

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICE JURY, PARISH OF
OUACHITA, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN AT A
REGULAR MEETING HELD MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2009 AT
5:35 P.M.**

The Police Jury of the Parish of Ouachita, State of Louisiana met in regular and legal session in the Ouachita Parish Police Jury Meeting Room, Courthouse Building, Monroe, Louisiana on Monday, March 2, 2009 at 5:35 p.m., and was duly convened by Mr. Shane Smiley, President, who stated that the Police Jury was ready for the transaction of business.

<u>Members Present</u>	(5)
Charles Jackson	District A
Mack Calhoun	District B
Dorth Blade	District D
Shane Smiley	District E
Pat Moore	District F
<u>Members Absent</u>	(1)
Walt Caldwell	District C

Invocation was given by Mr. Mack Calhoun. Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by Mr. Mack Calhoun.

A motion to adopt the minutes of the police jury meeting including the committee meetings held on February 17, 2009, was offered by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Blade. Motion passed without opposition.

VISITORS:

The president recognized visitor Marky Tucker, Ouachita Parish Sheriff's Office. Ms. Tucker was not present.

The president recognized Zeta Edwards and Mr. Dewayne Guice, Harrisonburg, Louisiana. Mr. Guice stated that he was organizing a petition for state legislation increasing penalties for sex offenders and to support a bill that the governor is proposing. Mr. Guice asked that the police jury endorse the petition by signature or by resolution. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Caldwell appeared at this time.

PUBLIC HEARING:

The president convened a PUBLIC HEARING on Ordinance No. 8918 that amends Chapter 20, Article VIII of the Compiled Ordinances of Ouachita Parish Governing “Waterworks” to adjust the Per Diem to Commissioners of the Prairie Road Water District. No one appeared to speak in favor of or against the ordinance. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Jackson to close the public hearing. Motion passed without opposition.

The president indicated that Ms. Marky Tucker was present at this time. Ms. Tucker, Grant Writer with the Ouachita Parish Sheriff’s Office spoke regarding The Second Chance Act passed last year. Ms. Moore indicated that this was an item on her agenda. The president asked that the matter be taken up at this time. None objected. Discussion ensued. Ms. Moore asked that the matter be placed on the April 6th agenda of the jury.

The president announced the following service awards for the month of March.

WIA
ROSEMARY HENRY – 5YEARS

GREEN OAKS
NEAL SCHOOLEY – 15 YEARS

PERMIT OFFICE
JOYCE SCHROCK – 10 YEARS

The president asked for a motion to recess the Regular Police Jury Meeting in favor of the Personnel Committee meeting. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Blade to recess the regular meeting and enter into the Personnel Committee meeting. Motion passed without opposition.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING

The chairman, Mr. Blade called the Personnel Committee meeting to order at 5:56 p.m. The chairman recognized Mr. Brad Cammack. Mr. Cammack indicated that he had no items.

The chairman recognized Mr. Tims, LaJet Director. Mr. Tims spoke regarding adopting the same work schedule as the WIA Office and the holidays of the police jury. Those working hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Monday through Thursday with 30 minutes for lunch) and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday with an hour for lunch. Discussion ensued. Motion

offered by Mr. Calhoun, seconded by Mr. Caldwell to grant the request of Mr. Tims regarding the work schedule. Motion passed without opposition.

The chairman recognized Chief Hemphill, Fire Department. The chief indicated that he had three personnel actions to recommend for approval.

Confirmations:

Bradshaw, Kalee	Prob. Fire Records Clerk	Perm. Fire Records Clerk	Effective 3/10/09
Daily, Ronald	Prob. District Fire Chief	Perm. District Fire Chief	Effective 3/10/09
Murray, Harold	Prob. District Fire Chief	Perm. District Fire Chief	Effective 3/10/09

Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Smiley to accept the recommendation of the fire chief. Motion passed without opposition.

The chairman recognized Mr. Beckham, Homeland Security. Mr. Beckham spoke regarding the salary increase for his Administrative Assistant. Discussion ensued. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Jackson to ratify the action of the Homeland Security Council regarding the salary increase for the Administrative Assistant in the Homeland Security Office that had become effective February 23, 2009. Motion passed without opposition.

