

January 19, 2024

On Friday, January 19, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., the Police Jury of Sabine Parish, State of Louisiana met in open and regular session.

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. Election of Police Jury President
9. Election of Police Jury Vice President
10. Appoint Police Jury Committees
11. Senator Alan Seabaugh
12. Representative Rodney Schamerhorn
13. Representative Larry Bagley
14. Planning Commission
15. District Attorney Don Burkett – Discuss Laws Affecting Police Jurors
16. Enter Executive Session to Discuss Litigation
17. Exit Executive Session
18. Accept the Minutes of the Previous Regular Meeting Held December 20, 2023
19. Parish Transportation Act Certificate
20. Approve Authorized Check Signatories
21. Consider Appointment of Ms. Kintelle Garner as a Board Member for the Sabine Parish Housing Authority
22. Consider Appointment of Ms. Chandra White as a Board Member for the Sabine Parish Housing Authority
23. Consider Appointment of Juror to the Ark-La-Tex Investment & Development Corporation (AIDC) Board
24. Consider Appointment of Shawnette Newby as a Commissioner for the South Toledo Bend Water District
25. To Authorize Entering a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the State of Louisiana Department of the Treasury for Act 397 Funding
26. Consider Approving a Contract with Franklin Engineers & Consultants, LLC to Provide Assistance with Air Compliance for the CY2024
27. Award Contract for Construction of Equipment Storage Shed at Road Department
28. Consider Approval of Request from the Village of Fisher for Provision of Traffic Signs
29. Discuss Health Insurance Coverage for Police Jurors
30. Discuss Mileage Reimbursements for Police Jurors
31. Consider Declaring President's Day an Official Holiday
32. Declare Lots 1 and 2 of Block 29 of the Town of Converse Surplus Property and Authorize the Sale of the Property
33. Authorize Payment of Approved Bills
34. Appropriate and Transfer Sales Tax for January Operations (\$450,000)

- 35. Committee Reports
- 36. Financial Report
- 37. Operations
- 38. 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, William E. Ruffin, Ronny Bison, Bruce Taylor, Eric Garcie, Ricky “K-Wall” Sepulvado, Kenny Remedies, and Randy Byrd.

The following juror was absent: Barry Stevens.

3. Prayer

Prayer was led by Mr. William E. Ruffin.

4. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Ronny Bison.

5. Amend the Agenda

There was no amendment to the agenda.

6. Adopt the Agenda

Resolution No. 9459

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

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

Yeas: 8 - Stewart, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 - Stevens

7. Public Comments

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

Mr. Patrick Perkins provided the Police Jury a petition for paving Little Flock Road.

#### 8. Election of Police Jury President

Jury President Sepulvado opened the floor for nominations for President of the Police Jury.

Mr. Bison nominated Ricky L. Sepulvado as President of the Sabine Parish Police Jury and was seconded by Mr. Stewart.

Resolution No. 9460

Motion by Ruffin and seconded by Byrd that nominations for President of the Police Jury cease and Mr. Ricky L. Sepulvado be elected as President.

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

Yeas: 8 – Stewart, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 - Stevens

#### 9. Election of Police Jury Vice President

Jury President Sepulvado opened the floor for nominations for Vice President of the Police Jury.

Mr. Stewart nominated William E. Ruffin as Vice President of the Sabine Parish Police Jury and was seconded by Mr. Garcie.

Resolution No. 9461

Motion by Byrd and seconded by Stewart that nominations for Vice President of the Police Jury cease and Mr. William E. Ruffin be elected as Vice President.

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

Yeas: 8 – Stewart, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 - Stevens

#### 10. Appoint Police Jury Committees

President Sepulvado presented proposed committee memberships.

