

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

May 18, 2005

9:00 A. 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 Wednesday, May 18, 2005 at nine o'clock (9:00) a.m.

The invocation was given by Pastor Kevin Walker, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Juror Charles Huggins.

There were present: Honorable Chris Paige, President, Police Jurors: J. D. Garrett, Alice Barrios, William Hymes, Charles Huggins, Tom Collier, Jessie Hoffpauir and Doug Masters and Gale Potts-Roque.

There was absent: Charles Cloud.

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.

On motion by Mr. Collier, duly seconded by Mr. Garrett, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt a resolution expressing the Jury deepest sympathy to the family of Mr. Leigh Perkins.

Motion Carried

President Paige then asked the family of Mr. Leigh Perkins to please come forward. President Paige along with several others Jurors presented the resolution to Mr. Perkin's wife, Mrs. Anita Perkins and his daughter, Julie. Mr. Paige stated to the family that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury along with the people of this Parish has truly lost a dedicated and loyal public servant with the passing of Leigh Perkins. He stated that Leigh's hardworking and dedication would always be remembered among the residents of this Parish. President Paige then read the resolution out loud. Mrs. Anita Perkins thanked the Jury for their part in taking care of Leigh and allowed him to continue to work throughout his illness.

On motion by Mr. Collier, duly seconded by Mrs. Barrios, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt a resolution wishing Mr. King Gans a happy retirement.

Motion Carried

President Paige then asked Mr. King Gans to please step forward to accept a plaque and resolution expressing the Jury's sincerest appreciation to Mr. Gans for 30 years of dedicated service to the people of Natchitoches Parish.

President Paige then stated that Mrs. Bethany Hebert, Parish Librarian, has asked to speak to the Jury concerning the purchase of a bookmobile for the Parish Library. He then asked Mrs. Hebert to please come forward. President Paige then asked Mrs. Hamilton to shed some light on this matter. Mrs. Hamilton told the Jury that she had talked with Mrs. Hebert in reference to several concerns she had received from the media about the Parish Librarian purchasing a new bookmobile without advertising for bids. Mrs. Hamilton stated that she had informed Mrs. Hebert about the bid law and told her that the Jury would have to approve the purchasing of a bookmobile. She also stated that she had informed her that on Monday night the Jury decided to remove the advertisement of a bookmobile for the Parish Library from the agenda. Mrs. Hamilton stated that Mrs. Hebert asked if she could come before the Jury on Wednesday to ask them to reconsider tabling the advertisement and purchase of the bookmobile. Mrs. Hebert then stated that she may have been using a different terminology but felt she had followed procedure. She stated that the Library Board had approved for her to proceed with the purchase of a second bookmobile. Mrs. Hebert then told the Jury that she apologized if she had not follow the right procedure but felt the need to proceed in order to be ready for the summer.

President Paige then recognized Mr. Hymes who stated that he support the Library but felt there was a clear violation of the public bid law. He stated that the money for the bookmobile would be better spent on rural libraries. President Paige then recognized Mr. Jessie Hoffpauir who voiced strong concerns about the purchasing of a new bookmobile. Mr. Hoffpauir told Mrs. Hebert that the Jury supported the Library but had an obligation to the public to determine the need for such a purchase. Mr. Hoffpauir also stated that there was a concern with the one million dollars in reserve. President Paige then recognized Mrs. Alice Barrios who stated that she was concerned about the possible violation of the bid law and did not want criticism from the Legislative Auditor. After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed by the Jury that this matter be referred to the Finance and Budget Committee for further discussion.

On motion by Mr. Hymes, duly seconded by Mr. Roque, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt the minutes of the regular meeting held Wednesday, April 20, 2005.

