

May 19, 2021

On Wednesday May 19, 2021, 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. Accept the Minutes of the Previous Regular Meeting Held April 21, 2021
9. Planning Commission
10. Mr. Mike Duffy – Enterprise Fleet Management
11. Mr. Edward Anthony – Region IV Watershed Initiative
12. Appoint Mr. David Davis as Commissioner for Sabine Parish Water District No. 1 to Complete the Term of Benny Funderburk
13. Re-appoint Pricilla Wolf and Lewis McBryde as Commissioners for the Sabine Parish Communications District (E-911)
14. Consider Appointing Mr. Blake Byles as a Commissioner for the Sabine Parish Communications District (E-911)
15. Appoint the Sabine Index as the Official Journal for Sabine Parish
16. Consider an Ordinance Amendment to Ordinance 1 of 2018 Which Provides the Rules and Regulations for Roads, Bridges, Culverts, and Ditches in Sabine Parish, Louisiana
17. Consider an Ordinance Reducing the Speed Limit on Weathy Lane to Twenty (20) Miles Per Hour
- 17a. Consider Assistance to Wards Heavily Damaged by Rain (Ward 1, Ward 2, and Ward 3)
18. Authorize Payment of Approved Bills
19. Appropriate and Transfer Sales Tax for May Operations (\$250,000)
20. Committee Reports
21. Operations
22. Adjournment

1. Call to Order

President Mike McCormic called the meeting to order.

2. Roll Call

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

The following juror arrived late: “Bo” Stewart

3. Prayer

Prayer was led by Mr. William E. Ruffin.

4. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Stephen Steinke.

Mr. “Bo” Stewart joined the meeting.

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. There were no comments.

Resolution No. 8789

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

Item 17a. Consider Assistance to Wards Heavily Damaged by Rain (Ward 1, Ward 2, and Ward 3)

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

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

#### 6. Adopt the Agenda

Resolution No. 8790

Motion by Stewart and seconded by Davidson 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, Davidson, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

#### 7. Public Comments

Police Jury President, Mike McCormic, allowed a period of public comment on any item on the agenda. Mr. McCormic advised everyone that they would be allowed to comment later during the meeting on particular agenda items, if they desire.

Joy Vallery commented on the condition of Laura Lane. She reported that the road is nearly impassable. She expressed concern for individuals living on the road that might need emergency medical care or fire protection services.

Joseph Hendon addressed the police jury and stressed the need to clean and rehabilitate the road ditches. Mr. Hendon suggested hiring additional employees to work on the parish ditches. He also stressed the need for the parish to enforce ordinances pertaining to road damage caused by large trucks.

Mr. Edward Hebert addressed the turnover of parish employees. He noted that the lack of trained employees operating road equipment contributes to the poor condition of the roads. He stated that the parish is always in a training mode with employees.

Mr. Stewart suggested leasing two bulldozers to properly clean and form the ditches along the parish roads.

#### 8. Accept the Minutes of the Previous Regular Meeting Held April 21, 2021

All police jurors have previously been provided a written copy of the minutes of the regular meeting held April 21, 2021.

Resolution No. 8791

Motion by Sepulvado and seconded by Stewart to accept the minutes of the regular meeting held April 21, 2021.

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

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

9. Planning Commission

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

10. Mr. Mike Duffy – Enterprise Fleet Management

Mr. Mike Duffy with Enterprise Fleet Management gave a presentation to the Police Jury showing the advantages of leasing the Jury's light duty fleet. The objective of the proposed lease is to free Police Jury funds while providing a safer and more reliable fleet of trucks. Sixty-four per cent (64%) of the Police Jury's light duty fleet is eight (8) years old or older. This results in higher maintenance costs and poorer fuel economy.

The proposed lease is expected to save \$85,000 in the first year and a total of approximately \$400,000 over a four-year period. Secretary Treasurer Weatherford recommended disposing of the oldest light duty vehicles and replacing them with leased vehicles to test the impact of the lease on fuel and maintenance costs.

Mr. Weatherford suggested tabling consideration of the proposed lease until the next meeting of the Police Jury.

Resolution No. 8792

Motion by Stewart and seconded by Ebarb to table consideration of a lease of light duty vehicles through Enterprise Fleet Management until the June 16<sup>th</sup> regular meeting.

