

PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICE JURY OF THE PARISH OF NATCHITOCHEs,
STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN A REGULAR MEETING HELD, MONDAY,

May 18, 2009

5:00 P. M.

The Police Jury of the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, met in regular and legal session in their regular meeting place, the Police Jury Board Room of the Natchitoches Parish Courthouse, on Monday, May 18, 2009 at five o'clock (5:00) p.m.

The Invocation was given by Juror Mimi Stoker, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Juror Gerald Longlois.

There were present: The Honorable David Dollar, President, Police Jurors: Gerald Longlois, Chris Paige, J. D. Garrett, Charles Huggins, Johnny Martin, Tom Collier Jr., Jessie Hoffpauir, Mimi Stoker and Fred Jacobs.

There was absent: William Hymes.

The Police Jury of the Parish of Natchitoches was then duly convened as the governing authority of said parish by the President who stated that the Police Jury was ready for the transaction of business.

President Dollar stated that the first visitor was Mr. Aubrey Matthew who is seeking re-appointment to the Black Lake Commission. Mr. Martin then stated that Mr. Matthew told him that he would not seek reappointment. President Dollar then recognized Mr. Ernest Self who stated that he was interested in being appointed to the Black Lake Commission. Mr. Self stated that he was raised near black lake and now lives on the lake. He also stated that he graduated from college in Biology.

President Dollar then asked Mr. Grant Bowden, Veterans Assistance Counselor, to please step forward. Police Juror Tom Collier then presented him a check in the amount of \$212.00 for one month's service. Police Juror Gerald Longlois then presented Mr. Bowden a check in the amount of \$2,500.00 from his Charity Runs Inc., (Crowroad Crawfish Boil) organization. Mr. Bowden then thanked the Police Jury, Mr. Collier and Mr. Longlois for their support.

President Dollar stated that the next visitor on the agenda was Mr. Chad Misaraca. Mr. Misaraca came forth and told the Jury that he was at the meeting to get someone to look at the way things are set up for plan review, inspections and building permit, especially for building a house in the parish and what is being charged. He then stated that what he had come up with is that Natchitoches Parish charges a dollar per square foot to use its inspector to do in house inspection plus a building permit before you can do anything on a house. Mr. Misaraca stated that after thinking about the fees he started calling around to other parishes in the State to find out what their fees were for building a house. He then stated that he had called 16 parishes and the average of what they charge came out to be around 27 cents a square foot.

President Dollar then recognized Mr. Greg Lemoine, Parish Inspector, who stated that the parish permit fees is twenty five cents per square foot for the permit fee, forty five cents per square foot for the administrative fee and the CBO that do the Plan Review is now charging twelve cents per square foot. After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that the Jury would revisit this matter at next month's meeting.

President Dollar then recognized Mr. Erwin Barfield who told the Jury that he wanted to start a RV Park. He stated that at the last Planning Commission meeting they had talked about various things and was concerned about how he was going to get water to the RVs. He then stated that he was denied for the rezoning until he could supply water. President Dollar then recognized Assistant District Attorney Kip Fair who told the Jury that Mr. Barfield had applied to the Planning and Zoning Commission to rezone some property out in the Johnson Chute area for a RV Park. Mr. Fair stated he had a public hearing before the Planning and Zoning Commission and he was denied based on the load of water for the RV Park. He stated that the City, as the water provider, has basically said they will not provide any new meter because the line does not meet the load of the water. That was presented to Commission and they denied the request of Mr. Barfield. Mr. Fair then stated that his next legal step is to appeal to the Jury and asked them to reconsider the Planning and Zoning decision and that is why he is here today. Mr. Barfield stated that after the Planning and Zoning meeting he had contacted Mrs. Jennifer Kilken, District Engineer for the Louisiana Health and Hospitals, to ask her about a water well. He then stated that she told him drilling a well would not be a problem. After she gave him the steps to take, he then called Mr. Randall Smoake, Engineer, to assist him in getting the well drilled. President Dollar then recognized Mrs. Corrine Young, Director of Planning and Zoning, who told the Jury that the City had come to their meeting and explained to the Commission that there was a problem in getting anymore meters in that area. They stated that it was almost an impossible task and ask them to see if there was any other way than what he was seeking now. Mr. Barfield then stated that it was not denied because of the people but because of the water supply. After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that a public hearing would be conducted at the next month's meeting to hear his appeal.

