

February 21, 2024

On Wednesday, February 21, 2024, 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. Senator Alan Seabaugh
9. Representative Rodney Schamerhorn
10. Representative Larry Bagley
11. Mr. Gerald Long – Grant Consultation for Government Programs
12. Mr. Scott Gowan- Report on the Office of Emergency Preparedness Activities During the Period October Through December 2023
13. Mr. Stanley Cook, Deputy Coroner, - Report on the Coroner’s Office Activities During the Period of January Through December 2023
14. Planning Commission
- 14a. Mr. Rufus Sepulvado - Discuss Teater Road Extension
15. Mr. Nick Span- Update on Paish Fire Insurance Ratings
16. Accept the Minutes of the Previous Special Called Meeting Held January 8, 2024, the Regular Meeting Held January 19, 2024, and the Special Called Meeting Held February 14, 2024
17. Adopt a Resolution Approving the Holding of an Election in Wards 3 and 4 Fire Protection District No. 1 of the Parish of Sabine, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, April 27, 2024, to Authorize the Levy of a Special Tax Therein
18. Approve Replacement of Telephone System and WiFi at the Sabine Parish Health Unit
19. Consider Granting Parish Supplemental Pay to the Registrar of Voters and the Chief Deputy
20. Appoint an Ex Officio Member to the Sabine Parish Library Board
21. Discuss Health Insurance Coverage for Police Jurors
22. Discuss Mileage Reimbursements for Police Jurors
23. Adopt Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire
24. Review Bids for Sale of Surplus Property Located on Turtle Beach Road
25. Review Bids for Sale of Surplus Property Located South of Arnold Dowden Road
26. Accept Donation of Dump Truck from the Town of Many
27. Authorize Advertising Bid for Material Hauling Services – 24-Yard Dump Truck
28. Approve Amending the 2024 Budget for Ward 4, Road District 17 and Dedicating \$1,500,000 to Resurface Roads Damaged by Energy Transfer
29. Ratify Purchase of a Caterpillar Mini- Excavator for Ward 4 Through State Contract
30. Consider Adopting a Twenty (20) Miles Per Hour Speed Limit on Hardy Road Located in Ward 1, Road District 18

31. Consider Adopting Crepe Myrtle Road (Located in Ward 5, Road District15) into the Parish Road System
32. Consider Hiring a Temporary Enforcement Deputy
- 32a. Consider Hiring Temporary Employee for Road District 15 (Ward 5)
- 32b. Discuss Future Employment Requirements for the Road Department
33. Approve Repairs to Parish wide Motor Grader
34. Authorize Payment of Approved Bills
35. Appropriate and Transfer Sales Tax for February Operations (\$450,000)
36. Committee Reports
37. Financial Report
38. Operations
39. 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, Barry Stevens, William E. Ruffin, Ronny Bison, Bruce Taylor, Eric Garcie, Ricky “K-Wall” Sepulvado, Kenny Remedies, 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. Ronny Bison.

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. 9488

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

Item 14a – Mr. Rufus Sepulvado - Discuss Teater Road Extension

Item 32a – Consider Hiring Temporary Employee for Road District 15 (Ward 5)

Item 32b – Discuss Future Employment Requirements for the Road Department

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, Stevens, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

6. Adopt the Agenda

Resolution No. 9489

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

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, Stevens, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, 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. There were no public comments.

8. Senator Alan Seabaugh

There was no representative present from Senator Alan Seabaugh's office.

9. Representative Rodney Schamerhorn

There was no representative present from Representative Rodney Schamerhorn's office.

10. Representative Larry Bagley

There was no representative present from Representative Larry Bagley's office.

11. Mr. Gerald Long – Grant Consultation for Government Programs

Mr. Gerald Long addressed the Jury concerning his possible employment as a governmental consultant.

Resolution No. 9490

Motion by Bison and seconded by Byrd to table consideration of hiring Mr. Gerald Long as a governmental consultant for the Sabine Parish Police Jury until the March meeting.

