

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICE JURY, PARISH OF OUACHITA,
STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN AT A REGULAR MEETING HELD ON,
TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2015 AT 5:37 P.M.**

The Police Jury of the Parish of Ouachita, State of Louisiana met in a regular session in the Ouachita Parish Police Jury Meeting Room, Courthouse Building, Monroe, Louisiana on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at 5:37 p.m., and was duly convened by Mr. Scotty Robinson, President.

The invocation was given by Mr. Smiley. The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by Mr. Smiley.

<u>Members Present</u>	(6)
Scotty Robinson	District A
Mack Calhoun	District B
Walt Caldwell	District C
Ollibeth Reddix	District D
Shane Smiley	District E
Pat Moore	District F

<u>Members Absent</u>	(0)
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APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The president asked if there were any additions or amendments to the agenda. Dr. Reddix stated she had an amendment for an appointment to the J. S. Clark Cemetery Advisory Board. Dr. Reddix stated that she was not able to confirm the appointee until after the agenda was published but needed to make the appointment before the board met. Mr. Robinson stated that he had an item to add regarding funding from GOHSEP. Mr. Robinson stated that this item was received after the agenda was published but needed action before the next meeting. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Smiley to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed without opposition.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

The president asked for public comments on the agenda as approved. No one came forth at this point in the meeting.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

A motion to adopt the minutes of the regular Police Jury meeting including the committee meetings held on January 5, 2015 was offered by Dr. Reddix seconded by Mr. Caldwell. Motion passed without opposition.

VISITORS:

The president recognized Tom Janway with the City of Monroe. Mr. Janway spoke regarding Hadley Street and stated that the road is heavily travelled and is in need of major improvements. Mr. Janway stated that the road is jointly owned between the City of Monroe and the parish. Ms. Moore stated that this item was under her name and asked to take it up at this time. Motion offered by Ms. Moore, seconded by Dr. Reddix to authorize Lazenby and Associates and the Public Works Department to meet with the City of Monroe engineer and staff to assess the road and provide a possible cooperative solution. Motion passed without opposition.

ENGINEERING REPORT:

The president recognized Kevin Crosby, Engineer. Mr. Crosby spoke regarding Willet Place Boulevard and stated that the construction and striping is complete. Mr. Crosby stated that the final inspection will be on Thursday.

Mr. Crosby spoke regarding the J-1E Canal and stated that there is a hole in an off road drainage pipe near Sycamore Street. Mr. Crosby stated that the survey crew should begin work within the next few weeks.

Mr. Crosby spoke regarding Park Circle and stated that the roadway needs to be rebuilt and drainage needs to be addressed. Motion offered by Dr. Reddix, seconded by Ms. Moore to authorize Mr. Crosby to begin preliminary work to address the drainage on Park Circle. Motion passed without opposition.

Mr. Crosby spoke regarding the 2014 road striping program and stated that the bid opening will be February 12.

Mr. Crosby spoke regarding Vernon Drive and stated that LGAP authorized the transfer of \$20,000 from Pleasant Valley to Vernon Drive. Mr. Crosby stated that the plans are close to completion.

Mr. Crosby spoke regarding Oak Circle and stated that the sub-grantee agreement has been signed by the parish and he is waiting on the fully executed copy from the state. Mr. Crosby stated that this project will be funded by FEMA and that the bid opening is scheduled for the first week in April.

Mr. Crosby spoke regarding Finks Hideaway Road and stated that the contractor should start paving soon.

Motion offered by Mr. Smiley, seconded by Dr. Reddix to recess the regular meeting in favor of the finance committee meeting. Motion passed without opposition.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

The chairman, Mr. Caldwell, called the finance committee meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The chairman recognized Mr. Cammack, Treasurer.

Mr. Cammack presented the claim statement for the period of December 12, 2014 through January 15, 2015 and recommended approval. Motion offered by Mr. Smiley, seconded by Mr. Robinson to approve the claims for the period stated as recommended by the Treasurer. Motion passed without opposition.

There being no further business to come before this committee, a motion to adjourn the finance committee meeting and reconvene the regular meeting was offered by Mr. Smiley, seconded by Dr. Reddix. The finance committee meeting was adjourned at 6:01 p.m.

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Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Dr. Reddix to ratify and adopt all actions taken in the committee meeting. Motion passed without opposition.

