

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

February 15, 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, February 15, 2006 at nine o'clock (9:00) a.m.

The invocation was given by Mr. James Perry, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Juror William Hymes.

There were present: Honorable Alice Barrios, President, Police Jurors: Joey Cox, J. D. Garrett, Chris Paige, 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 Barrios then stated that the first item on the agenda was the presentation of awards. She then asked Mr. Chris Paige and Mr. Tom Collier to step forward. President Barrios then thanked Mr. Paige for serving as President of the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury and Mr. Collier for serving as Vice-President of the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury for 2004 and 2005. She presented them with a plaque.

President Barrios then recognized Mrs. Roque who asked Mr. John Gregory to come forward to tell the Jury a heart-warming story everyone needs to know. Mr. Gregory stated that Fire Protection District #1 was having a water shuttle at the spillway boat ramp when an accident occurred. He stated the water level was very low at the spillway and there was very slick material on the boat ramp. Mr. Gregory also stated that when Mr. Don Vercher drove the fire truck down the ramp to get water to fill it up, the truck failed to stop and went over the edge of the boat ramp. The water was approximately 20-30 feet deep. He stated that when the truck went in the water with Donald Vercher driving, he called out and could not hear nor see him. He then told Mr. Vercher's wife to call 911. He then stated that he dove in the water to locate Mr. Vercher and when he got into the water he could not see anything and could not find Mr. Vercher. After coming up three times for air he went back down and saw Mr. Vercher's arm and pushed him to the top of the water. Mrs. Roque then stated that the Jury would like to present an award to Mr. John Gregory for his heroic action.

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Garrett, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt the minutes of the regular meeting held Wednesday, January 18, 2006 and the special meeting held Monday, January 30, 2006, special/joint meeting held Monday, January 30, 2006 and the special meetings held Monday, February 6, 2006 and Thursday, February 9, 2006.

Motion Carried

On Motion by Mrs. Roque, duly seconded by Mr. Collier, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby go into public hearing to hear any comments or objections relative to the following items.

Remove 232 feet of P. R. #365, the Black Lake Club Road, from the Parish Road System.

Amend Section 16-25 of the Natchitoches Parish Code of Ordinances pertaining to Littering and penalties for violations.

Motion Carried

President Barrios then declared the Public Hearing open. She then recognized Mr. Kenneth Dowden, Constable, who presented pictures that he took and written citation for these sites. He also requested that there be two constables at the Litter Court every month, and two justices of the peace. He also stated there was a lot of litter falling off of the garbage trucks. He also requested the law be enforced in reference to people putting election signs on the telephone poles. President Barrios then recognized Mr. Paige who asked Mr. Dowden if there was a representative from the Natchitoches Parish Solid Waste Department who attended the Litter Court once a month. Mr. Dowden stated there was no one from that department at the court. President Barrios suggested someone be at the court. Mr. Dowden stated someone from that department would not be of any assistance to the court at this time. Mr. Hymes stated he would like to add to the agenda for next month to make it mandatory that all constables to serve on all litter courts. Mrs. Roque suggested Mr. Dowden check into people who are on probation to do their service picking up trash. Since there were no other comments or objections, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Hymes, duly seconded by Mrs. Roque, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby come out of public hearing.

Motion Carried

Relative to the public hearing, the following action was taken:

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

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Hymes seconded by Mrs. Roque, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby amend Section 16-25 of the Natchitoches Parish Code of Ordinances pertaining to Littering and penalties for violations.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mrs. Roque, duly seconded by Mr. Masters, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby start the process to appoint/reappoint someone to the Natchitoches Parish Planning Commission due to Mr. Meryland Robinson's term expiring.

Motion Carried

President Barrios then stated that the next item on the agenda was the appointing/re-appointing of a Juror to the Natchitoches Parish Hospital Board of Directors due to Mr. William Hymes' term expiring. Mr. Huggins nominated Mr. William Hymes to the Natchitoches Parish Hospital Board of Directors and Mrs. Roque seconded the nominations. Mr. Paige then nominated Mrs. Alice Barrios to the Natchitoches Parish Hospital Board of Directors with Mr. Collier seconding the nominations. President Barrios then asked if there were any other nominations. Since there was none, President Barrios then stated the nominations were closed. She then recognized Mr. Cloud who asked the Jury to table the appointment until next month. Mr. Cloud then stated that the two nominees needed to talk and decide which one should be appointed in order to avoid dissension on the Jury. President Barrios then stated the Jury could table the decision until the next meeting in March. President Barrios then recognized Mr. Hymes who stated that he had the six votes he needed but would be willing to step down from the nomination in order to avoid further dissension and division on the Police Jury. Mr. Cloud then stated "I think you made yourself more of a man today than anyone else, we need more of that on this Jury". Mr. Hymes then thanked Mr. Cloud. After this discussion, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mrs. Roque, duly seconded by Mr. Masters, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby appoint Mrs. Alice Barrios the Natchitoches Parish Hospital Board of Directors.