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, Stevens, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

12. Mr. Scott Gowan- Report on the Office of Emergency Preparedness Activities During the Period October Through December 2023

Mr. Scott Gowan, Director of the Sabine Parish Office of Emergency Preparedness, reported on the activities and accomplishments of the Office of Emergency Preparedness during the last quarter of 2023.

The Sabine Parish Office of Emergency Preparedness has accepted two grants, one is a federal grant and the other is a state grant through the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness.

New lighting was installed in the warehouse and the following items were acquired:

- Water heater
- Air conditioner
- 35 foot long loading ramp to unload trailers
- 24 foot long low-boy trailer

The Sabine Parish of Office of Emergency Preparedness is in the process of acquiring Starlink internet service.

13. Mr. Stanley Cook, Deputy Coroner, - Report on the Coroner's Office Activities During the Period of January Through December 2023

Dr. Mark Holder, Coroner, and Mr. Stanley Cook, Deputy Coroner, reported on the activities and accomplishments of the Sabine Parish Coroner's Office during 2023.

Mr. Cook reported that the Coroner's Office received 578 calls of service during the year. The Office worked 271 deaths, committed 195 individuals, and worked 102 cremation investigations.

He noted that all investigators for the Coroner's Office are now certified homicide investigators.

14. Planning Commission

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

14a. Mr. Rufus Sepulvado - Discuss Teater Road Extension

Mr. Rufus Sepulvado addressed the Police Jury. He requested the Police Jury to adopt Teater Road Extension, approximately one-half mile in length, into the parish-wide road system.

Road superintendent Bobby Hughes explained that this road extension would have to meet established criteria to be considered for inclusion into the parish-wide road system. There was a

brief discussion concerning improvements that would have to be made for the road to be adopted and the procedure to be followed for adoption.

Resolution No. 9491

Motion by Ruffin and seconded by Stewart:

To refer adoption of Teater Road Extension into the parish-wide road system to the Road and Shop Committee for reconsideration.

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, Stevens, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

15. Mr. Nick Span- Update on Paish Fire Insurance Ratings

Mr. Nick Span, Fire Chief for the North Sabine Fire Protection District, reported that he had received correspondence from the Property Insurance Association of Louisiana dated February 1, 2024 notifying him that the Public Fire Protection Classification for the District had improved from a Class 6 (W.H.) to a Class 4 (W.H.) for residential and commercial properties. Mr. Span stressed that this rate improvement should directly result in a lowering of property insurance costs for the citizens of North Sabine Parish.

16. Accept the Minutes of the Previous Special Called Meeting Held January 8, 2024, the Regular Meeting Held January 19, 2024, and the Special Called Meeting Held February 14, 2024

Resolution No. 9492

Motion by Stewart and seconded by Garcie to accept the minutes of the previous special called meeting held January 8, 2024, the regular meeting held January 19, 2024, and the special called meeting held February 14, 2024.

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, Stevens, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

17. Adopt a Resolution Approving the Holding of an Election in Wards 3 and 4 Fire Protection District No. 1 of the Parish of Sabine, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, April 27, 2024, to Authorize the Levy of a Special Tax Therein

Resolution No. 9493

Motion by Stewart and seconded by Byrd to table consideration of a resolution approving the holding of an election in Wards 3 and 4 Fire Protection District No. 1 of the Parish of Sabine, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, April 27, 2024, to authorize the levy of a special tax therein.

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, Stevens, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

18. Approve Replacement of Telephone System and WiFi at the Sabine Parish Health Unit

Resolution No. 9494

On motion by Stewart and seconded by Taylor:

WHEREAS, the telephone system and WiFi at the Health Unit is old and obsolete, and

WHEREAS, a new telephone system and upgraded WiFi will improve the operation of the health unit; and

WHEREAS, the State of Louisiana will repair or replace the telephone system and the WiFi at no cost to the Sabine Parish Police Jury; and

WHEREAS, the Health Unit Building is owned by the Sabine Parish Police Jury and the State of Louisiana needs permission to perform work within the building

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sabine Parish Police Jury hereby authorizes and grants permission to the State of Louisiana, Office of Technology Services, to repair or install a new telephone system and WiFi at the Health Unit.