MOTIONS * ORDINANCES * RESOLUTIONS:

MR. SCOTTY ROBINSON, DISTRICT A:

Mr. Robinson introduced the following ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 9062

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN ADJUDICATED PROPERTY TO THE MONROE CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY PURSUANT TO LA CONST. ART. 14, SECT. 7 (B) AND LA. R.S. 47:2205, ET SEQ.; AND FURTHER PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 47:2205 authorizes the donation of adjudicated properties for purposes allowed by the Louisiana Constitution;

WHEREAS, the three (3) year period for redemption provided by Art. 7, §25 of the Louisiana Constitution has elapsed, as well as the five (5) year redemption period established by Parish Ordinance No. 9037 and the owner of record has failed to redeem the adjudicated property; and

WHEREAS, LA Const. Art. 14, Sec. (7) (B) authorizes the donation of blighted or abandoned housing property to non-profit organization who agree to renovate and maintain such properties until conveyance of such properties by the organization;

WHEREAS, the Monroe Housing Authority (“MHA”) has requested the donation of the following property in the Kings Oaks Addition, that has long been abandoned and adjudicated to the Ouachita Parish Police Jury for the purpose of constructing affordable housing thereon:

1. Parcel 60739, Ward 30, Lots 1-10, Square R, King Oaks Addition

WHEREAS, the Ouachita Parish Police Jury finds that such donation is in the public interest and in accordance with applicable law;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED by the Ouachita Parish Police Jury does hereby authorize the donation of the abandoned adjudicated property identified above to the Monroe Housing Authority upon completion of the procedures for the donation of adjudicated property pursuant to La. R.S. 47:4201, et seq.;

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the President of the Ouachita Parish Police Jury be, and hereby is authorized to execute such document as are reasonable and necessary to complete the donation described above.

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Mr. Robinson asked Ms. Cupit to speak regarding the funding from GOHSEP. Ms. Cupit stated that there are funds available from grants that was unused by other parishes and that the Ouachita Parish Homeland Security office applied for the funds. Ms. Cupit stated that approval was received from the state for the 2013 and 2014 funds. Motion offered by Mr. Robinson, seconded by Dr. Reddix to accept the funds from GOHSEP. Motion passed without opposition.

Mr. Robinson asked to take up the beer and whiskey application at this time. Mr. Mitchell spoke regarding the following beer and whiskey application and recommended approval. Motion offered by Mr. Robinson, seconded by Dr. Reddix to approve the application as recommended. Motion passed without opposition.

GREEN JR, TERRY

WAL-MART LOUISIANA LLC DBA WALMART MARKET #2940, 5251 CYPRESS STREET, WEST MONROE, LA 71291, RETAIL BEER "CLASS B", RETAIL LIQUOR "CLASS D", 2015 NEW

The president recognized Mr. Calhoun, District B.

MR. MACK CALHOUN, DISTRICT B:

Mr. Calhoun introduced the following ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 9063

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE BY SEALED BIDS PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF LA. R.S. 33:4712 OF A 5.431+/- ACRES TRACT IN SEC. 37, T17N, R2E, OUACHITA PARISH COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS "CHENIERE LAKE PARK AREA 6" FOR A MINIMUM BID OF \$70,000; AND FURTHER PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Ouachita Parish Police Jury has determined that a certain 5.431+/- acres tract in Sec. 37, T17N, R2E, Ouachita Parish commonly referred to as "Cheniere Lake Park Area 6" (as more particularly described in the "Legal Description" attached hereto and made a part

hereof as Exhibit "A") is no longer needed for a public purpose and the sale of this surplus property is in the public interest; and,

WHEREAS, the Ouachita Parish Police Jury has obtained an appraisal from A J Burns Jr. of Appraisal Consultants, LLC dated December 22, 2014, reflecting an appraised value for said property of \$70,000.00.

