

March 20, 2024

On Wednesday, March 20, 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. Planning Commission
12. Dr. Sarah Ebarb - Northwest Louisiana Human Services District
13. Recognize the Zwolle High School Men's Basketball Team for 17th State Championship
14. Accept the Minutes of the Previous Regular Meeting Held February 21, 2024
15. Approve a Resolution Approving the Issuance, Sale, and Delivery of a Taxable Excess Revenue Bond of Sabine Parish Waterworks District No. 1, State of Louisiana; and Providing for Other Matters in Connection Therewith
16. Consider Adopting a Twenty (20) Miles Per Hour Speed Limit on Hardy Road Located in Ward 1, Road District 18
17. Introduce an Ordinance Authorizing a Claim of Ownership of Adjudicated Property to the Sabine Parish Police Jury Pursuant to LA. R.S. 47:2236, Et Seq.: and Further Providing with Respect Thereto
18. Consider a Resolution Approving a Sales and Use Tax Payment in Lieu of Tax Agreement in Accordance with Amended Term Sheet; Requesting the Northwest Louisiana Finance Authority Execute an Amended Term Sheet and Execute an Amended Payment in Lieu of Tax Agreement in Conformity Therewith; and Providing for Other Matters with Respect Thereto
19. Approve Annual Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Sabine Parish Dixie Youth
20. Approve Requesting Resumes for Commissioner for the Ebarb Water System
- 20a. Approve Change Order for Magnolia Steel Equipment Building
21. Authorize Payment of Approved Bills
22. Appropriate and Transfer Sales Tax for March Operations (\$450,000)
23. Committee Reports
24. Operations
25. 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 John 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. Kenny John Remedies.

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. 9511

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

Item 20a – Approve Change Order for Magnolia Steel Equipment Building

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. 9512

Motion by Ruffin 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, 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

No representative from Senator Alan Seabaugh's office was present at the meeting.

9. Representative Rodney Schamerhorn

No representative from Representative Rodney Schamerhorn's office was present at the meeting.

10. Representative Larry Bagley

No representative from Representative Larry Bagley's office was present at the meeting.

11. Planning Commission

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

12. Dr. Sarah Ebarb - Northwest Louisiana Human Services District

Dr. Sarah Ebarb presented a quarterly report on the activities of the Northwest Louisiana Human Services District. The District holds monthly meetings in Shreveport, Louisiana and provides services to individuals residing in Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, DeSoto, Natchitoches, Red River, Sabine and Webster Parishes. The District's Board of Directors consists of representatives from each of the parishes making up the District and three representatives appointed by the governor.

Dr. Ebarb noted that the District oversees the Behavioral Health Clinic located in Many, Louisiana. The District Court and the parish schools utilize services provided by the Clinic which is vital to Sabine Parish.

The goal of the Clinic is to provide service to the uninsured. Eighty percent (80%) of patients are uninsured or are covered by Medicaid.

13. Recognize the Zwolle High School Men's Basketball Team for 17th State Championship

Resolution No. 9513

A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING THE ZWOLLE HIGH SCHOOL MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 17TH STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Motion by Stewart and seconded by Garcie:

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

WHEREAS, the Zwolle High School Men's Basketball Team 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 Zwolle High School Men's Basketball Teams have continuously exhibited the highest level of sportsmanship and athletic skill, and

WHEREAS, the Zwolle High School Men's Basketball Team won the 2024 state championship, the seventeenth (17th) for the team.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sabine Parish Police Jury does hereby congratulate and commend the Zwolle High School Men's Basketball Team, their coaches, parents, and supporters for winning the 2024 state championship.