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, Stevens, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

19. Consider Granting Parish Supplemental Pay to the Registrar of Voters and the Chief Deputy
The Sabine Parish Registrar of Voters has requested supplemental pay in the amount of two dollars (\$2.00) per hour for himself and his deputy. This request was considered by the Finance Committee during its January 24, 2024 meeting. The Finance Committee recommends granting supplemental pay to the Registrar and his Deputy.

Resolution No. 9495

On motion by Ruffin and seconded by Remedies:

WHEREAS, the Registrar of Voters and his Deputy have not received a pay increase from the Parish for many years; and

WHEREAS, the Sabine Parish Police Jury has never given supplemental pay to the employees of the Registrar of Voter's office; and

WHEREAS, supplemental pay is commonly paid by other parishes to employees of the Registrar of Voter's office; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee has reviewed the request for supplemental pay and recommends annual supplemental pay of four thousand one hundred and sixty dollars (\$4,160.00) for both the Registrar of Voters and the Deputy Registrar of Voters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that a two dollar (\$2.00) per hour (\$4,160.00 annually) supplemental pay be granted to both the Registrar of Voters and the Deputy Registrar of Voters; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the supplemental payment to the Registrar of Voter's employees be effective March 1 of 2024.

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, Stevens, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

20. Appoint an Ex Officio Member to the Sabine Parish Library Board

The Sabine Parish Police Jury has received correspondence dated January 6, 2024 from the Sabine Parish Library requesting the appointment of an Ex Officio member to the Sabine Parish Library Board.

Resolution No. 9496

On motion by Ruffin and seconded by Stewart to appoint Mr. Barry Stevens as the Ex Officio member to the Sabine Parish Library Board.

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, Stevens, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

21. Discuss Health Insurance Coverage for Police Jurors

This item was tabled during the January 19, 2024 meeting. Mr. Taylor suggested that a vote be taken.

Resolution No. 9497

On motion by Ruffin and second by Remedies that the Sabine Parish Police Jury retain the current policy to allow police jurors to participate in the group health insurance plan offered to Police Jury employees.

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

Yeas: 7 - Stevens, Ruffin, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 2 – Stewart and Taylor

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

22. Discuss Mileage Reimbursements for Police Jurors

This item was tabled during the January 19, 2024 meeting. During a brief discussion of the mileage reimbursements given to police jurors, it was stressed that reimbursements are provided only for travel directly related to police jury business such as attending jury meetings, committee meetings (only for jurors appointed as committee members), conventions and conferences, and meetings of auxiliary agencies upon which jurors are appointed to serve. Jurors are not paid mileage for driving to inspect parish roads.

23. Adopt Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire

Resolution No. 9498

On motion by Ruffin and seconded by Byrd:

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire is a required part of the annual financial audit of the Sabine Parish Police Jury and it is required to be presented to and adopted by the Police Jury in an open meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire for the 2023 financial audit as prepared by the President and the Secretary Treasurer is hereby adopted.

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, Stevens, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

24. Review Bids for Sale of Surplus Property Located on Turtle Beach Road

On January 31, 2024 the Sabine Parish Police Jury advertised a 1.986+- acre parcel being a part of Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (SE/4 of SW/4) of Section 1, Township 5 North, Range 13 West, L.M. Sabine Parish, Louisiana that had been declared surplus property. Bids were accepted until 10:00 a.m. on February 16, 2024.

Resolution No. 9499

On motion by Byrd and seconded by Stewart:

WHEREAS, the following property has been declared surplus by the Sabine Parish Police Jury:

Beginning at the Northwest Corner of SE ¼ of the SW ¼ of said Section 1; thence North 88°33'00" East 752.12 feet; thence South 01°27'00" East 393.01 feet to the True Point of Beginning; thence South 51°29'11" East 152.95 feet; South 22°10'02" West 395.64 feet; thence North 63°14'23" West 270.06 feet; thence North 38°31'34" East 434.66 feet to the True Point of Beginning and containing 1.986 acres, more or less; and

WHEREAS, bids for the sale of this property were accepted until 10:00 a.m. on February 16, 2024; and

WHEREAS one bid was received as follows:

Daniel Hanson - \$6,147.00; and

WHEREAS, the minimum bid for the property is \$3,972.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the high bid from Mr. Daniel Hanson in the amount of \$6,147.00 be accepted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President and the Secretary Treasurer are hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to sign and otherwise execute any and all documents necessary to convey ownership of this property.