Motion Carried

President Barrios then asked if there were anyone from Fire Protection District #6 who was seeking appointment to the board. She then recognized Mr. James Perry who stated he was part of the Fire Protection District #6 and was present to request the Jury wait until a later date to re-appoint anyone to this board. President Barrios stated since there were litigation pending, the Jury needs to table this decision until a later date. Mr. Huggins stated he would like to call a special meeting due to the problems Fire Protection District #6 is having. Mr. Paige advised Mr. Perry that if he would like to be considered for appointment on the board he could do so at this meeting. Mr. James Perry then stated that he is officially requesting to be considered for appointment to the Fire Protection District #6 Board of Directors.

On motion by Mr. Hoffpauir, duly seconded by Mr. Collier, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby start the process to appoint/reappoint persons to the Fire Protection District #6 Board of Directors.

Motion Carried

President Barrios then recognized Mr. Paige who stated that he would like the minutes to reflect that Mr. Hymes has left the meeting.

Absent: Mr. Hymes

On motion by Mrs. Roque, duly seconded by Mr. Huggins, 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 January 2006.

Motion Carried

President Barrios then recognized Mr. Tom Collier, Chairman of the Finance & Budget Committee, who presented the following report:

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

On motion by Mr. Huggins, duly seconded by Mr. Masters, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby approve replacing the Natchitoches Parish Health Unit telephone system in the amount of \$10,830.00.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Huggins, duly seconded by Mr. Masters, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby approve calling a  $\frac{1}{2}\%$  sales tax election with  $\frac{1}{4}\%$  being dedicated to maintain roads and the other  $\frac{1}{4}\%$  dedicated for the Criminal Court System.

Motion Carried  
with Mr. Hoffpauir  
abstaining

On motion by Mr. Masters, duly seconded by Mr. Huggins, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby authorize advertising for sealed bid proposals to purchase 60 trash bins for the Solid Waste Department.

Motion Carried

This concluded action on the report of the Finance and Budget Committee.

President Barrios then recognized Mr. Doug Masters, Chairman of the Highway Steering and Solid Waste Committee, who presented the following report:

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

On motion by Mr. Cox, duly seconded by Mr. Collier, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby authorize reinstating the Highway Department employees with the same benefits.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Garrett, duly seconded by Mr. Cloud, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby add P. R. #315, the J. O. Conlay Road, back in to the Parish Road System.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mrs. Roque, duly seconded by Mr. Collier, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby remove P. R. #850A, the Marco Levee Road, from the Parish Road System.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Collier, duly seconded by Mr. Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby authorize the Parish Administrator to use whatever legal course the Jury has to make sure that every Parish ordinance is fully enforced.

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 accept the act of donation from Mr. Charles Cloud to haul reclaimed asphalt from the Louisiana Department of Transportation on Highway 1 South to the Parish Highway Department.

Motion Carried

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

President Barrios then recognized Mr. Bobby Deen, Director of Public Works, who report emergency expenditures for the period of January 19, 2006 through February 15, 2006 in the amount of \$2,071.70.

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 consider approving expenditures for the period of January 19, 2006 through February 15, 2006 in the amount of **\$966,898.49.**

Motion Carried

President Barrios then recognized Mrs. Roque who stated this time every year NACO has a Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C and that she would like to attend. She stated the Federal Government has spent lots of money on the controlling of Meth Labs in our area. Mrs. Roque stated she spoke with President Barrios in reference to going on the trip. President Barrios advised she was not interested in going, due to the fact she could not go at this time. Mrs. Roque said NACO

was looking at recovering some expenses due to Meth related activity, and she believes it would be beneficial if we had someone represent the Jury at the Conference. Relative to this, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Collier, duly seconded by Mr. Hoffpauir, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby add to the agenda approving travel for Mrs. Roque to attend the NACo Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C., March 4-8, 2006.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Collier, duly seconded by Mr. Hoffpauir, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby approve travel for Mrs. Roque to attend the NACo Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C., March 4-8, 2006.

Motion Carried

President Barrios then recognized Mr. Paige who stated that any Juror had the right to add things to agenda. He stated that it was agreed by the whole Jury to add items to the agenda during the Work Session and that no one Juror could stop adding things to the agenda. After a brief discussion, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Huggins, duly seconded by Mr. Masters, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby approve to stop going around the table and adding things to the Work Session agenda.

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

**FOR:** Cox, Huggins, Masters and Barrios

**AGAINST:** Paige, Garrett, Cloud, Collier, Hoffpauir and Roque.

**ABSENT:** Hymes.

With the vote being **four (4)** for and **six (6) against**, the motion to stop going around the table failed.

Motion Failed

President Barrios then asked Mr. Cloud to say a prayer before adjourning.

On motion by Mr. Cox, duly seconded by Mrs. Roque, 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:

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Alice Barrios, President

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Catherine Hamilton,  
Parish Administrator