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

14. Accept the Minutes of the Previous Regular Meeting Held February 21, 2024

Resolution No. 9514

Motion by Ruffin and seconded by Stewart to accept the minutes of the previous regular meeting held February 21, 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

15. Approve a Resolution Approving the Issuance, Sale, and Delivery of a Taxable Excess Revenue Bond of Sabine Parish Waterworks District No. 1, State of Louisiana; and Providing for Other Matters in Connection Therewith

Resolution No. 9515

The following resolution was offered by Ruffin and seconded by Bison:

RESOLUTION

A resolution approving the issuance, sale and delivery of a Taxable Excess Revenue Bond of Sabine Parish Waterworks District No. 1, State of Louisiana; and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

WHEREAS, the Board of Waterworks Commissioners of Sabine Parish Waterworks District No. 1, State of Louisiana (the "Board"), acting as the governing authority of Sabine Parish Waterworks District No. 1, State of Louisiana (the "Issuer"), by resolution adopted by the Board on March 5, 2024, has authorized the issuance of a not exceeding \$1,750,000 Taxable Excess Revenue Bond of the Issuer (the "Bond"), for the purpose of (i) paying costs of constructing and acquiring improvements, extensions, renovations and replacements to the drinking water system (the "System"), including equipment, fixtures and accessories therefor, a work of public improvement for the Issuer (the "Project"), and (ii) paying costs of issuance of the Bond, pursuant to and under the authority of R.S. 39:526 and the other applicable provisions of Part II of Chapter 4 of Subtitle II of Title 39 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, and other constitutional and statutory authority, said Bond to be secured by the income and revenues derived or to be derived from the operation of the System; and

WHEREAS, the Issuer has requested this Police Jury approve the issuance, sale and delivery of the Bond; and

WHEREAS, as required by Article VI, Section 15 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974, it is now the wish of this Police Jury to approve the issuance of the Bond;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Police Jury of the Parish of Sabine, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the Parish of Sabine, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), that:

SECTION 1. In compliance with the provisions of Article VI, Section 15 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974, and in accordance with the request of the Board of Waterworks Commissioners of the Issuer, this Police Jury hereby approves the issuance and sale of a not exceeding \$1,750,000 Taxable Excess Revenue Bond of Sabine Parish Waterworks District No. 1, State of Louisiana, said Bond to be issued under the authority, for the purposes, and to be payable from the sources stated in the preamble hereto. The Bond shall mature not later than ten (10) years from the date thereof and will be non-interest bearing. The principal of the Bond shall be subject to complete forgiveness.

SECTION 2. Neither the Parish of Sabine nor this Police Jury shall be liable in any manner for the payment of the Bond.

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

<u>Member</u>	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>
Thomas Stewart	X			
Barry Stevens	X			
Bruce Taylor	X			
William E. Ruffin	X			
Ronald Bison	X			
Eric Garcie	X			
Ricky Sepulvado	X			
Kenny John Remedies	X			
Randy Byrd				X

And the resolution was declared adopted on this, the 20th day of March, 2024.

/s/ William E. Weatherford

/s/ Ricky L. Sepulvado

William E. Weatherford
Secretary-Treasurer

Ricky L. Sepulvado
President

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

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.

The above ordinance was offered by Stewart and seconded by Taylor and adopted by the following yeas and nays vote:

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

Thereupon, the President declared this ordinance adopted on this the 20th day of March 2024, at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Police Jury of the Parish of Sabine.

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

s/Ricky L. Sepulvado
Ricky L. Sepulvado
President

17. Introduce an Ordinance Authorizing a Claim of Ownership of Adjudicated Property to the Sabine Parish Police Jury Pursuant to LA. R.S. 47:2236, Et Seq.: and Further Providing with Respect Thereto

The Secretary Treasurer read the following proposed ordinance aloud.

ORDINANCE NO. 2 of 2024

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A CLAIM OF OWNERSHIP OF ADJUDICATED PROPERTY TO THE SABINE PARISH POLICE JURY PURSUANT TO LA. R.S. 47:2236, ET SEQ.; AND FURTHER PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO:

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 47:2236 authorizes the claim of full ownership of adjudicated properties for purposes allowed by the Louisiana Constitution;

WHEREAS, both the three (3) year period for redemption provided by Art. 7, §25 of the Louisiana Constitution on the adjudicated property referenced herein and the five (5) year redemption period

established by Parish Ordinance No. 1 of 2017 have elapsed, and the owner of record has failed to redeem the adjudicated property; and

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 47:2236 authorizes the political subdivision to claim full ownership of said property;

