

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICE JURY, PARISH OF OUACHITA,
STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN AT A REGULAR MEETING HELD
MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2009 AT 5:32 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, April 6, 2009, at 5:32 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>	(6)
Charles Jackson	District A
Mack Calhoun	District B
Walt Caldwell	District C
Dorth Blade	District D
Shane Smiley	District E
Pat Moore	District F

Members Absent **(0)**

Invocation was given by Mr. Charles Jackson. Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by Mr. Charles Jackson.

Motion to adopt the minutes of the Regular Police Jury meeting including the committee meetings held on March 16, 2009, was offered by Mrs. Moore, seconded by Mr. Jackson. Motion passed without opposition.

VISITORS:

The president recognized Ms. Barbara Sharp, 1247 Hwy 594, Monroe, LA. Mrs. Sharp spoke regarding the trash and debris on the southside on the parish. Mrs. Sharp requested that the jury use whatever means necessary to enforce parish ordinances to alleviate the problems. Ms. Moore spoke to the matter. No other action was taken on this matter.

The president recognized Michael Echols, ULM of 1800 Riverside Drive. Mr. Echols spoke regarding a public access television channel. Mr. Caldwell spoke regarding the matter and stated that the matter was on his agenda. Mr. Mitchell spoke regarding the existing franchise agreements with the local cable companies. The jury requested that the parish attorney along with Mr. Echols gather additional information and report back to them.

The president recognized Dr. Mike Gomilla and Marky Tucker, Ouachita Parish Sheriff's Office. Dr. Gomilla spoke regarding the Second Chance Act Grant and asked that the police jury adopt a resolution in support of the grant. The president indicated that this matter was an item on Ms.

Moore agenda and asked whether anyone had a problem addressing the mater at this time. No one had an issue with addressing the matter at this time. The following resolution was offered by Ms. Moore and seconded by Mr. Calhoun:

RESOLUTION NO. 09-12

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE EFFORTS OF THE NORTHEAST LOUISIANA COALITION FOR RE-ENTRY AND ITS APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDING THROUGH “THE SECOND CHANCE ACT PRISON RE-ENTRY INITIATIVE”; AND, FURTHER PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO:

WHEREAS, the Louisiana DHH Region VII Office for Addictive Disorders, the Sheriff of Ouachita Parish, Richwood Correctional Center, et al., have joined together as “the Northeast Louisiana Coalition for Re-Entry” to explore and offer programs to aid prisoners in re-entry to society upon the completion of their sentences and thereby reduce recidivism;

WHEREAS, with the Louisiana DHH Region VIII Office for Addictive Disorders acting as the Lead Agency, said Coalition anticipates making an application for grant funding through “The Second Chance Act Prison Re-Entry Initiative”;

WHEREAS, the Ouachita Parish Police Jury finds that the efforts of the Northeast Louisiana Coalition for Re-entry serve the interest of the citizens of Ouachita Parish by, *inter alia*, reducing recidivism and thereby reducing the cost of operating the criminal justice system including the Ouachita Correctional Center;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ouachita Parish Police Jury hereby evidences its support of the efforts of the Northeast Louisiana Coalition for Re-entry, including its application for agrant funding through “The Second Chance Act Prison Re-Entry Initiative”;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ouachita Parish Police Jury expresses its appreciation to the Louisiana DHH Region VIII Office for Addictive Disorders; Sheriff Royce Toney of Ouachita Parish; Richwood Correctional Center, and the other Coalition members for their valuable efforts in this regard.

The above Resolution was adopted the 6th day of April 2009.

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The president recognized visitor Kevin Crosby of Lazenby & Associates. Mr. Crosby spoke regarding the stimulus package and the sewer districts in West Monroe. Mr. Crosby asked the jury for permission to conduct an environmental study for the proposed project that would bring several subdivisions into West Ouachita Sewer District 5 & 16. Mr. Jackson indicated that this matter was on his agenda and asked that the matter be addressed at this time. There were no

objections to taking up the matter at this time. Motion offered by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Calhoun to approve the proposal submitted by Lazenby & Associates, for the environmental study and permitting from the Corps of Engineers for a price not to exceed \$6,000. Motion passed without opposition.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

The president convened a Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 8921-- An ordinance declaring the intent of the Ouachita Parish Police Jury to take full ownership of certain adjudicated properties; municipal address -118 South 19th, Monroe, LA 71201. No one appeared to speak in favor or against this ordinance. Motion offered by Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Calhoun to close the public hearing. Motion passed without opposition.