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, Stevens, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

25. Review Bids for Sale of Surplus Property Located South of Arnold Dowden Road

On January 31, 2024, the Sabine Parish Police Jury advertised a 1.348 +- acre parcel being a part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 35, Township 5 North Range 10 West that had been declared surplus property. Bids were accepted until 10:00 a.m. on February 16, 2024.

No bids were received for this property.

26. Accept Donation of Dump Truck from the Town of Many

Resolution No. 9500

On motion by Ruffin and seconded by Stevens:

WHEREAS, on January 23, 2024 the Town of Many, Louisiana adopted Resolution No. 3 of 2024 donating a 2002 International dump truck (Vin # 1HTSCABN82H507606) to the Sabine Parish Police Jury.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sabine Parish Police Jury does hereby accept the donation of the 2002 International dump truck; 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 necessary to convey ownership of this dump truck.

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, Stevens, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

27. Authorize Advertising Bid for Material Hauling Services – 24-Yard Dump Truck

The Sabine Parish Police Jury desires to utilize dump trucks with 24-yard trailers to transport materials to various locations within the parish. On October 11, 2023, the Police Jury advertised for bids to haul materials using a 24-yard belly dump trailer. Sealed bids were opened at 10:00 a.m. on November 3, 2023. No bids for this service were received. The Jury desires to re-bid this service to use 24-yard end dump or belly dump trailers.

Resolution No.9501

On motion by Stevens and seconded by Stewart to authorize advertising for materials hauling using 24-yard end dump or belly dump trailers.

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, Stevens, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

28. Approve Amending the 2024 Budget for Ward 4, Road District 17 and Dedicating \$1,500,000 to Resurface Roads Damaged by Energy Transfer

Road District 17, Ward 4, desires to amend its 2024 Budget to segregate \$1,500,000 for the purpose of resurfacing roads damaged by Energy Transfer and to increase the hot mix appropriation by \$200,000.

Resolution No. 9502

On motion by Ruffin and seconded by Stevens:

WHEREAS, Road District 17, Ward 4, desires to segregate expenditures related to resurfacing roads damaged by Energy Transfer; and

WHEREAS, Road District 17, Ward 4, desires to appropriate \$200,000 for hot mix for other road projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Secretary Treasurer Weatherford is hereby directed to add an expense account titled “Hot Mix-Road Damage” and appropriate \$1,500,000 to that line item; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that \$200,000 be appropriated to the line item “Hot Mix” to be used for surfacing other roads.

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, Stevens, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

29. Ratify Purchase of a Caterpillar Mini- Excavator for Ward 4 Through State Contract
On January 12, 2024, Road District 17, Ward 4, purchased a Caterpillar Model 306 Mini Hydraulic Excavator under State Contract costing \$97,666.20. This purchase was included in the 2024 budget for Road District 17, Ward 4.

Resolution No. 9503

On motion by Bison and seconded by Taylor:

WHEREAS, the purchase of a new mini hydraulic excavator was included in the 2024 budget for Road District 17, Ward 4; and

WHEREAS, the mini hydraulic excavator was available for purchase through State Contract; and

WHEREAS, the Sabine Parish Police Jury purchased the excavator through said State Contract at a cost of \$97,666.20.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the purchase of the Caterpillar Model 306 Mini Hydraulic Excavator under State Contract for Road District 17 (Ward 4) is hereby ratified.

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, Stevens, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

30. Consider Adopting a Twenty (20) Miles Per Hour Speed Limit on Hardy Road Located in Ward 1, Road District 18

The Sabine Parish Police Jury desires to adopt a twenty (20) miles per hour speed limit on Hardy Road. The first step in this process is introducing an ordinance for this purpose. Secretary Treasurer Weatherford then read the proposed ordinance aloud.