WHEREAS, the Sabine Parish Police Jury (“SPPJ”) has a desire to claim full ownership of the following property described as Parcel 9104000100: Lots 1-2 of Block 29 of Town of Converse-Sec 10-9-13, Sabine Parish, LA that has long been abandoned and adjudicated to the Sabine Parish Police Jury for the purpose of use thereon:

WHEREAS, the Sabine Parish Police Jury finds that such acquisition is in the public interest and in accordance with applicable law;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED that the Sabine Parish Police Jury does hereby declare its intent to acquire full ownership interest of the adjudicated property identified above upon completion of the procedures for adjudicated property pursuant to La. R.S. 47:2236, *et seq.*;

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the President of the Sabine Parish Police Jury be, and hereby is authorized to execute such documents as are reasonable and necessary to complete the acquisition as described above.

18. Consider a Resolution Approving a Sales and Use Tax Payment in Lieu of Tax Agreement in Accordance with Amended Term Sheet; Requesting the Northwest Louisiana Finance Authority Execute an Amended Term Sheet and Execute an Amended Payment in Lieu of Tax Agreement in Conformity Therewith; and Providing for Other Matters with Respect Thereto

Resolution No. 9516

On motion by Stewart and seconded by Taylor to table Consideration of a Resolution Approving a Sales and Use Tax Payment in Lieu of Tax Agreement in Accordance with Amended Term Sheet; Requesting the Northwest Louisiana Finance Authority Execute an Amended Term Sheet and Execute an Amended Payment in Lieu of Tax Agreement in Conformity Therewith; and Providing for Other Matters with Respect Thereto until the April 17, 2024 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

19. Approve Annual Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Sabine Parish Dixie Youth

Every year, the Sabine Parish Police Jury provides the Sabine Parish Dixie Youth funds which are split equally between the five municipalities that participate in the program. This amount of funding is included in the 2024 Police Jury Budget.

Resolution No. 9517

Motion by Ruffin and seconded by Remedies to authorize the Police Jury President to execute a cooperative endeavor agreement with the Sabine Parish Dixie Youth to provide \$7,000 in funding for the program.

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. Approve Requesting Resumes for Commissioner for the Ebarb Water System

A Vacancy as commissioner for the Ebarb Water System has become available due to the death of Mr. P.M Woods. The Jury has been asked to authorize the request of resumes from applicants interested in becoming a commissioner for the Ebarb Water System.

Resolution No. 9518

On motion by Remedies and seconded by Garcie:

WHEREAS, a vacancy for a commissioner on the Ebarb Water System has occurred due to the death of Mr. P. M. Woods

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sabine Parish Police Jury will advertise for resumes from individuals interested in serving as a commissioner for a period of three weeks, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all resumes will be forwarded to the administration office of the Police Jury located at 400 S. Capitol Street, Room 101, Many, Louisiana, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all resumes received by the Police Jury will be forwarded to the Ebarb Water System for review and selection of a recommended commissioner, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the recommended commissioner shall be considered and approved by the Police Jury.

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

20a. Approve Change Order for Magnolia Steel Equipment Building

Resolution No. 9519

Motion by Stewart and seconded by Ruffin:

WHEREAS the Sabine Parish Police Jury desires to add a 20' x 40' extension at the east end of the equipment shed being constructed by Magnolia Steel of Natchitoches, Inc. with three sides enclosed and the east end side open; and

WHEREAS, this addition is within the scope of the original bid for the equipment shed, has been negotiated to the public's best interest, and the total cost of the proposed shed and extension is below the public works limit of \$250,000;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the change order for the addition of the 20' x 40' extension, in the amount of \$18,500, be accepted and that Magnolia Steel of Natchitoches, Inc. be notified to begin work as soon as possible.

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. Authorize Payment of Approved Bills

Resolution No. 9520

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

22. Appropriate and Transfer Sales Tax for March Operations (\$450,000)

Resolution No. 9521

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

23. Committee Reports

There were no committee reports.

24. Operations

Road Superintendent Bobby Hughes presented the Road Department's annual report to the jurors. He reported that parish employees laid 28.8 miles of asphalt during 2023. Over \$2,400,000 was collected for road damage settlements. During 2023, the Road Department processed 604 work orders for repairs to parish roads.

25. Adjournment

Resolution No. 9522

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