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

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

11. Mr. Edward Anthony – Region IV Watershed Initiative

Mr. Edward Anthony addressed the Police Jury concerning the Louisiana Watershed Initiative, Region IV. The Louisiana Watershed Initiative was formed to help manage future flood risk through watershed-based solutions. The state of Louisiana is divided into eight watershed regions. Sabine Parish is in Region I and Region IV.

The challenge of the Louisiana Watershed Initiative is to get citizens thinking about flooding as a regional event. The actions of one community can impact entire ecosystems. The Louisiana Watershed Initiative is striving to fundamentally change how Louisiana addresses flood risk reduction.

One billion, two hundred million dollars has been allocated by the Federal government for watershed-based floodplain management in Louisiana. The mission of the Louisiana Watershed Initiative is to reduce flood risk, improve floodplain management, and maximize the natural and beneficial functions of floodplains.

Mr. Anthony encouraged the Police Jury to submit applications for projects in both Region I and Region IV.

12. Appoint Mr. David Davis as Commissioner for Sabine Parish Water District No. 1 to Complete the Term of Benny Funderburk

Mr. Benny Funderburk resigned as a commissioner of the Sabine Parish Water District No. 1 effective March 22, 2021. The Sabine Parish Water District No. 1 has requested the Police Jury to appoint Mr. David Davis as commissioner to complete Mr. Funderburk's remaining term which will expire on August 19, 2024.

Resolution No. 8793

Motion by Sepulvado and seconded by Davidson:

WHEREAS, Mr. Benny Funderburk resigned as a commissioner of the Sabine Parish Water District No. 1 effective March 22, 2021.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Mr. David Davis be appointed as a commissioner of the Sabine Parish Water District No. 1 to serve for the remainder of Mr. Benny Funderburk's term which expires on August 19, 2024.

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

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 1 - Byrd

Absent: 0

13. Re-appoint Pricilla Wolf and Lewis McBryde as Commissioners for the Sabine Parish Communications District (E-911)

The appointments of Pricilla Wolf and Lewis McBryde as Commissioners for the Sabine Parish Communications District (E-911) will expire on June 18, 2021. The Communications District has requested the Police Jury to reappoint them as commissioners for four-year terms expiring June 18, 2025.

Resolution No. 8794

Motion by Ruffin and seconded by Steinke:

WHEREAS, the appointments of Pricilla Wolf and Lewis McBryde as Commissioners for the Sabine Parish Communications District (E-911) will expire on June 18, 2021.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Pricilla Wolf and Lewis McBryde are hereby reappointed as Commissioners for the Sabine Parish Communications District (E-911) for a four-year term ending June 18, 2025.

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

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

14. Consider Appointing Mr. Blake Byles as a Commissioner for the Sabine Parish Communications District (E-911)

Mr. Valmore Byles, a commissioner for the Sabine Parish Communications District (E-911) since 2010, recently passed away. The District has requested that the Police Jury appoint Mr. Blake Byles to a four-year term to replace Mr. Valmore Byles.

Resolution No. 8795

Motion by Stewart and seconded by Byrd:

WHEREAS, Mr. Valmore Byles, a commissioner for the Sabine Parish Communications District (E-911), recently passed away.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Mr. Blake Byles is hereby appointed as a Commissioner for the Sabine Parish Communications District (E-911) for a four-year term ending June 18, 2025.

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

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

**15. Appoint the Sabine Index as the Official Journal for Sabine Parish**

The Police Jury has received a letter from the Louisiana Secretary of State requesting that the official journal of the Parish be appointed by June 30, 2021.

Resolution No. 8796

Motion by Sepulvado and seconded by Garcie to appoint the Sabine Index as the official journal of the Sabine Parish Police Jury for the period beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022.