The chairman asked the jury to waive the agenda to take up the matter regarding the open position of Juvenile Detention Officer II at Green Oaks. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Calhoun to waive the agenda to take up the matter. Motion passed without opposition.

The chairman recognized Mr. Rhodes, Green Oaks. Mr. Rhodes spoke regarding the open position of Juvenile Detention Officer II and recommended hiring Sigmund Treadway, Jr., in the position. Motion offered by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Blade to accept the recommendation to hire Sigmund Treadway, Jr., in the position of Juvenile Detention Officer II. Motion passed without opposition.

The chairman asked whether there was any other business to come before the Personnel Committee. There was none. Motion offered by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Caldwell to adjourn. The Personnel Committee meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

The president asked for a motion to convene as the Public Works Committee. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Blade to convene as the Public Work Committee. Motion passed without opposition.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING

The chairman, Mr. Calhoun called the Public Works Committee meeting to order at 6:12

p.m.

The chairman recognized Mr. Smiley, District E. Mr. Smiley spoke regarding the traffic conditions at Old Sterlington Rd and Karen Drive. Motion offered by Mr. Smiley, seconded by Mr. Calhoun to allow Public Works or Mr. Harrison to gather the necessary information; to make a recommendation to the jury whether or not a traffic light is required at the intersection of Old Sterlington Rd and Karen Drive. Motion passed without opposition.

The chairman recognized Mr. Murray, Public Works. Mr. Murray indicated that he had no items.

Motion offered by Mr. Smiley, seconded by Mr. Blade to adjourn the Public Works Committee meeting. Motion passed without opposition.

The president asked for a motion to reconvene the regular meeting of the police jury. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Blade to reconvene the regular meeting. Motion passed without opposition. The regular meeting was reconvened at 6:15 p.m.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

The following department heads presented monthly reports.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: Deputy Wayne Heckford

Deputy Heckford reminded the jury of the Great American Cleanup scheduled for Saturday, March 7th, and invited everyone to participate.

LIBRARY: Ms. Cheryl Mouliere, Director

Ms. Mouliere spoke regarding the delays concerning construction of the new branches of the library. The primary issue was LA DOTD's previously unenforced requirements for addressing drainage to roadside ditches. Discussion ensued. No action was taken on this matter.

911 OFFICE: Mr. Craig Lott

Mr. Lott spoke regarding the proposed legislation for prepaid wireless fees to 911. Mr. Lott asked that the jury support a local bill to support the collection of this fee if the proposed bill fails. Discussion ensued. The jury requested that Mr. Lott gather additional information for jury review. No action was taken on this matter.

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT: Ms. Doretha Bennett, Director

Ms. Bennett spoke regarding an amendment to the TTA Contract that is forthcoming due to the additional layoffs and plant closing in the eleven parish region.

MOTIONS * ORDINANCES * RESOLUTIONS:

The president recognized Mr. Jackson, District A.

MR. CHARLES JACKSON, DISTRICT A:

Mr. Jackson spoke regarding the Jail Operations Budget and asked that Mr. Cammack speak on the matter. Mr. Cammack updated the jury on the Jail Operations Budget as it relates to the General Fund. Discussion ensued. No action was taken on this matter.

The president recognized Mr. Calhoun, District B.

MR. CALHOUN, DISTRICT B:

Mr. Calhoun asked that the matter concerning West Ouachita Recreation District be deferred until the next meeting of the jury.

