

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

September 20, 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, September 20, 2006 at nine o'clock (9:00) a.m.

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

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

There were absent: J. D. Garrett, Jessie Hoffpauir and Doug Masters.

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 Mrs. Roque, duly seconded by Mr. Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt the minutes of the regular meeting held Wednesday, August 16, 2006 and the special meeting held Thursday, September 7, 2006.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Cox, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby conduct a public hearing to hear any comments or objections relative to overturning the decision of the Natchitoches Parish Planning Commission denying the rezoning to Mississippi Mex Inc. of a 0.701 acre tract of land situated in irregular Section 78, T8N R6W from I-A to B-3 to operate a restaurant with alcohol sales for consumption on premises on LA Highway 494.

Motion Carried

President Barrios then declared the Public Hearing open. She then asked if there were anyone present who had any comments or objections relative to overturning the decision of the Natchitoches Parish Planning Commission denying the rezoning to Mississippi Mex Inc. of a 0.701 acre tract of land situated in irregular Section 78, T8N R6W from I-A to B-3 to operate a restaurant with alcohol sales for consumption on premises on LA Highway 494.

President Barrios then recognized Mr. Robert Dunwar who stated that he was the attorney representing the trust who was also in opposition to the rezoning. He stated that he would like this area to remain residential. President Barrios then recognized Mr. Danny Methvin who stated that he owned the land that is across the highway from the property. Mr. Methvin told the Jury that he had over a quarter of a million dollars of equipment stored on his property and if the rezoning would happen he would be bother with beer bottles and damage to his equipment and land. Ms. Susan Cloutier told the Jury that she was not within the 300 feet but was adjacent down the road. Ms. Cloutier stated that she was opposed to the rezoning and asked the Jury to deny the request of Mississippi Mex Inc. She also stated that this rezoning would decrease her property values and her enjoyment of Cane River.

President Barrios then recognized Mrs. Nancy Morgan, Executive Director of the Cane River National Heritage Area who stated that she was strongly in support of this rezoning. She stated that this project was the best one that had come forward in a long time. Mrs. Morgan stated that it was a lot of fear that this was going to be a tacky bar but she felt that this was not the case. She stated that this would be an economic asset to the Parish and that her Board was fully in support of this restaurant. Mrs. Morgan went on to say that this restaurant would be an economic asset to the Cane River National Heritage. She also stated that her Board had sent a letter in support of this project. Juror Roque then stated that she would like to go on record as saying that she very much understood the objectives and desires of the Cane River National Heritage Area, however, she represented the people of the community and it is the people of the community that who is opposed to the situation. She stated that she personally would like to see the facility go in because the parish need the revenue and understand the importance of economic development but she was representing the people. President Barrios then recognized Mrs. Saidee Watson Newell, Co-Chairman and Louisiana Advisor to the National Trust of Historic Preservation. Mrs. Newell stated that it is important to reestablish this building. She also stated that it was a historic building and that the owners are willing to restore. She went on to say that this is what preservation is about. Mrs. Newell then told the Jury that a lot of people come down to the river to see the wonderful sites and there is no place to eat down there. She stated that the restaurant would be a good asset to have and restore the building. President Barrios then stated that it is a tragic when you are trying to further economic development but you can't do it at the expense of the constituents. She hope that the owners of Mississippi Mex, Inc. and the Planning Director would get together to find another location. Since there were no other comments or objections, the following action was taken:

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

President Barrios then declared the Public Hearing closed.

Relative to this, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mrs. Roque, duly seconded by Mr. Hymes, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby overturn the decision of the Natchitoches Parish Planning Commission denying the rezoning to Mississippi Mex, Inc. of a 0.701 acre tract of land situated in irregular Section 78, T8N, R6W from I-A to B-3 to operate a restaurant with alcohol sales for consumption on premises on LA Highway 494.

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

**YES**: None.

**NO**: Cox, Paige, Hymes, Huggins, Cloud, Collier, Roque and Barrios.

**ABSENT**: Garrett, Hoffpauir and Masters.

With the vote being zero (0) for and eight (8) against, the motion to overturn the decision of the Natchitoches Planning Commission denying the rezoning to Mississippi Mex, Inc. of a 0.701 acre tract of land situated in irregular Section 78, T8N, R6W from I-A to B-3 to operate a restaurant with alcohol sales for consumption on premises on LA Highway 494 failed.

Motion Failed

On motion by Mr. Hymes, duly seconded by Mr. Collier, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby conduct a public hearing with the Police Jury sitting as a "Board of Review" to hear any and all protests or complaints on values of property for assessment purposes fixed by the Natchitoches Parish Tax Assessor.

Motion Carried

President Barrios then declared the Public Hearing opened. She then asked if there were anyone present who had any protests or complaints on values of property for assessment purposes fixed by the Natchitoches Parish Tax Assessor. Relative to this, the following action was taken:

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

Motion Carried

President Barrios then declared the Public Hearing closed.

The Jury then unanimously agreed on values of property for assessment purposes fixed by the Natchitoches Parish Tax Assessor.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mrs. Roque, duly seconded by Mrs. Hymes, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby conduct a public hearing with the Police Jury sitting as a "Board of Review" to hear any and all protests or complaints on values of property for pipeline reassessment purposes fixed by the Natchitoches Parish Tax Assessor for the tax years 2000-2003.

Motion Carried

President Barrios then declared the public hearing open. She stated that Tennessee Gas Pipeline had requested an appeal. President Barrios then recognized Mr. Rick Hargis, Tax Assessor, who stated that he was present to state his values placed on the Tennessee Gas Pipeline for the years 2000-2003. He stated that the values he placed for the tax year 2000 was \$7,996,180.00, tax year 2001 - \$7,731,750.00, tax year 2002 - \$8,021,060.00 and for the tax year 2003 - \$8,478,130.00. Mr. Hargis then stated that President Barrios is holding the information packet that he is presenting to be made a part of the minutes.