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

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

**16. Consider an Ordinance Amendment to Ordinance 1 of 2018 Which Provides the Rules and Regulations for Roads, Bridges, Culverts, and Ditches in Sabine Parish, Louisiana**

**ORDINANCE 6 of 2021**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE 1 OF 2018 WHICH PROVIDES THE RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR ROADS, BRIDGES, CULVERTS, AND DITCHES IN SABINE PARISH, LOUISIANA**

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Police Jury of Sabine Parish, Louisiana in regular and legal session convened, a quorum being present and voting, that the following change is made to Ordinance 1 of 2018:

Section (i) relative to the violation of permit requirements for hauling loads over parish roads which is as follows:

Any violation of the permit requirements shall be a misdemeanor and punishable by a fine of up to \$500.00 and 30 days in the parish jail. Fines, penalties, and punishments are the responsibility of the responsible party (permit holder).

is deleted.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall be in effect May 19, 2021 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 Ebarb was then submitted to an official vote and the vote thereupon was recorded as follows to wit:

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

Thereupon, the President declared this ordinance adopted on this the 19<sup>th</sup> day of May 2021, at the regular meeting of the Police Jury of the Parish of Sabine.

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

s/Richard M. McCormic  
Richard M. McCormic  
President

17. Consider an Ordinance Reducing the Speed Limit on Weathy Lane to Twenty (20) Miles Per Hour

### **ORDINANCE 7 of 2021**

#### **AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE SPEED LIMIT FOR WEATHY 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 Weathy Lane 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 Weathy Lane in Road District 15 (Ward 5).

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

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall be in effect June 1, 2021 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 Sepulvado 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, Davidson, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

Thereupon, the President declared this ordinance adopted on this the 19<sup>th</sup> day of May 2021, at the regular meeting of the Police Jury of the Parish of Sabine.

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

s/Richard M. McCormic  
Richard M. McCormic  
President

17a. Consider Assistance to Wards Heavily Damaged by Rain (Ward 1, Ward 2, and Ward 3)

Mr. Sepulvado reported that several road districts in the southern part of the parish have been heavily damaged by the recent rains and are in desperate need of financial aid and assistance with equipment and labor. He noted that the road employees are parish-wide employees who can be rotated from districts that have not been as badly impacted. He also reminded the Jury that there is a cooperative endeavor agreement between the road districts that allows equipment owned by less impacted districts to be used in the hard-hit areas.

Mr. Sepulvado stated that he felt it was the responsibility of the entire parish to assist Ward1 (Road District 18), Ward 2 (Road District 16), and Ward 3 (Road District 9) to recover from this disaster.

Resolution No. 8797

Motion by Sepulvado and seconded by Ebarb:

WHEREAS, Ward1 (Road District 18), Ward 2 (Road District 16), and Ward 3 (Road District 9) have sustained heavy damage to their roads because of recent rains and are in desperate need of financial aid and assistance with equipment and labor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that \$50,000 each be transferred from the General Fund to Ward1 (Road District 18), Ward 2 (Road District 16), and Ward 3 (Road District 9), \$150,000 in total, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Road Superintendent Hughes is hereby directed to rotate available employees and equipment from other road districts to the said road districts to assist in the repair of their damaged roads.

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

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

18. Authorize Payment of Approved Bills

Resolution No. 8798

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

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

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

19. Appropriate and Transfer Sales Tax for May Operations (\$250,000)

Resolution No. 8799

Motion by Sepulvado and seconded by Ruffin to appropriate and transfer \$250,000.00 from the Sales Tax Fund to the Parish-wide Transportation Fund for May 2021 operations.

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

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

20. Committee Reports

Solid Waste Committee:

The Solid Waste Committee met May 18, 2021. The Solid Waste Committee recommended authorizing the Secretary Treasurer to publish a Request for Proposals for the lease of a Caterpillar D6 dozer, or an equivalent, for the solid waste landfill.

Resolution No. 8800

Motion by Stewart and seconded by Ruffin to authorize the Secretary Treasurer to prepare and publish a Request for Proposals for the lease of a Caterpillar D6 dozer, or an equivalent, for the solid waste landfill for a minimum term of thirty-six (36) months and an annual usage of at least 2500 hours with preventative maintenance and normal repairs the responsibility of the lessor.

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

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

21. Operations

Road Superintendent Bobby Hughes presented a general discussion of the existing conditions of the roads in the parish. He discussed steps the Jury could take to improve the roads.

President McCormic then read a declaration of emergency for the parish because of the severe rainfall.

22. Adjournment

Resolution No. 8801

Motion by Stewart and seconded by Ruffin to adjourn.

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



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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

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

s/Richard M. McCormic  
Richard M. McCormic  
President