Motion Carried

President Paige stated that Mr. Cloud wanted him to notify the Jury that he was opposed to allowing the sale of any alcohol beverages on Catholic Lane. After a brief discussion, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Hoffpauir, duly seconded by Mrs. Roque, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby approve conducting an appeal hearing for Ms. Ozzie Holmes who was denied the rezoning of a 4.925 acre tract of land located in Section 32, T10N, R6W from I-A to B-3 to operate a game room with low content alcohol sales on Catholic Lane on Wednesday, June 15, 2005.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Hymes, duly seconded by Mr. Collier, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby approve the top five (5) priority bridge projects for the Federal Bridge Discretionary Program as follows:

<u>RECALL#</u>	<u>ROAD NAME AND NUMBER</u>	<u>WORK TO BE PERFORMED</u>
600159	RUSSEL CEMETERY #833	Replace with tank car culvert
600204	ROBELINE-PROVENCAL #635	Decking Boards, Bridge rails, curb sections, all stringers, bulkheads, all wingwalls
600082	NELSON #595	6 piles, bulkheads, stringers
600102	ROBELINE-PROVENCAL #635	Decking boards, 4 piles
600122	PROVENCAL VOWELL'S MILL #651	Replace with tank car culvert

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Hymes, duly seconded by Mrs. Barrios, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby conduct a public hearing to hear any and all comments or objections relative to the levying of taxes for the year 2005.

Motion Carried

President Paige then declared the Public Hearing open. He then asked if there were any comments or objections relative to the levying of taxes for the year 2005. He then asked if there were comments or objections on the adjusted millage rates for the tax year 2005 and rolling forward the millage to a rate not to exceed the prior year's maximum millage for the year 2003.

President Paige then recognized Mr. Hoffpauir who had concerns about library services not being provided to the rural areas. He stated that the Library Board told him that funding was the reason for the closure of rural libraries in the Parish and now they have a million dollars in the bank. President Paige then recognized Mrs. Barrios who stated that she had been one of the biggest proponents of the Library and had worked with others in getting the additional millages. Mrs. Barrios also stated that she had a problem with Library not servicing rural areas and having monies in reserves. President Paige recognized Mrs. Hebert, who told the Jury that the cut would affect long range planning. She then asked the Jury how could they plan for future projects without that money? President Paige then recognized Mrs. Roque who stated that the cut in tax money would not affect the current budget and that the Library Director would have time to adjust the budget for the next fiscal year. Since there were no other comments or objections, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Hymes, duly seconded by Mr. Collier, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby closed the public hearing.

Motion Carried

A brief discussion was then held on whether or not to vote on each millage or all of them at once. Mr. Paige then recognized Tax Assessor Rick Hargis who told the Jury that they could vote for each millage separately. Relative to this, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Hymes, duly seconded by Mr. Garrett, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does adopt the adjusted millage rates for the tax year 2005 as follows:

Motion Carried

On motion by Mrs. Barrios, duly seconded by Mr. Hymes, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby levy the millage for Ad Valorem tax for general government purposes in the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana to 1.67 mills (In) and 3.34 mills (out).

Motion Carried

On motion by Mrs. Roque, duly seconded by Mr. Barrios, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby levy the millage for Road District #40 to 4.70 mills.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mrs. Barrios, duly seconded by Mr. Hymes, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby roll down the millage for the Parish Library from 7.37 mills to 5.00 mills.

Motion Carried
With
Mr. Huggins
"opposing"

On motion by Mrs. Roque, duly seconded by Mrs. Barrios, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby levy the millage for Public buildings to 2.76 mills.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mrs. Roque, duly seconded by Mrs. Barrios, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby levy the millage for the Health Unit to 2.76 mills.

