

May 18, 2022

On Wednesday, May 18, 2022, 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. Planning Commission
- 9a. Discuss Cattle Gaps on Public Roads
- 9b. Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Town of Many
10. Sabine Parish EMS Advisory Board
11. Accept the Minutes of the Previous Special Called Meeting Held January 28, 2022, the Regular Meeting Held February 16, 2022, the Special Called Meeting Held March 8, 2022, the Regular Meeting Held March 16, 2022, and the Regular Meeting Held April 20, 2022.
12. Announce Intent to Order and Call Special Elections to be Held in (i) the Parish of Sabine, State of Louisiana for the Library and the Health Unit and (ii) Road District No. 4, Ward 7 of Sabine Parish, Louisiana.
13. Appoint Secretary Treasurer for South Toledo Bend Water District- Mr. Malcolm Franks
14. Consider Adding Juneteenth as a Legal Holiday for the Police Jury
15. Consider an Ordinance to Amend Ordinance 11 of 2021
16. Appoint the Sabine Index as the Official Journal of the Police Jury
17. Consider Resigning as Local Grant Recipient for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Program
18. Consider a Resolution to Abandon Noel Lane
19. Authorize Payment of Approved Bills
20. Appropriate and Transfer Sales Tax for May Operations (\$350,000)
21. Committee Reports
22. Operations
23. 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, “Jeff” Davidson, 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. Mike McCormic.

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. 9019

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

Item 9a - Discuss Cattle Gaps on Public Roads

Item 9b - Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Town of Many

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. 9020

Motion by Ruffin and seconded by McCormic 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, Ricky L. Sepulvado, allowed a period of public comment on any item on the agenda. Mr. Sepulvado advised everyone that they would be allowed to comment later during the meeting on particular agenda items, if they desire. There were no public comments at this time.

#### 8. Representative Rodney Schamerhorn

State Representative Rodney Schamerhorn was not present.

#### 9. Planning Commission

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

#### 9a. Discuss Cattle Gaps on Public Roads

Road Superintendent Bobby Hughes addressed the Police Jury concerning cattle gaps existing on parish roads. He requested the Jury to clarify whether cattle gaps are allowed on parish roads.

President Sepulvado noted that the Road and Shop Committee had considered cattle gaps during its February 14, 2022 meeting and had voted to recommend that the Jury adopt an ordinance to remove all cattle gaps on parish roads.

President Sepulvado instructed Secretary Treasurer Weatherford to draft an ordinance prohibiting cattle gaps on parish roads. This draft ordinance will be considered by the Jury during the June 15, 2022 meeting.

#### 9b. Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Town of Many

Road Superintendent Hughes informed the Police Jury of the Town of Many's request for assistance from the Police Jury to cut high grass and weeds within the Town limits because of broken equipment.

Resolution No. 9021

Motion by Steinke and seconded by Ebarb:

WHEREAS the Town of Many is currently unable to mow right of ways within the Town limits because of broken equipment, and

WHEREAS high grass and weeds endanger the health and welfare of parish residents because of increased pests and vermin,

NOW BE IT RESOLVED that the Sabine Parish Police Jury enter into a cooperative endeavor agreement with the Town of Many to mow right of ways as directed by the Town one time,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the president of the Police Jury is authorized to execute this cooperative endeavor agreement.

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

10. Sabine Parish EMS Advisory Board

No member of the Sabine Parish EMS Advisory Board was in attendance.

11. Accept the Minutes of the Previous Special Called Meeting Held January 28, 2022, the Regular Meeting Held February 16, 2022, the Special Called Meeting Held March 8, 2022, the Regular Meeting Held March 16, 2022, and the Regular Meeting Held April 20, 2022.

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

Resolution No. 9022

Motion by McCormic and seconded by Davidson to accept the minutes of the special called meeting held January 28, 2022, the regular meeting held February 16, 2022, the special called meeting held March 8, 2022, the regular meeting held March 16, 2022, and the regular meeting held April 20, 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

12. Announce Intent to Order and Call Special Elections to be Held in (i) the Parish of Sabine, State of Louisiana for the Library and the Health Unit and (ii) Road District No. 4, Ward 7 of Sabine Parish, Louisiana.

Mrs. Dawn Leone gave a presentation to the Police Jury providing a detailed description of the services provided by the Health Unit to the residents of Sabine Parish. She requested that the Police Jury request a ¼ mill continuance of the Health Unit's ad valorem tax assessment which represents a reduction of ¾ mill.

Mrs. Debbie Anderson addressed the Police Jury for the Sabine Parish Library. She gave a brief synopsis of the programs and services offered by the library to the residents of Sabine Parish. She noted that the library was in the process of building a new main library building in the Town of Many. Mrs. Anderson requested that the Police Jury request a 4.00 mill continuance of the library's ad valorem tax assessment which represents a reduction of 1.05 mills.

Police Juror Randy Byrd requested that the Police Jury request a renewal assessment of 13.88 mills of ad valorem tax for Road District No. 4, Ward 7 of Sabine Parish.

The following announcement was read aloud by Secretary Treasurer William E. Weatherford.