The president convened a Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 8922 - An ordinance declaring the intent of the Ouachita Parish Police Jury to take full ownership of certain adjudicated properties; municipal address -119 South 20th, Monroe, LA 71201. No one appeared to speak in favor or against this ordinance. Motion offered by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Caldwell to close the public hearing. Motion passed without opposition.

The president convened a Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 8923 - An ordinance declaring the intent of the Ouachita Parish Police Jury to take full ownership of certain adjudicated properties; municipal address -111 South 20th, Monroe, LA 71201. No one appeared to speak in favor or against this ordinance. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Ms. Moore to close the public hearing. Motion passed without opposition.

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

PUBLIC WORKS
JACKIE GUNTER – 30 YEARS
MICHAEL ADAMS – 15 YEARS

The president requested a motion to recess the Regular Police Jury meeting and to reconvene as the Personnel Committee. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Ms. Moore to recess the regular meeting and reconvene as the Personnel Committee Meeting. Motion passed without opposition.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING

The chairman, Mr. Dorth Blade called the Personnel Committee meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

The chairman recognized Ms. Bennett, WIA Director. Ms. Bennett spoke regarding the request to approve four new job descriptions. Discussion ensued. Motion offered by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Jackson to approve four new job descriptions, namely Job Readiness

Coordinator, Job Developer, Workforce Development Officer II and Resource Development Director. Motion passed with Mr. Caldwell opposing.

Ms. Bennett spoke regarding opening the new position. Motion offered by Mr. Calhoun, seconded by Mr. Blade to open the four new positions. Motion passed with Mr. Caldwell opposing.

Ms. Bennett spoke regarding hiring in the position of Job Readiness Coordinator, Job Developer and Workforce Development Officer II. Motion offered by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Blade to hire in the three stated positions. Motion passed with Mr. Caldwell opposing.

The chairman recognized Mr. Murray, Public Works Director. Mr. Murray spoke regarding the termination of Keith Blakes. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Smiley to terminate Keith Blakes effective April 6, 2009. Motion passed without opposition.

Mr. Murray spoke regarding the hiring of two (2) Equipment Operator I. Motion offered by Mr. Calhoun, seconded by Mr. Caldwell to hire Carl Long and Justin Kelley in the position of Equipment Operator I. Motion passed without opposition.

Mr. Murray spoke regarding the hiring of an Equipment Operator II. Motion offered by Mr. Calhoun, seconded by Mr. Caldwell to hire Adam Holloway in the position of Equipment Operator II. Motion passed without opposition.

The chairman stated that personnel matters relating to the fire department had been omitted from the agenda and asked for a waiver at this time. Motion offered by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Caldwell to amend the agenda to add the personnel items of the Fire Department by reason of the urgency to take care of the matters before the next meeting. Motion passed without opposition.

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

CONFIRMATION

Jordan, Perry L.	From Prob Dist Fire Chief	To Perm District Fire Chief	Effective 4/8/09
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Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Smiley to accept the recommendation of the fire chief. Motion passed without opposition.

SICK LEAVE

Cross, Richard L.	Extended Sick Leave	Effective Date 2/17/09
Hunter, Charles W.	Termination of Extended Sick Leave	Effective Date 3/28/09

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

LEAVE

Burse, Larry J.	Military Leave Without Pay	Effective 4/22/09
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Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Calhoun to accept the recommendation of the fire chief. Motion passed without opposition.

Motion offered by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Caldwell to adjourn the Personnel Committee Meeting. Motion passed without opposition. The Personnel Committee Meeting was adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING

The president requested a motion to enter into the Public Works Committee Meeting. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Jackson to convene as the Public Works Committee. Motion passed without opposition.

The chairman, Mr. Mack Calhoun, called the Public Works Committee meeting to order at 6:20 p.m.

The chairman recognized Ms. Moore, District F. Ms. Moore spoke regarding a letter from Kenny Anderson and stated that it was informational only. No action was taken on the matter.