ORDINANCE 1 of 2024

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A TWENTY (20) MILES PER HOUR SPEED LIMIT ON HARDY ROAD IN ROAD DISTRICT 18 (WARD 1)

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 Hardy Road, located in Road District 18 (Ward 1), 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 Hardy Road in Road District 18 (Ward 1)

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, that the maximum speed limit for any vehicle travelling on Hardy Road in Road District 18 (Ward 1) shall be twenty (20) miles per hour.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall be in effect March 31, 2024, 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.

31. Consider Adopting Crepe Myrtle Road (Located in Ward 5, Road District 15) into the Parish Road System

The Road and Shop Committee considered adopting Crepe Myrtle Road into the parish road system during its February 7, 2024 meeting. The committee recommended adopting Crepe Myrtle Road into the road system.

Resolution No. 9504

Motion by Ruffin and seconded by Stewart to adopt Crepe Myrtle Road , 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, Stevens, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

32. Consider Hiring a Temporary Enforcement Deputy

Resolution No. 9505

WHEREAS, the Sabine Parish Police Jury has need of an enforcement officer, and

WHEREAS, it is extremely difficult to find a qualified applicant for this position.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Road Superintendent Hughes is hereby authorized to hire an off-duty deputy sheriff as a temporary enforcement officer, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the rate of pay for the temporary enforcement officer shall be eighteen dollars (\$18.00) per hour, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the temporary enforcement officer will not participate in the STEP Plan or any other employee benefits offered to full-time employees.

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, Stevens, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

32a. Consider Hiring Temporary Employee for Road District 15 (Ward 5)

Resolution No. 9506

On motion by Ruffin and seconded by Bison:

WHEREAS, an equipment operator working in Road District 15, Ward 5, is expected to not be available for work for an extended period of time due to surgery, and

WHEREAS, Road District 15, Ward 5, desires to maintain a fully staffed road crew while the equipment operator is off- duty.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Road Superintendent Bobby Hughes is hereby authorized to hire a temporary equipment operator to fill the temporary vacancy, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the temporary equipment operator will be hired at the existing base rate of pay for a road department equipment operator, \$14.00 per hour for unskilled and \$16.00 per hour for skilled operator, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the temporary equipment operator will not participate in the STEP PLAN or any other employee benefits normally offered to full-time employees.

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, Stevens, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

32b. Discuss Future Employment Requirements for the Road Department

There was a general discussion about the future employment needs of the Road Department and the possibility of hiring part-time employees.

No action was taken.

33. Approve Repairs to Parish wide Motor Grader

The Road and Shop Committee met February 7, 2024 and considered repairing a parish-wide motor grader to be kept as a spare. It is estimated that the repair costs will be approximately \$37,000. The Road and Shop Committee recommends repairing the motor grader.

Resolution No. 9507

On motion by Bison and seconded by Byrd to authorize the repair of the parish-wide motor grader to be maintained as a spare.

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, Stevens, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

34. Authorize Payment of Approved Bills

Resolution No. 9508

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, Stevens, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

35. Appropriate and Transfer Sales Tax for February Operations (\$450,000)

Resolution No. 9509

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 February 2024 operations.

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

Yeas: 9 - Stewart, Stevens, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

36. Committee Reports

There were no committee reports.

37. Financial Report

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

He reported cash of \$39,072,287.53 was available for the following purposes:

Roads - \$ 9,250,443.09

Broadband - \$ 700,000.00

Landfill - \$ 19,311,777.01

Health Unit - \$ 2,179,539.05

General - \$ 7,182,975.55
Payroll - \$ 204,875.24
Industrial Development - \$ 92,812.34
Opioid Settlement - \$149,865.25

38. Operations

No items were discussed under “Operations”.

39. Adjournment

Resolution No. 9510

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, Stevens, Ruffin, Taylor, Bison, Garcie, Sepulvado, Remedies, 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