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED by the Ouachita Parish Police Jury in legal and regular session that pursuant to the provisions of La. R. S. 33:4712, the Ouachita Parish Police Jury does hereby authorize the sale of that a certain 5.431+/- acres tract in Sec. 37, T17N, R2E, Ouachita Parish commonly referred to as "Cheniere Lake Park Area 6" (as more particularly described in the "Legal Description" attached hereto and made a part hereof as Exhibit "A") pursuant to the following terms:

- 1) The tract is to be sold by sealed bids to the highest bidder, but for a price of not less than the appraised value of \$70,000.00;
- 2) Bid packets including information regarding the property and the forms upon which bids are to be submitted may be obtained from Jeremy Clack, Special Projects Coordinator, Ouachita Parish Police Jury, Ouachita Parish Courthouse, Rm. 201, 300 St. John Street, Monroe, LA 71291, (318) 327-1340. To be considered a bid must be submitted on the form included in the above-mentioned bid packets (or a copy thereof); must be signed by the bidder or an authorized representative of the bidder; and, must be accompanied by a deposit check or similar instrument made payable to the "Ouachita Parish Police Jury" in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the bid price;
- 3) Bids will be received in the office of Karen Cupit, Recording Secretary of the Ouachita Parish Police Jury, Room 203 Ouachita Parish Courthouse, Monroe, Louisiana, before on or before 2:00 p.m. on **Thursday, February 26, 2014**;
- 4) Bids will be opened, read aloud and tabulated at 2:00 p.m. **Thursday, February 26, 2014**, in the Ouachita Parish Police Jury Conference Room located on the Second Floor of the Ouachita Parish Courthouse, Monroe, Louisiana;
- 5) The deposit check or instrument of the successful bidder for each parcel will be negotiated by the Ouachita Parish Police Jury on the third business day following the opening of bids and applied to the purchase price. If the check or instrument is returned unpaid, the bid will be considered void and the property will be offered to the next highest bidder whose bid is above the reserve price or minimum bid of \$70,000.00. The deposit check or instrument of unsuccessful bidders will not be negotiated and will be voided and returned to the address indicated on the bid form;
- 6) Sales to be closed within 60 days from the opening of bids, unless extended by mutual agreement of the parties;

- 7) The Seller will pay a fee of two percent (2.0%) to any licensed real estate agent indicated on the bid form as the agent producing the successful bidder;
- 8) The Ouachita Parish Police Jury reserves the right to reject all bids as to any or all of the parcels identified above.
- 9) The sale will be made with the Ouachita Parish Police Jury reserving all mineral rights, but agreeing that no mineral lessee shall conduct surface operations on the property; and,
- 10) The property will be sold “as is” with no warranty, except as to title.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that Scotty Robinson, President, be and hereby is, authorized and empowered to execute a Purchase Agreement and an Act of Sale on behalf of the Ouachita Parish Police Jury in accordance with the foregoing provisions.

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The president recognized Mr. Caldwell, District C.

MR. WALT CALDWELL, DISTRICT C:

Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Dr. Reddix offered the following resolution for adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. 15-02

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE COMPLIANCE QUESTIONNAIRE REQUIRED BY THE STATE OF LOUISIANA LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR AND THE AUDITING FIRM HUFFMAN & SOIGNIER APAC; AND FURTHER PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Ouachita Parish Police Jury has engaged the auditing firm of Huffman & Soignier APAC, Certified Public Accountants, to perform the annual audit of the financial records, practices, and systems of the Ouachita Parish Police Jury for the year ended December 31, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the Ouachita Parish Police Jury members recognize the role of the annual audit in contributing to the development of sound and efficient financial and managerial practices; and

WHEREAS, the Ouachita Parish Police Jury members and staff agree to provide all financial records, board minutes and documents required by the auditing firm, and their pledge not to knowingly withhold any financial records or related data that in its judgment would be relevant to the audit;

WHEREAS, in conjunction with the annual audit, the Legislative Auditor requires the auditing firm to obtain a completed Compliance Questionnaire, indicating financial and legal

compliance with the laws of the state of Louisiana and pertinent accounting regulatory bodies;

NOW THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ouachita Parish Police Jury confirms cooperation with the audit process and its report on status of observance of the laws of the state of Louisiana through its completion of the Louisiana Legislative Auditor Compliance Questionnaire attached herein as part of the Board proceedings.

The above resolution was adopted on the 20th day of January, 2015.

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The president recognized Dr. Reddix, District D.