The chairman recognized Mr. Murray, Public Works Director. Mr. Murray spoke regarding the minor subdivision approval of Canaan Subdivision, Unit 1 (District F). Mr. Murray asked Mr. Harrison to speak regarding the matter. Mr. Harrison spoke and stated that there were unresolved issues with the subdivision. Mr. Mitchell recommended that the jury deny approval of the subdivision until such time that all issues are resolved. Motion offered by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Caldwell to deny the minor subdivision approval of Canaan Subdivision, Unit 1 (District F). Motion passed without opposition.

Motion to adjourn offered by Mr. Blade, seconded by Mr. Caldwell. Motion passed without opposition. The Public Works Committee was adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

A motion to reconvene the Regular Meeting was offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Blade. The regular meeting was reconvened at 6:24 p.m. without opposition.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

The following department heads presented monthly reports.

HOMELAND SECURITY & EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

AGENCY: **Mr. Butch Beckham, Director**

Mr. Beckham briefed the jury on the activities of his office during the month of March.

LAJET: Mr. Leonard Tims, Director

Mr. Tims stated that he had attended a summit in his office to discuss the future of the LaJet Program. Mr. Tims indicated that the LaJet Program will come under the WIB in the next fiscal year beginning October 1, 2009.

LIBRARY: Ms. Cheryl Mouliere, Director

Ms. Mouliere updated the jury on the status of the construction of the two new libraries.

OCC CORRECTIONS: Major Brian Newcomer

Warden Newcomer spoke regarding the need for a new tractor at OCC. Discussion ensued. Motion offered by Mr. Calhoun, seconded by Mr. Caldwell to move forward with the purchase of a tractor for the Correctional Center with an acceptable state contract price or by bidding the item out. Motion passed without opposition.

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT: Ms. Doretha Bennett, Director

Ms. Bennett spoke regarding the request for travel for two staff members to attend the Annual Work Keys Conference in San Antonio, Texas on May 12-15, 2009. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Blade to approve the travel request. Motion passed without opposition.

Ms. Bennett spoke regarding the travel request for three (3) staff members and one (1) Board Member to attend the Annual Workforce Development Professionals Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota on May 31, 2009 through June 3, 2009. Motion offered by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Jackson to approve the travel request as recommended. Motion passed without opposition.

Ms. Bennett informed the jury that an additional 200 summer youth workers will be hired to work this summer. Ms. Moore spoke regarding the matter and requested that department heads be informed about this program.

MOTIONS * ORDINANCES * RESOLUTIONS:

The president recognized Mr. Jackson, District A.

MR. CHARLES JACKSON, DISTRICT A:

Mr. Jackson spoke regarding the Road Lighting Districts. Mr. Mitchell spoke regarding the proposed road lighting district in Frenchmen's Bend. Discussion ensued. No other action was taken on this matter.

Mr. Jackson spoke regarding the Energy Efficiency Community Development Block Grant available from the stimulus monies. Mr. Jackson stated that the grant involved retrofitting buildings and improving the efficiency of buildings. Mr. Jackson also stated that monies may also be available through the offices of the LCDB Program. Discussion ensued. No other action was taken on this matter.

The president recognized Mr. Calhoun, District B.

MR. CALHOUN, DISTRICT B:

Mr. Calhoun requested that the matter regarding West Ouachita Recreational District be deferred to a later date.

Mr. Calhoun asked Mr. Harrison to speak regarding the Cheniere Lake Area 3 Bathrooms. Mr. Harrison stated that the bid time had been extended to April 20, 2009, for the 5 perspective bidders. No other action was taken on this matter.

Mr. Calhoun spoke regarding the funding for a generator for Cadeville Water District. Mr. Harrison stated that LGAP funding had been used in the past for such projects. Discussion ensued. Motion offered by Mr. Calhoun, seconded by Mr. Jackson to allow Mr. Harrison to pursue funding from LGAP to purchase a generator for the Cadeville Water District. Motion passed without opposition.

The president recognized Mr. Caldwell, District C.

MR. CALDWELL, DISTRICT C:

Mr. Caldwell asked that the matter concerning Frenchmen's Bend Road Lighting District be deferred until a later date.

The president recognized Mr. Blade, District D.

MR. BLADE, DISTRICT D:

Mr. Blade asked that Mr. Harrison speak regarding the status of Pat Drive/Park Circle Project. Mr. Harrison stated that hazard mitigation funding was still being pursued for the project at this time. Discussion ensued. No action was taken on this matter.