The following ordinance was introduced by Mr. Calhoun:

ORDINANCE NO. 8919 (INTRODUCTION)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 14.1, DECREASING THE SPEED LIMIT ON EVERGREEN STREET FROM THIRTY-FIVE (35) MILES PER HOUR TO TWENTY-FIVE (25) MILES PER HOUR; AND FURTHER PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Ouachita Parish Police Jury has heretofore established a specific speed limit of thirty-five (35) mph on Evergreen Street, a parish road located in District B of Ouachita Parish;

WHEREAS, decreasing the speed limit to twenty-five miles-per-hour (25 mph) on Evergreen Street is in the public interest,

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED by the Ouachita Parish Police Jury in legal and regular session that Section 14-1 of the Compiled Ordinances of the Ouachita Parish Police Jury, be and hereby amended as follows, to-wit:

Section 14.1 Speed Limits

Evergreen Street – 25 miles per hour

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that Notice of this proposed speed limit be published in the Official Journal of the Ouachita Parish Police Jury and a Public Hearing be held to hear comments from all interested parties.

* * *

Mr. Calhoun spoke regarding the request of the NELA Motorcyclists for Kids to use Cheniere Lake Area 8 for their Annual Poker Run scheduled for June 8-14, 2009. Motion offered by Mr. Calhoun, seconded by Mr. Caldwell to grant the request. Motion passed without opposition.

Mr. Calhoun asked Mr. Harrison to speak regarding the bathrooms at Cheniere Lake Park Area 3. Mr. Harrison indicated that bids for the project went out last week. No other action was taken on this matter.

Mr. Calhoun asked to amend the agenda to take up the matter requesting assistance from the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries in controlling aquatic weeds on Cheniere Lake, seconded by Mr. Jackson. Motion passed without opposition.

The following Resolution was offered by Mr. Calhoun, seconded by Mr. Caldwell:

RESOLUTION NO. 09-03

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING ASSISTANCE OF THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES IN THE CONTROL OF AQUATIC WEEDS ON CHENIERE LAKE; AND FURTHER PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, Cheniere Lake is a valuable recreational asset to the people of Ouachita Parish and the surrounding area of Northeast and North Central Louisiana;

WHEREAS, the Ouachita Parish Police Jury has worked closely with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries in the management of Cheniere Lake and in the development of Cheniere Lake as a destination for area anglers seeking trophy Largemouth “Florida” Bass;

WHEREAS, the Ouachita Parish Police Jury has learned that foreign aquatic weeds, believed to be primarily Common Salvina, are beginning to proliferate in Cheniere Lake and could threaten to seriously impact public use of the Lake and the health of the vibrant fishery that has been developed; and,

WHEREAS, the Ouachita Parish Police Jury does not have the expertise or equipment to alone accomplish the task of controlling these noxious aquatic weeds that have been introduced into Cheniere Lake;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Ouachita Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session hereby requests the assistance of the Louisiana Department of

Wildlife and Fisheries in efforts to control Common Salvina and other foreign aquatic weeds threatening Cheniere Lake.

The above Resolution was adopted the 2nd day of March, 2009. No opposition.

The president recognized Mr. Caldwell, District C.

MR. CALDWELL, DISTRICT C:

Mr. Caldwell indicated that he had no items.

The president recognized Mr. Blade, District D.

MR. BLADE, DISTRICT D:

The following ordinance was offered for final adoption by Mr. Blade, seconded by Mr. Caldwell:

ORDINANCE NO. 8918 (FINAL)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 20, ARTICLE VIII OF THE COMPILED ORDINANCES OF OUACHITA PARISH GOVERNING “WATERWORKS” TO ADJUST THE PER DIEM PAID TO COMMISSIONERS OF THE PRAIRIE ROAD WATER DISTRICT; AND FURTHER PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, pursuant to state law the Ouachita Parish Police Jury created the Prairie Road Water District by the adoption of Ordinance No. 7333 on or about May 8, 1972;

WHEREAS, said Ordinance fixed the per diem to be paid to the Commissioners of the District at \$25.00 per meeting up to twelve (12) meetings per year; and,

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 33:3819 now allows the Commissioners of waterworks districts such as Prairie Road Water District to receive a per diem of \$60.00 for each meeting the attend up to twenty-four (24) regular meetings and twelve (12) special meetings per year;

WHEREAS, the Ouachita Parish Police Jury desires to adjust the per diem fixed for commissioners of the Prairie Road Water District to the limits established by La.33:3819;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED by the Ouachita Parish Police Jury in legal and regular session that Sec. 20-231 of the Compiled Ordinances of Ouachita Parish, Louisiana be, and hereby

is, supplemented and amended as follows to adjust the per diem fixed for commissioners of the Prairie Road Water District to the limits established by La.33:3819:

“Sec. 20-231. Meetings of board; creation and filling of vacancies; per diem established.

