

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

January 18, 2006

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, January 18, 2006 at nine o'clock (9:00) a.m.

The invocation was given by Juror J. D. Garrett, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Juror Doug Masters.

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

There were absent: None.

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 Paige stated that the next item on the agenda was to declare office of President and Vice-President vacant. He then asked if there were any nominations from the floor. Mr. Huggins then nominated Mrs. Gale Potts-Roque with Mr. Hymes seconding the nomination. Mr. Garrett nominated Mrs. Alice Barrios with Mr. Collier seconding the nomination. Mr. Paige then asked if there were any other nominations. Since there were no other nominations, Mr. Paige closed the nominations and asked for a roll call vote.

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

**MRS. BARRIOS**: Cox, Garrett, Barrios, Collier, Masters and Paige.

**MRS. ROQUE**: Hymes, Huggins, Cloud, Hoffpauir and Roque.

With the vote being **six (6) votes** for **Mrs. Barrios** and **five (5) votes** for Mrs. Potts-Roque, Mrs. Alice Barrios was elected President of the Natchitoches Parish Police for 2006. Several Jurors then congratulated President Barrios.

President Barrios then stated the next item for business is the election of a vice-president. She then asked for nominations. Mr. Paige nominated Mr. J. D. Garrett and Mrs. Gale Roque then nominated Mr. William Hymes. President Barrios asked if there were any other nominations. She then recognized Mr. William Hymes who declined the nomination for vice president. Mr. Paige moved to cease the floor for nominations, with none opposing. Mr. J.D. Garrett was then elected vice-president by acclamation of the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury. Mr. Paige and President Barrios offered congratulations to Vice-President Garrett.

President Barrios then asked if there were any visitors. She then recognized Mr. Paige who stated Sheriff Victor Jones was in attendance to present checks to the Police Jury and District Attorney office from the monies received for the collection of fines. President Barrios then thanked the Sheriff and stated she hopes this continues for many years.

President Barrios then recognized Mr. Huggins who stated that he had an award to present that came to a surprise to him. He stated he had a certificate of appreciation. Mr. Huggins then asked Mrs. Penny Niette to come forward for the Presentation of Award. Mr. Huggins then read what was on the award stating it was for the outstanding job she has done for the highway department.

President Paige then recognized Mr. Paige who thanked all jurors and staff for the two years they allowed him to serve as President. He also stated that going through Hurricane Katrina was a large project that went well. He also wanted to give a special thanks to Sheriff Victor Jones for stepping in as the OEP Director and to his staff for doing such a great job during the year 2005. President Barrios then thanked the Sheriff also.

On motion by Mr. Hymes, duly seconded by Mrs. Roque, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt the minutes from Wednesday, December 21, 2005 and the special meeting held Tuesday, December 27, 2005.

Motion Carried

President Barrios then recognized Mrs. Hamilton who presented the tabulations for the bids received for the materials and supplies for the Solid Waste and Highway Departments.

Relative to this, 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 award the bid for grader blades to the low bidder Nortrax, Inc. of Shreveport, Louisiana in the amount of \$54.90 per set.

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 award the bid for glauconite (black rock) to the only bidder H. G. Byley & Sons of Hemphill, Texas.

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 award the bid for light-weight aggregate to the only bidder, Big River Industries of Erwinville, Louisiana.

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 award the bid for oils and greases to the only bidder, Lott Oil Company of Natchitoches, Louisiana.

Motion Carried

President Barrios then recognized Parish Administrator Catherine Hamilton who stated that Lott Oil Company had included a letter in its bid packet stating that Lott Oil Company could not guarantee these bid prices for the year due to the continuing increases of oil prices.

This concluded action on the report of the Bid Tabulation Report.

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Collier, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby declare an emergency to purchase a packer truck for the Solid Waste Department.

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 conduct a Public Hearing to hear any and all comments relative to remove 2.227 miles of P.R. #805A, the Marco Levee Road, from the Parish Road System.

Motion Carried

President Barrios then declared the Public Hearing open. She then asked if anyone had any comments or objections relative to the removal of 2.227 miles of P.R. #805A, the Marco Levee Road, from the Parish Road System. Mr. Bob Dalme step forward and told the Jury that he lives on the Red River Levee Road which connects to the Marco Road, which is part of the ins and outs of that area. He then stated that the Marco Road was the closest road to the nearest fire department, which is about six and a half miles. Mr. Dalme went on to say the road has been there for seventy years and has been maintained for a period of time by the Police Jury. He also stated that although the road has not been graded in the last couple of years, the farmers who farm the land in that area have maintained the road. Mr. Dalme then stated the only reason the road would be closed off is to place a gate across it in order to lease the land to hunters. Mr. Dalme stated that he believes it is more important to have the road open instead of closing it off for a hunting camp. President Barrios then asked Mr. Dalme how many people actually live back there, in which he replied, "it is seven families that live back there". President Barrios then recognized Mr. Hymes who stated that he would like to see this road stay open. He then stated that this item should be tabled and asked Mrs. Hamilton to contact everyone involved before the final decision is made. Relative to this, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr.Hymes, duly seconded by Mr. Huggins, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby table the decision to close 2.227 of the Marco Levee Road P. R. #850A.

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 adopt a resolution adding the Russell Cemetery Bridge #600159 into the Off System Bridge Program.