#### Announcement of Public Meeting

Notice is hereby given that at its meeting to be held on Wednesday, June 15, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. at the Police Jury Room of the Courthouse, 400 Capitol Street, Many, Louisiana, the Police Jury of the Parish of Sabine, State of Louisiana, plans to consider adopting a resolution ordering and calling elections to be held within (i) the Parish of Sabine, State of Louisiana and (ii) Road District No. 4, Ward 7 of Sabine Parish, Louisiana to authorize the continuation of ad valorem taxes.

13. Appoint Secretary Treasurer for South Toledo Bend Water District- Mr. Malcolm Franks  
Mr. Malcolm Franks was not in attendance.

Mrs. Anna Ferguson has allegedly misappropriated assets of the South Toledo Bend Water District. The District has requested the Police Jury to revoke her commission as a member of the Board of Commissioners.

Resolution No. 9023

Motion by McCormic and seconded by Stewart to revoke the commission of Mrs. Anna Ferguson as a member of the Board of Commissioners for the South Toledo Bend Water District.

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

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: 1 - Steinke

Absent: 0

14. Consider Adding Juneteenth as a Legal Holiday for the Police Jury

Juneteenth is the celebration of the liberation of the enslaved people in the confederate states. It is recognized as a national holiday and is widely recognized as a holiday by state and local entities.

Resolution No. 9024

Motion by Ruffin and seconded by Garcie:

WHEREAS Juneteenth is a recognized holiday on the federal and state levels as well as by many local governments, and

WHEREAS, the Sabine Parish Police Jury does not currently recognize Juneteenth as a holiday.

NOW BE IT RESOLVED that Juneteenth be recognized as a legal holiday of the Sabine Parish Police Jury and that Presidents Day no longer be recognized as a holiday, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Juneteenth will be recognized and celebrated on the nineteenth day of June each year with employees, other than compactor workers, receiving a paid holiday on those years when that day falls during the normal Monday through Friday workweek with no holiday compensation provided for those years when Juneteenth falls on a Saturday or Sunday.

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

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

Nays: 1 - Stewart

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

15. Consider an Ordinance to Amend Ordinance 11 of 2021

**ORDINANCE 6 of 2022**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE NO. 11 OF 2021 PROHIBITING THROUGH TRUCKS FOR OAK HILL ROAD IN ROAD DISTRICT 17 (WARD 4)**

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Police Jury of Sabine Parish, Louisiana, acting in its capacity as the governing authority of said parish, in regular and legal session convened, a quorum being present and voting, that the following change is made to Ordinance 11 of 2021:

The fourth paragraph is amended to read as follows:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, that no trucks, with the exception of local deliveries, will be allowed to travel on the asphalt section of Oak Hill Road; a section of road approximately one and one-half (1½) miles long running from Highway 6 to the intersection with Pioneer Road.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, if any provision or item of this ordinance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications of this ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption, being an ordinance affecting the public peace, health, and safety, 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 Davidson and seconded by Steinke was then submitted to an official vote and the vote thereupon was recorded as follows to wit:

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

Nays: 1 - Byrd

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

Thereupon, the President declared this ordinance adopted on this the 18<sup>th</sup> day of May 2022, at the regular 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

16. Appoint the Sabine Index as the Official Journal of the Police Jury

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, 2022.

Resolution No. 9025

Motion by Ruffin and seconded by Stewart to appoint the Sabine Index as the official journal of the Sabine Parish Police Jury for the period beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023.

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

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

Nays: 1 - Ebarb

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

17. Consider Resigning as Local Grant Recipient for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Program

The Sabine Parish Police Jury has served as the local grant recipient for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Program for six years. The Parish desires to withdraw as local grant recipient.

Resolution No. 9026

Motion by Steinke and seconded by Byrd to authorize and approve the withdrawal of the Sabine Parish Police Jury acting as the local grant recipient for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Program.

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

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

Nays: 1 - Ruffin

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

18. Consider a Resolution to Abandon Noel Lane

President Sepulvado informed the Jury that a letter had been received from all landowners adjacent to Noel Lane requesting that the road be abandoned. The Road and Shop Committee reviewed the request and recommends abandonment of Noel Lane.

Resolution No. 9027

Motion by Byrd and seconded by McCormic to abandon Noel Lane located in Road District 1, Ward 6.

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. Authorize Payment of Approved Bills

Resolution No. 9028

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, McCormic, Ruffin, Steinke, Davidson, Garcie, Sepulvado, Ebarb, and Byrd

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

20. Appropriate and Transfer Sales Tax for May Operations (\$350,000)

Resolution No. 9029

Motion by Ruffin and seconded by Stewart to appropriate and transfer \$350,000.00 from the Sales Tax Fund to the Parish-wide Transportation Fund for May 2022 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

21. Committee Reports

Solid Waste Committee

Secretary Treasurer Weatherford was instructed to contact Juene Franklin for an update of progress on installation of the methane flare system at the landfill.

22. Operations

There was no discussion of operations.

23. Adjournment

Resolution No. 9030

Motion by Ruffin and seconded by Stewart 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/Ricky L. Sepulvado  
Ricky L. Sepulvado  
President