On motion by Mr. Longlois, duly seconded by Mr. Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby set a public hearing at next month meeting to hear any and all objections to overturning the decision of the Natchitoches Parish Planning Commission denying Mr. Erwin Barfield to rezone a 4.00 tract of land located in Section 4, T9N, R8W on the St. Luke Church Road from I-A to B-3 to operate a RV park.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Longlois, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt the minutes of the combine meeting of the Work Session/Regular meeting held Monday, April 13, 2009.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Hoffpauir, duly seconded by Mrs. Stoker, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby table waiving the fees for tower and communication guideline for emergency operations.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Collier, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby authorize replacing a compressor at the Live Oak Annex in the amount of \$6,300.00.

Motion Carried

Since Mr. Harper was not at the meeting it was agreed to move the appointment of someone to the Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District #2 Board of Directors to next month meeting.

On motion by Mr. Hoffpauir, duly seconded by Mr. Longlois, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby appoint Mr. Ernest Self to the Northwest (Black Lake) Fish & Game Preserve Commission due to Mr. Aubrey Matthews, Jr.'s term expiring.

Motion Carried

President Dollar then recognized Mrs. Sharon Harris, Executive Director of the NPPJOCS, who told the Jury that Head Start is using two calendars this year. She stated that they had tried one calendar for several years and found out that they were not getting refunded for days because DeSoto Parish School calendar did not coincide with Natchitoches Parish Schools calendar. She stated that the children attendance level was really low because parents kept their kids out of school when DeSoto Schools were out. Mrs. Harris went on to say that the calendar was approved by the Policy Council on May 12th and needed the Jury approval as well. Relative to this, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Garrett, duly seconded by Mr. Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby accept the report of Office of Community Services and approve the Head Start 2009-2010 calendars.

Motion Carried

Mrs. Harris went on to give information on the report she submitted to the parish. She also informed them about new funding her office might be receiving from CDBG funds.

President Dollar then recognized Parish Treasurer Debbie Miley who stated that she making some adjustments to the Budget but nothing major and that she was going to wait until the audit is done next month before making anything major. Ms. Miley stated that she had adjusted some of the expenditure items in order to stay in line and allow her to continue to pay bills that are coming due. She stated that she had also adjusted the Veterans Services line item to include the donations. Ms. Miley stated that with the donations received, it would be enough to finish this year and most of next year. She went on to say that the Highway Department had received extra Kisatchie Funds in which she had put in the salaries line item due to all the storms the parish was having and personnel was being called out to work. Ms. Miley then told the Jury that the budget was at 38% spent instead of a little over 40%. Parish Treasurer Miley then stated that the Government Building fund was looking okay and that the Health Unit received some extra ad valorem funds. She Also told the Jury that she had to take out the line item for inmate care medical because we could not pay it out of those funds. Finally, Ms. Miley told the Jury she had to make a few adjustments in the Criminal Court Fund and added a new line item for jury fees in order to separate it from the Jury line item. President Dollar then stated that he saw a couple of line item that were still showing and asked if the Jury had balances due from last year on those expenses. Ms. Miley told the Jury that as far as last year debt, the inmates, coroner expenses and city expenses still had outstanding bills.

On motion by Mr. Collier, duly seconded by Mrs. Stoker, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby approve revising the 2009 budget.

Motion Carried

President Dollar then stated that the next item on the agenda was to discuss agreement with the Natchitoches Parish Hospital. Several comments were made concerning this agreement. President Paige then recognized Mr. Larry Page, a concerned citizen, who told the Jury that he paid his taxes and came to say that he could not support the Jury giving its power away to a board that you will have only one vote. He stated that the Jury will be entering into an agreement that will give the power away of appointing people to the Hospital Board. Mr. Page stated that the second thing that concerns him was the dollar amount. He told the Jury just in this meeting he heard that a 500 square feet stretch of asphalt road cost was \$25,000.00. He stated that meant with \$100,000.00 the parish could fix a half of a mile of road. Mr. Page then told the Jury that he did not want to see us prostitute our hospital by filling these positions up for \$100,000.00 and giving our power away. President Dollar then recognized Police Juror Chris Paige who stated we need an outside attorney and should seek assistance from the District Attorney for a favorable recommendation that will agree with this body. Mr. Paige went on to say that we needed someone who is going to give the attention that is needed on this matter. After a lengthy discussion, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Dollar, duly seconded by Mr. Collier, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby table discussing the agreement with the Natchitoches Parish Hospital until next month's meeting.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Longlois, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby add to the agenda to seek the assistance of the District Attorney allowing the Jury to hire an outside attorney to handle the matter involving the hospital.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Longlois, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby approve seeking the assistance of the District Attorney to allow the Jury to hire an outside attorney to handle the matter involving the hospital