DR. OLLIBETH REDDIX, DISTRICT D:

Dr. Reddix, seconded by Ms. Moore offered the following resolution for adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. 15-04

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING AUBRY JANUARY TO THE J. S. CLARK CEMETERY ADVISORY BOARD FOR A TERM OF FOUR (4) YEARS BEGINNING JANUARY 20, 2015 AND ENDING JANUARY 20, 2019; AND FURTHER PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, there exists a vacancy on the J. S. Clark Cemetery Advisory Board and Aubry January desires to serve as a member of the advisory board;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Ouachita Parish Police Jury in legal and regular session that Aubry January, 1903 Flynn Street , Monroe, Louisiana 71201, be and is hereby appointed to serve on the J. S. Clark Cemetery Advisory Board for a term of four (4) years beginning January 20, 2015 and ending January 20, 2019.

The above resolution was adopted on this 20th day of January, 2015.

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The president recognized Mr. Smiley, District E.

MR. SHANE SMILEY, DISTRICT E:

Mr. Smiley stated that he did not have any items.

The president recognized Ms. Moore, District F.

MS. PAT MOORE, DISTRICT F:

Ms. Moore, seconded by Dr. Reddix offered the following resolution for adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. 15-03

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING TED DAVIDSON TO THE PRAIRIE ROAD WATER DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS; AND FURTHER PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, Ted Davidson, 322 Prairie Road, Monroe, Louisiana 71202 has expressed a desire to serve on the Prairie Road Water District Board of Commissioners.

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Ouachita Parish Police Jury in legal and regular session that Ted Davidson, 322 Prairie Road, Monroe, Louisiana 71202 be and hereby is appointed to the Prairie Road Water District Board of Commissioners, said term to be for a period of three years beginning January 20, 2015 and ending on January 20, 2018.

The above resolution was adopted on the 20th day of January, 2015.

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Ms. Moore spoke regarding the I-20 Economic Development Board meetings and stated that she would like Mr. Crosby to attend the meetings to represent the parish. Motion offered by Ms. Moore, seconded by Dr. Reddix to approve Mr. Crosby to attend meetings of the I-20 Economic Development Board. Motion passed without opposition.

Ms. Moore spoke regarding the LOCUS Leadership Summit and requested approval to attend. Motion offered by Ms. Moore, seconded by Dr. Reddix to approve the travel request to the 2015 LOCUS Leadership Summit on June 2, 2015. Motion passed without opposition.

Ms. Moore spoke regarding the Legacy Arms Company shooting range and stated that there were some concerns noted in the site development review. Motion offered by Ms. Moore to have the site development permit come before the Jury before the permit is issued. Mr. Mitchell stated that customarily site development permits are handled administratively and do not come before the Jury for approval. Ms. Moore withdrew her motion. Mr. Crosby stated that he would send an approval letter once his concerns are addressed. Ms. Moore asked Rev. Johnson to speak on behalf of the residents on Moore Road.

The president recognized Rev. James Johnson, 985 Moore Road, Monroe. Rev. Johnson spoke regarding the safety at the shooting range and asked who would be responsible. Mr. Mitchell stated that the operator and patrons would be responsible for their own actions. Discussion ensued. No action was taken on this matter.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

The president recognized Mr. Cammack, Treasurer. Mr. Cammack stated that he did not have any additional items.

The president recognized Chief Hemphill, Fire Department. Chief Hemphill stated that he did not have any items.

The president recognized Mr. Mitchell, Assistant District Attorney. Mr. Mitchell spoke regarding the set-back variance at 410 Thatcher Lane and stated that the owner is requesting a variance to build a structure at the rear of the lot. Mr. Mitchell recommended granting the variance. Motion offered by Dr. Reddix, seconded by Mr. Caldwell to grant the set-back variance at 410 Thatcher Lane. Motion passed without opposition.

The president recognized Mr. Murray, Public Works Director. Mr. Murray spoke regarding the 2015 herbicide contract and recommended renewing with Weed Pro, LLC. Motion offered by Dr. Reddix, seconded by Mr. Smiley to approve the 2015 herbicide contract with Weed Pro, LLC. Motion passed without opposition.

BEER AND WHISKEY APPLICATIONS:

There were no additional items.

OTHER BUSINESS:

There being no other business to come before the jury, a motion to adjourn was offered by Mr. Smiley, seconded by Mr. Calhoun. The meeting was adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

Scotty Robinson, President

Karen Cupit, Recording Secretary