Motion Carried

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On motion by Mr. Masters, duly seconded by Mrs. Barrios, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt the adjusted millage rates after reassessment and roll forward the millage to a rate not to exceed the prior year's maximum millage for the year 2003.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mrs. Barrios, duly seconded by Mr. Masters, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt a resolution calling a special election in Sales Tax District #1 to levy a 1% sales and use tax exclusively and solely for the purpose of Parish roads within said District, with the current funds being used for road maintenance and the net revenues be subject to funding into bonds for a five-year period. There then ensued a discussion as to whether or not this matter should be tabled. President Paige then recognized Mrs. Barrios who stated that she would withdrew her motion since something had changed from the last meeting. Mrs. Barrios stated that she would like to know what caused the change. She then withdrew her motion and Mr. Master withdrew his second. President Paige then recognized Mr. Charles Huggins who offered to table this matter. He then recognized Mrs. Roque who stated to the paper that she thinks the tax is a dire need of the parish in reference to road maintenance and that it is a sad day when all eleven jurors cannot come together and support the tax. After a brief discussion, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Huggins, duly seconded by Mr. Hymes, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby table adopting a resolution calling a special election in Sales Tax District #1 to levy a 1% sales and use tax exclusively and solely for the purpose of Parish roads within said District, with the current funds being used for road maintenance and the net revenues be subject to funding into bonds for a five-year period.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mrs. Roque, duly seconded by Mrs. Barrios, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby start the process to appoint/reappoint members to the Waterworks District #2 Board of Commissioners.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Hymes, duly seconded by Mr. Garrett, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby appoint the Natchitoches Times as the official journal for the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Masters, duly seconded by Mrs. Roque, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby authorize entering into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Kisatchie National Forest involving the repair of P. R. #924, the Kisatchie Falls Road.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mrs. Roque, duly seconded by Mr. Hymes, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby appoint Mr. Michael Sanders and reappoint Mr. Charles Roge' and Mr. James Prothro to the Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District #1 Board of Directors.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Masters, duly seconded by Mrs. Barrios, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby appoint Mr. Charles Tynes to the Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District #4, due to Mr. Wayne Daigle, resigning.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Hymes, duly seconded by Mr. Garrett, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby authorize the payment of \$14,000.00 to Frank Welding for repairs to the Courthouse cooling tower.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Huggins, duly seconded by Mr. Hymes, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby start the process to amend Section 19.2 of the Natchitoches Parish Code of Ordinances changing the depth of utilities lines from twenty (24) inches to thirty-six (36) inches and requiring steel casing on all lines.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Hymes, duly seconded by Mrs. Barrios, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby appoint someone to the Natchitoches Parish Hospital Board of Directors due to the resignation of Mr. Frankie Ray Jackson, Sr.

President Paige then stated that he hoped the Jury would table this matter since all the Jurors was not present. He then recognized Mr. Hymes who stated that he agreed with Mrs. Barrios to proceed with the appointment of someone to the Hospital Board. He stated that the Jury was here to take care of business and that the Jury should not keep putting things off. President Paige then recognized Mrs. Roque who stated that this was put off because District #1 did not have a representative. Mrs. Roque said District #1 still does not have any input on this matter. After a brief discussion, the following action was taken:

On a roll call vote, the vote was thereon as follows:

MR. WILLIAM ACKEL: Cox, Barrios, Huggins and Masters

MR. SAMUEL JACKSON: Garrett, Hymes, Collier, Hoffpauir, Roque
And Paige.

ABSENT: Cloud

With the vote being six (6) for Samuel Jackson and four (4) for William Ackel, Mr. Jackson was appointed to the Natchitoches Parish Hospital Board of Directors.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Hymes, duly seconded by Mrs. Roque, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby accept the Report of the Office of Community Services for the month of April, 2005.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mrs. Barrios, duly seconded by Mr. Hymes, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby declare Friday, July 1, 2005 as Employee Appreciation Day for the employees of the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Hoffpauir, duly seconded by Mr. Masters, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby accept the report of the Director of Public Works for emergency expenditures for the period of April 21, 2005 through May 18, 2005 in the amount of \$1,470.24.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Collier, duly seconded by Mr. Garrett, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby approve expenditures for the period of April 21, 2005 through May 18, 2005 in the amount of \$785,251.80.

Motion Carried

President Paige then asked Mr. Collier to say a prayer and to include to Mr. Donald Charles, Custodian for the Courthouse, who was in the Hospital before the closing the meeting. Mr. Collier then prayed before the meeting was adjourned.

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

Motion Carried

ATTEST:

Chris Paige, President

Catherine Hamilton,
Parish Administrator