Motion Carried

President Dollar then recognized Mrs. Mimi Stoker who updated the Jury on the Shooting Range. Mrs. Stoker stated that they had a new board at the Shooting Range that consists of Mr. Ronnie Dowden, President, Ms. Virginia Snyder, Vice President, Mr. James Durham, Treasurer and Deborah Morgan, Secretary. She also stated that they have new directors for the different firearms out there and the course was open to anybody who wanted to go. President Dollar then recognized Mr. Fair who stated that he needed to discuss the Shooting Range litigation with the Jury. Relative to this, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Stoker, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby go into Executive Session to discuss litigation.

Motion Carried

After the resuming regular session, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Hoffpauir, duly seconded by Mr. Jacob, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby approve the Report of the Director of Public works for emergency expenditures for the period of April 14, 2009 through May 18, 2009 in the amount of \$4,675.64.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Huggins, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby approve expenditures for the period of April 14, 2009 through May 18, 2009 in the amount of \$778,691.53.

Motion Carried

President Dollar then stated that an ordinance was handed out at the beginning of the meeting that Mr. Fair needs to address to the Jury. Assistant District Attorney Kip Fair then stated that he was at the Planning and Zoning meeting a couple of weeks ago when representatives from the City Airport showed up requesting an ordinance by the Parish. He stated that the hand out presented was a copy of the ordinance that the City has adopted. Mr. Fair then stated that the general idea is that the 5,018 feet runway, which is large enough to accommodate business craft, needs to be zone for height restriction. If anything is build up higher than 50 feet in that plat, the City would have to shorten the runway distant which decreases the availability of planes coming into the region airport. Mr. Fair also stated that the FFA has submitted these numbers. He went on to say that what the City is trying to do is get Northwestern State University, City and Parish to all have the same ordinance. Relative to this, the following action was taken.

On motion by Mr. Longlois, duly seconded by Mr. Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby add to the agenda setting a public hearing at the next month's meeting to hear any and all comments or objections relative to adopting and ordinance setting an airport zone height limitation.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Longlois, duly seconded by Mr. Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby set a public hearing at the next month's meeting to hear any and all comments or objections relative to adopting and ordinance setting an airport zone height limitation.

Motion Carried

President Dollar then stated he would go around the table if anyone had anything to discuss. He then recognized Mrs. Stoker who stated that she had one thing to report. She stated that the LSU Ag Center did announce the position for 4-H agent in Natchitoches Parish and they received 19 qualified applicants applied. She also stated that they would interview on May 27th and hope to have the agent employed by June 15th.

President Dollar then recognized Mr. Paige who stated that he would like to see the President or Administrator make sure whenever there is a 911 meeting a notice be will be given out to the public. Mr. Paige also stated not just the 911 board but the hospital board and other boards and commissions too. After several comments from other Jurors, President Dollar asked someone to offer agenda Item #18.

On motion by Mr. Hoffpauir, duly seconded by Mr. Jacob, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby does hereby adjourn until the next regular or called meeting of the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury.

President Dollar then stated that another item needed to be addressed. Relative to this, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Hoffpauir, duly seconded by Mr. Jacob, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby rescind adjourning until the next regular or called meeting of the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury.

Motion Carried

President Dollar then recognized Mr. Tom Collier, Chairman of the Highway Steering-Solid Waste Committee, who presented the following report:

Relative to the above report, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Collier, duly seconded by Mr. Jacobs, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby seek all avenues of funding from the State to repair the Clark Road Bridge and if no funding is available authorize the Director of Public Works to proceed with the repairing of said bridge.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Hoffpauir, duly seconded by Mr. Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby declaring the old scales and the old mechanic service truck (L-63) surplus equipment and authorize the sale of said equipment at the next auction date and selling the scales as scrap iron.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Longlois, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby change the Highway Department Work Schedule to four (4) ten (10) hour work days during the summer months.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Collier, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby acknowledge that the Freeman Vercher Road was never in the Parish Road System.

Motion Carried

This concluded action on the report of the Highway Steering-Solid Waste meeting.

On motion by Mr. Hoffpauir, duly seconded by Mr. Jacob, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adjourn until the next regular or called meeting of the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury.

Motion Carried

Attest:

David Dollar, President

Catherine Hamilton,
Parish Administrator