Mr. Blade and Mr. Mitchell spoke regarding the following three ordinances.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 8921 (FINAL)

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING THE INTENT OF THE OUACHITA PARISH POLICE JURY TO TAKE FULL OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN ADJUDICATED PROPERTY; AND, FURTHER PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Ouachita Parish Police Jury intends to take full ownership of the

property described below as per the provisions of La. R. S. 47:2236:

**Lot 9 Arents Resub, Lots 17 & 18 Stubbs Young
Municipal Address: 118 S. 19th St.**

WHEREAS, the property described above was sold at tax sale on the 12th day of June 1996, as can be seen by the attached tax sale certificate.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED that the Ouachita Parish Police Jury hereby declares its intent to acquire full ownership interest in the property described herein in accordance with the provisions of La. R. S. 47:2236, et seq. and its President is hereby authorized to sign all necessary documents to accomplish same.

The above ordinance was introduced on the 16th day of March 2009.

This Ordinance having been submitted in writing, introduced and published, was then submitted to a vote as a whole, the vote thereon being as follows:

AYES: 6
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0

And the Ordinance was declared **ADOPTED** on the 6th day of April 2009.

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

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AN ORDINANCE DECLARING THE INTENT OF THE OUACHITA PARISH POLICE JURY TO TAKE FULL OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN ADJUDICATED PROPERTY; AND, FURTHER PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Ouachita Parish Police Jury intends to take full ownership of the property described below as per the provisions of La. R. S. 47:2236:

**Lot in Lot 8 Stubbs Youngs Bayou Addn.
Municipal Address: 119 S. 20th St.**

WHEREAS, the property described above was sold at tax sale on the 12th day of June 1996, as can be seen by the attached tax sale certificate.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED that the Ouachita Parish Police Jury hereby

declares its intent to acquire full ownership interest in the property described herein in accordance with the provisions of La. R. S. 47:2236, et seq. and its President is hereby authorized to sign all necessary documents to accomplish same.

The above ordinance was introduced on the 16th day of March 2009.

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AYES:	6
NAYS:	0
ABSENT:	0

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* * *

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AN ORDINANCE DECLARING THE INTENT OF THE OUACHITA PARISH POLICE JURY TO TAKE FULL OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN ADJUDICATED PROPERTY; AND, FURTHER PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Ouachita Parish Police Jury intends to take full ownership of the property described below as per the provisions of La. R. S. 47:2236:

WHEREAS, the property described above was sold at tax sale on the 12th day of June 1996, as can be seen by the attached tax sale certificate.

**South 35 Ft, Lot 8, Sq. 15 Arent & Gordons Resub
Municipal Address: 111 S. 20th St.**

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED that the Ouachita Parish Police Jury hereby declares its intent to acquire full ownership interest in the property described herein in accordance with the provisions of La. R. S. 47:2236, et seq. and its President is hereby authorized to sign all necessary documents to accomplish same.

This Ordinance was introduced on the 16th day of March 2009.

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AYES: 6
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0

The Ordinance was declared ADOPTED on the 6th day of April 2009.

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Mr. Blade asked that Mr. Murray place a stop sign at Brown Road and Richwood Road # 2.

MR. SHANE SMILEY, DISTRICT E:

Mr. Smiley spoke regarding the Supplemental Agreement #7 to Contract with Denmon Engineering Co. Inc., for the Finks' Hideaway Road Project. Discussion ensued. Motion offered by Mr. Smiley, seconded by Mr. Caldwell to authorize Denmon Engineering to make the changes for a signal and lane change for the Finks' Hideaway Road Project. Motion passed without opposition.

Mr. Smiley asked that Mr. Mitchell speak regarding the Ordinances regulating Entities Offering Cable and Video Services through the State Franchises issued under LA R.S. 45:1361, et seq. Mr. Mitchell explained the ordinances to the jury that fixes franchise fees, provides for a public access channel, and set the use of right of ways.