Resolution No. 9462

On motion by Stewart and seconded by Byrd to approve the following committees:

- **PERSONNEL**
  - Ronny Bison-Chairman
  - Randy Byrd
  - Eric Garice
  - Barry Stevens
- **ROAD & SHOP**
  - K-Wall Sepulvado-Chairman
  - Randy Byrd
  - Eric Garcie
  - Bruce Taylor
- **FINANCE**
  - William Ruffin-Chairman
  - Ronny Bison
  - K-Wall Sepulvado
  - Bo Stewart
- **COURTHOUSE**
  - Bo Stewart-Chairman
  - K-Wall Sepulvado
  - William Ruffin
  - Randy Byrd
- **SOLID WASTE**
  - K-Wall Sepulvado-Chairman
  - Ronny Bison
  - Barry Stevens
  - Kenny John Remedies
- **PINE BELT**
  - William Ruffin-Chairman
  - Barry Stevens
  - Bruce Taylor
  - Kenny John Remedies
- **FENDER CEMETERY**
  - Eric Garcie-Chairman
  - Bo Stewart
  - Bruce Taylor
  - Kenny John Remedies

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

Yeas: 8 – Stewart, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 - Stevens

11. Senator Alan Seabaugh

Ms. Laurie Gentry, Legislative Assistant for Senator Alan Seabaugh, briefly addressed the Police Jury.

12. Representative Rodney Schamerhorn

No representative for Mr. Rodney Schamerhorn's office was present at the meeting.

13. Representative Larry Bagley

No representative for Mr. Larry Bagley's office was present at the meeting.

14. Planning Commission

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

15. District Attorney Don Burkett – Discuss Laws Affecting Police Jurors

District Attorney Don Burkett briefly discussed many of the laws that most often affect police jurors.

16. Enter Executive Session to Discuss Litigation

Resolution No. 9463

On motion by Stewart and seconded by Bison:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Sabine Parish Police Jury enter executive session to discuss ongoing litigation.

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

Yeas: 8 – Stewart, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 – Stevens

17. Exit Executive Session

Resolution No. 9464

On motion by Stewart and seconded by Garcie:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Sabine Parish Police Jury exit executive session.

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

Yeas: 8 – Stewart, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 – Stevens

18. Accept the Minutes of the Previous Regular Meeting Held December 20, 2023

Resolution No. 9465

Motion by Bison and seconded by Garcie to accept the minutes of the regular meeting held December 20, 2023.

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

Yeas: 8 – Stewart, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 – Stevens

19. Parish Transportation Act Certificate

Resolution No. 9466

On motion by Stewart and seconded by Garcie to approve and confirm the representation made in the annual Certificate to the Louisiana Legislative Auditor required by Louisiana Revised Statute 48:758 and authorize the Police Jury President to sign the said certificate.

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

Yeas: 8 – Stewart, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 – Stevens

20. Approve Authorized Check Signatories

Resolution No. 9467

On motion by Ruffin and seconded by Taylor:

BE IT RESOLVED that the following individuals are hereby authorized to sign checks issued by the Police Jury:

William E. Weatherford – Secretary Treasurer  
Ricky L. Sepulvado – President  
William E. Ruffin – Vice-President  
Ronny Bison – Juror

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

Yeas: 8 – Stewart, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 – Stevens

21. Consider Appointment of Ms. Kintelle Garner as a Board Member for the Sabine Parish Housing Authority

The Sabine Parish Housing Authority has recommended Ms. Kintelle Garner as a tenant board member to replace Ms. Roberta Vhoories who resigned last year.

Resolution No. 9468

On motion by Ruffin and seconded by Bison:

BE IT RESOLVED that Ms. Kintelle Garner is appointed as a board member of the Sabine Parish Housing Authority to complete the unexpired term of Ms. Roberta Vhoories ending November 18, 2024.

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

Yeas: 8 – Stewart, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 – Stevens

22. Consider Appointment of Ms. Chandra White as a Board Member for the Sabine Parish Housing Authority

The Sabine Parish Housing Authority has recommended Ms. Chandra White as a board member to replace Mr. David Jordan who resigned last year.

Resolution No. 9469

On motion by Ruffin and seconded by Stewart:

BE IT RESOLVED that Ms. Chandra White is appointed as a board member of the Sabine Parish Housing Authority to complete the unexpired term of Mr. David Jordan ending April 19, 2027.

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

Yeas: 8 – Stewart, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 – Stevens

23. Consider Appointment of Juror to the Ark-La-Tex Investment & Development Corporation (AIDC) Board

Mr. Ricky L. Sepulvado was appointed as a board member of the Ark-La-Tex Investment Development Board on December 21, 2022. Mr. Sepulvado resigned effective January 1, 2024.