The commissioners of the district may meet as often as necessary, but shall meet at least once every sixty (60) days. The absence of a commissioner from any four (4) consecutive meetings shall be deemed as a vacancy and it shall be filled by the police jury if the commissioner had been appointed by the police jury. The members of the board of commissioners shall each receive a per diem of sixty dollars (\$60.00) for each meeting they attend, but shall not be paid for more than twenty-four regular and twelve (12) special meetings in each year. They shall be paid out of the district funds in the hands of the treasurer.”

The above Ordinance was introduced on the 17th day of February, 2009.

The ordinance was submitted to a roll call vote, and the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS	(5)
NAYS	(0)
ABSTAINING	(1) Blade
ABSENT	(0)

The above Ordinance was adopted on the 2nd day of March 2009.

* * *

MR. SHANE SMILEY, DISTRICT E:

Mr. Smiley spoke regarding the request of the Pilot Club to proclaim the week of March 1-7, 2009, Junior Miss Week. Motion offered by Mr. Smiley, seconded by Mr. Jackson. Motion passed without opposition.

Mr. Smiley spoke regarding the need for a Cost Consultant for Phase I of the Finks Hideaway Project. Mr. Harrison spoke regarding the matter. Discussion ensued. Motion offered by Mr. Smiley, seconded by Mr. Blade to hire Mr. Jack Greene as the Cost Consultant to complete the appraisals for Phase I of the Finks Hideaway Project. Motion passed without opposition.

The president recognized Ms. Moore, District F.

MS. PAT MOORE, DISTRICT F:

Ms. Moore spoke regarding the Safe Routes to School Grant application for Shady Grove Elementary School. Ms. Moore indicated that Ms. Pam Barton of the Ouachita Parish

School Board was present to update the jury on this matter. Ms. Barton indicated that she was resubmitting the grant application submitted last year by Mr. Harrison and including an educational module which is a very important part of the application process. Brief discussion ensued. No action was taken on this matter.

Ms. Moore spoke regarding the status of the grant application for the Department of Labor Youth Offender Planning Grant. Ms. Moore indicated that there was not enough time to get the application done and submitted before the deadline. No other action was taken on this matter.

Ms. Moore asked Mr. Harrison to speak regarding the Right of Way Appraiser for the Tanglewood Flood Control Project. Mr. Harrison recommended to the jury to hire an appraiser to appraise the 42 right of way parcels for the project. Discussion ensued. Motion offered by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Jackson to accept the recommendation of Mr. Harrison to hire Richard Moore as the primary appraiser for the project and if needed hire Todd Tidwell as a backup. Motion passed with Mr. Caldwell abstaining.

Ms. Moore spoke regarding the Great American Cleanup scheduled for March 7, 2009 and reminded everyone to participate.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

The president recognized Mr. Cammack, Fiscal.

FISCAL: Mr. Brad Cammack, Treasurer

Mr. Cammack indicated that he had no items.

The president recognized Chief Hemphill, Fire Department.

FIRE: Chief Pat Hemphill, Fire Department

Chief indicated he had no items.

The president recognized Mr. Mitchell, Legal Counsel.

LEGAL: Mr. Jay B. Mitchell, Assist. Dist. Attorney

Mr. Mitchell spoke regarding the request by OCOG to place the information regarding the ambulance contract on the parish website. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Blade to put the zone map, rate schedule, and ordinance relating to the Ambulance Contract on the parish website. Motion passed without opposition.

Mr. Mitchell spoke regarding the appointment of a member to the ambulance committee. Discussion ensued. Motion offered by Mr. Smiley, seconded by Mr. Calhoun to appoint Chief Hemphill to the Ambulance Committee. Motion passed with Mr. Caldwell abstaining.

The president recognized Mr. Murray, Public Works Director.