The following ordinance was introduced by Mr. Smiley:

ORDINANCE NO. 8924 (INTRODUCTION)

AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE FRANCHISE FEE TO BE PAID BY THOSE ENTITIES PROVIDING CABLE OR VIDEO SERVICE WITHIN THE PARISH'S UNINCORPORATED LIMITS UNDER A STATE-GRANTED FRANCHISE AUTHORITY AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO:

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of the Consumer Choice for Television Act of 2008, codified at LSA-RS. 45:1361 et seq, any person or entity desiring to provide cable or video services within the Parish of Ouachita may do so by obtaining a state issued certificate of franchise authority;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of LSA-R.S. 45:1366, the holder of a state issued certificate of franchise authority for cable or video service is required to pay a franchise fee to a Parish in which it operates upon the passage of an ordinance by Parish setting such a fee; and

WHEREAS, there are persons or entities which operate or desire to operate cable or

video services with the Parish's unincorporated limits.

BE IT THEREFORE ordained by the Police Jury of the Parish of Ouachita, State of Louisiana, that all persons or entities providing cable or video services to the citizens residing in the unincorporated limits of the Parish of Ouachita pursuant to a state-issued certificate of franchise authority as provided in LSA-R.S. 45:1361 et seq shall, pursuant to the provisions of LSA-R.S. 45:1366, pay the Parish of Ouachita a franchise fee equal to [an amount up to 5%, to be determined by Ouachita Parish] of the cable or video service provider's gross revenues, as that term is defined by the "Consumer Choice for Television Act of 2008," derived from operations within the Parish's unincorporated limits.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all ordinances and resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed, except those approving any cable or video franchise agreement in force and effect between the Parish and any cable or video service provider.

* * *

The president recognized Ms. Moore, District F.

MS. PAT MOORE, DISTRICT F:

Ms. Moore spoke regarding the Off Road Ditches Project. Ms. Moore asked that the list be looked at and a decision be made as to how to spend the allotted \$200,000. A lengthy discussion ensued. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Calhoun to have the engineer, public works and legal department to collaborate on the off road drainage ditch list; based on factors, and make a recommendation as to how to approach the project up to \$200,000. Motion passed without opposition. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Blade to allow Mr. Harrison to bring back an application for funding on those ditches that do not meet the necessary criteria _____ . Motion passed without opposition.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

The president recognized Mr. Cammack, Treasurer.

FISCAL: Mr. Brad Cammack, Treasurer

Mr. Cammack spoke regarding the architectural proposal included in the packet for the Alarm System for the courthouse. Mr. Cammack recommended retaining Hebert Land & Associates to assist in the design of the Alarm System for the parish courthouse at a cost not to exceed \$12,000. Discussion ensued. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Jackson to approve the recommendation of the Treasurer and retain Hebert Land & Associates. Motion passed without opposition.

Mr. Cammack spoke regarding a bid opening for Food Products dated March 19, 2009. Mr. Cammack asked that the jury waive the agenda to take up the matter so that it can be put into

effect within the 30-day timeframe. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Blade to amend the agenda to address the matter of the 2nd Quarter Food Products Bid Tabulation. Motion passed without opposition. Mr. Cammack recommended that the low bid of \$18981.71 from Conco Food Service be awarded the Food and Food Products bid for the second quarter. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Blade to approve Conco Food Service for the second quarter for food and food products. Motion passed without opposition.

The president recognized Chief Hemphill, Fire Department.

FIRE: Chief Pat Hemphill, Fire Department

Chief Hemphill indicated that he had no items and reminded the jury that he would be out of the office attending a Fire Chief Education Seminar in the coming week.

The president recognized Mr. Mitchell, Parish Attorney.

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

Mr. Mitchell indicated that he had no items.

The president recognized Mr. Murray, Public Works Director.

PUBLIC WORKS: Mr. John Tom Murray, Director

Mr. Murray indicated that he had no additional items.

The president recognized Mr. Harrison, Parish Engineer.

ROADS & DRAINAGE: Mr. Don Harrison, Engineer

Mr. Harrison spoke regarding the 2009 Road Improvement Program. Mr. Harrison provided information of completed projects and authorized projects (but not completed) in the FY2008 Road Improvement Program. Mr. Harrison also spoke regarding the improvement of Skate Lane and recommended that the residents go to a bank for funding of the project. Discussion ensued. Mr. Harrison recommended that all the information provided be taken under advisement for approval at the next meeting. Mr. Harrison spoke regarding the FY2009 Pavement Striping Contract and stated that the contract was not ready to be put out for bids. No other action was taken on this matter.

BEER AND WHISKEY APPLICATIONS:

There were no beer and whiskey applications.

A motion to adjourn was offered by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Blade. The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

ADJOURN!