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 adopt a resolution authorizing the filing of an application with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development for a grant under 49 CFR 5311, Non-Urbanized Area Formula Program and/or 49 CFR 5309, Discretionary Capital Program.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Collier, duly seconded by Mr. Hymes, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby approve entering into an intergovernmental agreement with the Sheriff Office to purchase a computer to use for the collection of fines in the amount of \$15,000.00.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Cloud, duly seconded by Mr. Garrett, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby approve leasing a 5<sup>th</sup> motorgrader for the Parish Highway Department.

Motion Carried

President Barrios recognized Mr. Paige who stated that Mr. Collier had asked him to get a resolution together requesting the Hospital Board of Directors to pay the full cost of hospitalization insurance for employees of the Hospital. Mr. Paige then stated that he brought this to the table because there are 157 hospital employees without healthcare insurance. Mr. Paige said he felt that it was the Jury duty to speak for the employees of Natchitoches Regional Medical Center who do not have a voice, especially the ones who live in the jurors districts.

President Barrios then recognized Mr. Collier who asked Mr. Paige if this was just a request and Mr. Paige replied yes, this is just a recommendation from the Jury. He also stated that the Jury has no authority to tell the Hospital Board otherwise. Mr. Collier then stated that since this was just a request he would like Mr. Hymes to check into this matter and bring back information to the Jury. Mr. Paige stated this was not for Mr. Hymes it was for the board members and that Mr. Hymes has shown some support in this matter. Mr. Paige went on to say that it was not for just one individual, it was for the whole board. President Barrios stated that the resolution read to recommend and not mandate. She then recognize Mr. Huggins who stated he did not believe anyone was being forced to work for the hospital and they still have the right to resign if they are not satisfied with their place of employment. He also stated that the Jury should not be sending this kind of message to the Hospital Board. Mr. Huggins stated that he did not realize anyone gave free insurance to anyone until he got on the Police Jury. He went on to say the state nor the School Board does this and no one is being forced to work there. President Barrios then stated that all Jurors have a vote and the meeting needs to move forward. She then recognized Mr. Hymes who stated it was his duty as a member on the Natchitoches Parish Regional Medical Center Board to bring the information from the Jury to them and he would be happy to take the information from today's meeting. Mr. Hymes also stated his vote on this matter would not be as a member of the Hospital Board, it would be as a Juror. President Barrios then recognized Mr. Garrett who stated he felt

what Mr. Paige was trying to say is he would like the information be presented to the Hospital board for discussion. President Barrios then recognized Mr. Cloud who stated he would like certain members of the Jury to set down with members of the Hospital Board to get correct information. Mr. Cloud also stated he would not vote on the matter until he has sat down himself with the Hospital Board to discuss this matter. President Barrios then recognized Mrs. Roque who stated that there were people who worked in the institution who were not even able to be seen in that institution. Mrs. Roque also stated she felt that before the Hospital goes on giving money away to other things they should look at the health of their employees due to this being a healthcare facility. President Barrios stated she felt that this resolution would be the vehicle to start the process to get the employees healthcare insurance. She went on to say this matter would have to be discussed by the Hospital Board whether the vote is yes or no and once the board has voted, depending on their decision, the Jury might request to sit down with the Hospital Board to discuss this further. President Barrios then recognized Mr. Hoffpauir who stated that he did not feel that the Jury was doing anything wrong by presenting this resolution to the Hospital Board. Mr. Collier asked President Barrios if she would set up a meeting with the Hospital Board and whom ever would like to attend the meeting. She advised she would take care of it. After this discussion, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mrs. Roque, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt a resolution requesting the Hospital Board of Directors to pay the full cost of hospitalization insurance for employees of the Hospital.

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

**YES:** Cox, Paige, Garrett, Barrios, Hymes, Collier, Hoffpauir, Masters, Roque.

**NO:** Huggins, Cloud.

With **nine (9) voting yes** and **two (2) voting no**, the resolution will be presented to the Hospital Board of Directors.

Motion Carried

President Barrios then recognized Mr. Cloud who stated that he was not denying health insurance for employees but felt the Jury needed to meet with the Hospital Board to ask questions.

On motion by Mr. Collier, duly seconded by Mr. Garrett, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby accept the donation of dirt from Mr. Marcus Ward to use on the installation of a tank car culvert on the Emmanuel Road and for stocking at the Compactor Station.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Hoffpauir, duly seconded by Mr. Collier, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby authorize the purchase and installation of a tank car culvert in the amount of \$4,700.00 for Monroe Street.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Cloud, duly seconded by Mr. Collier, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby start the process to remove 232 feet of P. R. #365, the Black Lake Club Road, from the Parish Road System.

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 award bids received Thursday, January 12, 2006, for the replacement of a HVAC system for the Natchitoches Parish Library to the low bidder ACA, Inc. of Alexandria, Louisiana in the amount of \$356,000.00 and Alternate #1 in the amount of \$5,400.00.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Collier, duly seconded by Mr. Masters, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby amend Section 16-25 and 26 of the Natchitoches Parish Code of Ordinance pertaining to Littering and penalties for violations.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Cloud, duly seconded by Mr. Collier, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby appoint Mr. Chris Paige to the 911 Board of Commissioners.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mrs. Roque, duly seconded by Mr. Paige, 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 December, 2005.

Motion Carried

President Barrios then recognized Mr. Bobby Deen, Director of Public Works, who reported no emergency expenditures for the period of December 22, 2005 through January 18, 2006.

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Masters, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby approve expenditures for the period of December 22, 2005 through January 18, 2006 in the amount of **\$996,653.06.**

Motion Carried

Juror Charles Cloud then said a prayer before the meeting was closed.

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

Motion Carried

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Alice Barrios, President

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Catherine Hamilton,  
Parish Administrator