President Barrios then stated that Tennessee Gas Pipeline had file a protests which was Exhibit #1 and would be made a part of the minutes. Relative to the Public Hearing, the following action was taken:

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

President Barrios then closed the public hearing.

On motion by Mr. Hymes, duly seconded by Mr. Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby sustain the values of property for pipeline by upholding the reassessment purposes fixed by the Natchitoches Parish Tax Assessor for the tax years 2000-2003.

Motion Carried

President Barrios then recognized Mr. Hargis again who stated to the Jury that he would like to present his annual report:

On motion by Mr. Huggins, duly seconded by Mr. Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby start the process to appoint/re-appoint someone to the Natchitoches Parish Library Board of Control due to Mr. Burton Weaver's term expiring.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Collier, duly seconded by Mrs. Roque, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt the Annual Certification of Compliance with State of Louisiana, Off System Bridge Replacement Program.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Collier, duly seconded by Mrs. Roque, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt a method of payment for the Kisatchie monies and declare a 15% amount to spend for Title III.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mrs. Roque, duly seconded by Mr. Cox, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby start the process to appoint someone to the Natchitoches Parish Hospital Board of Directors due to Mr. George Celles, IV resigning and his term expiring.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Collier, duly seconded by Mr. Huggins, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby approve the closure of the North DeSoto Head Start Center due to insufficient enrollment.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Cox, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt a resolution authorizing the President to sign the necessary forms to submit a grant to the Louisiana Office of Community Development Program to make repairs to the Shady Grove Community Center in the amount of \$10,000.00.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Hymes, duly seconded by Mr. Huggins, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt a resolution authorizing the President to sign the necessary forms to submit a grant to the Louisiana Office of Community Development Grant Program in the amount of \$10,000.00 to renovate the Marthaville Community Center.

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 adopt a resolution authorizing the President to sign the necessary forms to submit a grant to the Louisiana Office of Community Development Grant Program in the amount of \$50,000.00 to construct a water line for residents of the Lime Kiln Road.

Motion Carried

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Hymes, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby approve entering into a mutual aid agreement with the City of Natchitoches in establishing the Natchitoches Parish Emergency Response Team Operations.

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 adopt and implementing the National Incident Management System (NIMS) for the Parish of Natchitoches and authorize the President to sign the Certification of Compliance.

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 accept the report of the Office of Community Services for the month of August, 2006.

Motion Carried

President Barrios then recognized the Parish Administrator who presented the report of the Highway Steering-Solid Waste Committee:

Relative to the above report, 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 start the process to change the speed limit on P. R. #441B, the Felix Moore Road, from 35 mph to 5 mph.

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 adopt a resolution adding into the Parish Road System 0.77 mile of a section of LA-9 as requested by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development.

Motion Carried

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

On motion by Mr. Collier, duly seconded by Mr. Hymes, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt a resolution authorizing the President of the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury to request an increase in the funds appropriated by the state of Louisiana for State Project No. 305-02-0016, four laning of Louisiana Highway 480 in the vicinity of the Weyerhauser Mill in Natchitoches Parish.

Motion Carried

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On motion by Mr. Huggins, duly seconded by Mr. Collier, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt the boundaries corrections for Fire District #1,4,5 and 7.

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 appoint Mr. Fred Jacobs and Mr. Ralph Hernandez to the Fire Protection District #5 Board of Directors.

Motion Carried

President Barrios then recognized Mr. Earl Townsend, Director of Public Works, who reported emergency expenditures for the period of August 16, 2006 through September 20, 2006 in the amount of **\$79.33.**

On motion by Mr. Cox, duly seconded by Mr. Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby approve expenditures for the period of August 16, 2006 through September 20, 2006, in the amount of **\$1,077,332.92.**

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 add to the agenda entering into an agreement with IESI for the collection and disposal of solid waste subject to agreed amendments to the contract.

Motion Carried

President Barrios then recognized Mrs. Roque who stated that it was her understanding when the Jury left the meeting the other night that the Jury had talked about two things in changing the contract, one was adding a fifth compactor site and the other was the \$50,000.00 increase in rate for this site. She stated that the clause has been added but the number for fifth compactor station and the rate has not been change. President Barrios then recognized Mr. Ronnie French who asked the Jury if this was for the purchase of the land. After a lengthy discussion, 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 approve entering into an agreement with IESI for the collection and disposal of solid waste subject to agreed amendments to the contract.

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

YEAS: Cox, Paige, Hymes, Huggins, Cloud, Collier, and Barrios.

NAYS: Roque.

ABSENT: Garrett, Hoffpauir and Masters.

With the vote being **seven (7) yes** and **one (1) nay**, the vote to approve entering into an agreement with IESI for the collection and disposal of solid waste subject to agreed amendments to the contract.

Motion Carried

Mrs. Roque then stated that for the record she would like to it to be known that in the initial contract there is simply an exception that said they can come back and build another one and they are not addressing the need at this time with the initial contract to build a compactor station in the northern part of District 11 and southern part of District #1 which is very needed at this time. There is simply an exception that will allow them to come back and do it if there is a land acquisition and we have not been able to acquire the land and that is the purpose the fifth is not included in this area.

Police Juror Charles Cloud then said a prayer before closing the President closed the meeting.

On motion by Mr. Hymes, 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

ATTEST:

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Alice Barrios, President

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Catherine Hamilton,  
Parish Administrator