Resolution No. 9470

Motion by Stewart and seconded by Taylor:

WHEREAS, Mr. Ricky L. Sepulvado has resigned as a board member of the Ark-La-Tex Investment Development Board as of January 1, 2024;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Mr. Ronny Bison be appointed as a board member of the Ark-La-Tex Investment Development Board.

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

Yeas: 8 – Stewart, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 – Stevens

24. Consider Appointment of Shawnette Newby as a Commissioner for the South Toledo Bend Water District

Mr. Don Owen has resigned as a commissioner for the South Toledo Bend Water District due to health issues. The South Toledo Bend Water District met January 5, 2024 and voted to appoint Shawnette Newby as a commissioner to replace Mr. Owen.

Resolution No. 9471

On motion by Stewart and seconded by Taylor:

WHEREAS, Mr. Don Owen has resigned as a commissioner for the South Toledo Bend Water District due to health issues; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Don Owen's appointment as a commissioner expires January 17, 2026, and

WHEREAS, the South Toledo Bend Water District has voted to appoint Shawnette Newby as commissioner to complete Mr. Owen's term.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Shawnette Newby is hereby appointed a commissioner for the South Toledo Bend Water District; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Ms. Newby's term will expire January 17, 2026.

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

Yeas: 8 – Stewart, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 – Stevens

25. To Authorize Entering a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the State of Louisiana Department of the Treasury for Act 397 Funding

The Sabine Parish Police Jury has been notified that it is the recipient of a line-item appropriation of \$100,000 through Act 397 of the 2023 Regular Legislative Session- State Aid to Local Government Entities.

In order to participate in this grant, the Sabine Parish Police Jury must execute a cooperative endeavor agreement with the State of Louisiana. The monies must be spent on facility improvements and repairs.

Resolution No. 9472

On motion by Stewart and seconded by Garcie:

WHEREAS the Sabine Parish Police Jury is the recipient of a line-item appropriation contained in Act 397 of the 2023 Regular Legislative Session, in the amount of \$100,000; and

WHEREAS Executive Order JBE 2016-38 requires a comprehensive cooperative endeavor agreement between the transferring agency and the police jury in order for the jury to receive the funding from the line-item appropriation, and

WHEREAS, these funds must be expended for facility improvements and repairs no later than June 30, 2024

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Sabine Parish Police Jury hereby approves and authorizes entering a cooperative endeavor agreement with the Louisiana Department of the Treasury and the State of Louisiana; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the president of the Sabine Parish Police Jury is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to sign and otherwise execute the said cooperative endeavor agreement.

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

Yeas: 8 – Stewart, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 – Stevens

26. Consider Approving a Contract with Franklin Engineers & Consultants, LLC to Provide Assistance with Air Compliance for the CY2024

The Sabine Parish Police Jury has received a proposal from Franklin Engineers and Consultants, LLC to provide the Police Jury with Title V Reporting Assistance at the Sabine Parish Landfill to comply with the requirements of the existing permit.

Franklin Engineers and Consultants, LLC proposes to perform the following tasks:

- Semi-annual report preparation
- Annual certification of compliance preparation

- GHG reporting
- NSPS XXX annual report preparation
- Flare initial performance testing
- Emissions inventory

Resolution No. 9473

On motion by Ruffin and seconded by Bison:

WHEREAS, the Sabine Parish Police Jury has need for assistance with air compliance at the Sabine Parish Sanitary Landfill for the calendar year 2024; and

WHEREAS, Franklin Engineers and Consultants, LLC has made a proposal to provide the following needed services at a fee of \$25,800:

- Semi-annual report preparation
- Annual certification of compliance preparation
- GHG reporting
- NSPS XXX annual report preparation
- Flare initial performance testing
- Emissions inventory

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Sabine Parish Police Jury approves and authorizes entering a contract with Franklin Engineers and Consultants, LLC; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the president of the Sabine Parish Police Jury is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to sign and otherwise execute the said contract.