PUBLIC WORKS: Mr. John Tom Murray, Director

Mr. Murray indicated that he had no items.

The president recognized Mr. Harrison, Parish Engineer

ROADS & DRAINAGE: Mr. Don Harrison, Engineer

Mr. Harrison spoke regarding the Federal Economic Stimulus Bill. Mr. Harrison stated that approximately 8.3 million dollars was earmarked for this area, and that OCOG-Technical Advisory Committee had formerly adopted a list of projects for the monies. The list included projects from both cities as well as the parish.

Mr. Harrison stated that an additional \$10 million had been dedicated for off-system bridges. Mr. Harrison indicated that DOTD has prepared a listing of bridges for the 10 million, but has not released it as of yet which included bridges located in the parish.

Mr. Harrison stated that he had received notice from DEQ on waste water improvement projects under the stimulus bill. Mr. Harrison stated that we have until March 13th to submit projects for these monies. Mr. Harrison indicated that he had contacted Greater Ouachita Water and other agencies concerning these funds. Mr. Harrison indicated that a resolution would have to be adopted to authorize the application process. Discussion ensued.

The following Resolution was offered by Mr. Smiley, seconded by Ms. Moore:

RESOLUTION NO. 09-04

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDING ASSISTANCE UNDER THE CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY FOR “SEWERAGE IMPROVEMENTS ALONG LA 139 CORRIDOR, OUACHITA PARISH, LOUISIANA”; AND FURTHER PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the American Resource and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) was signed into law on February 17, 2009; and

WHEREAS, the State of Louisiana Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) stands to receive approximately \$42,982,236, for the improvement of wastewater infrastructure and other water quality improvement projects; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality is considering projects to be funded through the CWSRF with ARRA funds; and

WHEREAS, the Ouachita Parish Police Jury is desirous of submitting an application for funding assistance under the Clean Water State Revolving Fund administered by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality for a project entitled: "Sewerage Improvements Along LA 139 Corridor, Ouachita Parish, Louisiana,"

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Ouachita Parish Police Jury in legal session convened on the 2nd day of March, 2009, that the Ouachita Parish Police Jury hereby authorizes an application for funding assistance under the Clean Water State Revolving Fund administered by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality for a project entitled: "Sewerage Improvements Along LA 139 Corridor, Ouachita Parish, Louisiana," and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Shane Smiley, President is hereby authorized and empowered to execute the required documents on behalf of the Ouachita Parish Police jury to formalize said application.

The above Resolution was adopted this 2nd day of March, 2009.

Mr. Harrison spoke regarding the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. Mr. Harrison indicated that two projects had been submitted for consideration under this program. Mr. Harrison stated that FEMA now requires a benefit cost ratio analysis on each project submitted for funding. Mr. Harrison indicated that the two projects (Oak Circle and Park Terrace) submitted did not meet the criteria of the required benefit cost ratio analysis. Mr. Harrison asked the jury to consider the Downing Pines Project with the city of West Monroe, which meets the benefit cost ratio. Discussion ensued. Motion offered by Mr. Smiley, seconded by Mr. Caldwell to enter into a working agreement with the City of West Monroe to pursue funding for the Downing Pines Project. Motion passed without opposition.

BEER AND WHISKEY APPLICATIONS:

Mr. Mitchell presented and recommended for approval the following application for beer and whiskey. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Smiley to approve the application. Motion passed without opposition.

ALI, SHERRY C.

**DBA CAYLI, LLC DBA HOUSE
OF DAIQUIRIS, 2500
ARKANSAS RD, SUITE 3, WEST
MONROE, LA 71291 RETAIL
BEER CLASS "A", RETAIL
LIQUOR CLASS "C" - 2009
NEW**

INVITATION FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Mr. James Poe of 121 Camp Drive, West Monroe spoke regarding the burning of leaves and trash in the parish. Mr. Poe asked that the jury would enforce the law regarding the burning of leaves and trash in the parish. No action was taken on this matter.

There being no other business to come before the jury, a motion to adjourn was offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Jackson to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

A D J O U R N !