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

Yeas: 8 – Stewart, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 – Stevens

27. Award Contract for Construction of Equipment Storage Shed at Road Department

The Sabine Parish Police Jury needs an equipment storage shed to protect its heavy equipment from the weather. The shed will be built at the road office location on Highway 171.

Resolution No. 9474

On motion by Byrd and seconded by Taylor:

WHEREAS, the construction of an equipment shed is a public works project; and

WHEREAS, the Sabine Parish Police Jury has obtained three quotes for construction of the building as follows:

- Magnolia Steel of Natchitoches, Inc. - \$108,875.00
- Homer Miller Construction, LLC - \$112,500.00
- CMR, Inc - \$188,560.00

;and

WHEREAS, Magnolia Steel of Natchitoches, Inc is the lowest bidder

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the contract to construct an equipment shed is hereby awarded to Magnolia Steel of Natchitoches, Inc at a price of \$108,875.00; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the president of the Sabine Parish Police Jury is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to sign and otherwise execute the said contract.

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

Yeas: 8 – Stewart, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 – Stevens

28. Consider Approval of Request from the Village of Fisher for Provision of Traffic Signs

Resolution No. 9475

On motion by Ruffin and seconded by Garcie to enter into a cooperative endeavor agreement for the Police Jury to provide requested traffic signs and posts to the Village of Fisher.

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

Yeas: 5 –Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, and Sepulvado

Nays: 3 – Stewart, Remedies, and Byrd

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 – Stevens

29. Discuss Health Insurance Coverage for Police Jurors

Resolution No. 9476

On motion by Taylor and seconded by Stewart to table discussion of health insurance coverage for police jurors until the February 21, 2024, regular meeting.

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

Yeas: 8 – Stewart, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 – Stevens

30. Discuss Mileage Reimbursements for Police Jurors

Resolution No. 9477

On motion by Taylor and seconded by Stewart to table discussion of mileage reimbursements for police jurors until the February 21, 2024, regular meeting.

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

Yeas: 8 – Stewart, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 – Stevens

31. Consider Declaring Presidents' Day an Official Holiday

Resolution No. 9478

On motion by Stewart and seconded by Bison to not declare Presidents' Day as an official holiday for the Police Jury.

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

Yeas: 6 – Stewart, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 2 – Ruffin and Sepulvado

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 – Stevens

32. Declare Lots 1 and 2 of Block 29 of the Town of Converse Surplus Property and Authorize the Sale of the Property

Resolution No. 9479

On motion by Stewart and seconded by Byrd:

WHEREAS, the Police Jury has determined that Lots 1 and 2 of Block 29 of the Town of Converse serves no public purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Lots 1 and 2 of Block 29 of the Town of Converse are hereby declared surplus property; and

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED, that E & P Consulting Services, LLC be engaged to manage the sale of this adjudicated property; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the secretary treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to obtain a property survey and appraisal; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the president of the police jury is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to sign and otherwise execute any and all documents required to complete the sale of the property.

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

Yeas: 8 – Stewart, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 – Stevens

33. Authorize Payment of Approved Bills

Resolution No. 9480

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: 8 – Stewart, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 – Stevens

34. Appropriate and Transfer Sales Tax for January Operations (\$450,000)

Resolution No. 9481

Motion by Stewart and seconded by Ruffin to appropriate and transfer \$450,000.00 from the Sales Tax Fund to the Parish-wide Transportation Fund for January 2024 operations.

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

Yeas: 8 – Stewart, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 – Stevens

35. Committee Reports

Mr. “Bo” Stewart, Chairman of the Courthouse Committee, reported that a new mini-split system had been installed in the grand jury room.

36. Financial Report

The Secretary Treasurer reported that the financial report for November 2023 has not been completed. The Secretary Treasurer will place the report into the jurors’ inter-office mailboxes when it is completed.

37. Operations

Road Superintendent Bobby Hughes provided a list of road permits and citations issued to the jurors.

38. Adjournment

Resolution No. 9482

Motion by Stewart and seconded by Ruffin to adjourn.

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

Yeas: 8 – Stewart, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 – Stevens

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

s/Ricky L. Sepulvado  
Ricky L. Sepulvado  
President