

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICE JURY, PARISH OF OUACHITA,
STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN AT A REGULAR MEETING
HELD ON, MONDAY, MAY 5, 2014 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 Monday, May 5, 2014 at 5:37 p.m., and was duly convened by Mr. Shane Smiley, President.

The invocation was given by Dr. Reddix. The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by Dr. Reddix.

<u>Members Present</u>	(5)
Scotty Robinson	District A
Mack Calhoun	District B
Walt Caldwell	District C
Ollibeth Reddix	District D
Shane Smiley	District E
<u>Members Absent</u>	(1)
Pat Moore	District F

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The president asked if there were any additions or amendments to the agenda. Dr. Reddix asked to add Cleoria Dunn as a visitor. Mr. Smiley stated that he had an item to add for a letter of support for the Downtown Economic Development District's request for Capital Outlay funding for expansion of the riverwalk. Mr. Smiley stated that this item was received after the agenda had been published and action was needed before the next meeting of the Jury. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Dr. Reddix 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 appeared or came forth to speak during this time.

A motion to adopt the minutes of the regular Police Jury meeting including the Committee Meetings held on April 21, 2014, was offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Robinson. Motion passed without opposition.

PUBLIC HEARING:

The president convened a public hearing on Ordinance No. 9035 – An Ordinance revoking KNOE Tower Road; and further providing with respect thereto. No one appeared to speak in favor of or against said ordinance. Motion offered by Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Caldwell to close the public hearing. Motion passed without opposition.

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

PUBLIC WORKS

Roosevelt Ethridge – 15 Years

Arthur Thomas – 5 Years

CORRECTIONS

Julia Kirby – 25 Years

VISITORS:

The president recognized Cleoria Dunn, 707 Texas Ave., Monroe, LA. Dr. Reddix stated that Ms. Dunn is a local educator who wanted to create “Happy Week” in the Parish. Ms. Dunn spoke regarding “Happy Week” and asked everyone to perform random acts of kindness each day. Dr. Reddix asked to take up Resolution No. 14-19 at this time.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 14-19

A RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE CITY OF MONROE’S “HAPPY WEEK” INITIATIVE; DECLARING THE WEEK OF MAY 11-17, 2014, AS “HAPPY WEEK” IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF OUACHITA PARISH; AND, FURTHER PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, Ms. Cleoria Dunn, a local educator, was inspired by the Pharrell Williams song “Happy” to create a “Happy Week” celebration to boost morale and encourage positive civic engagement in Monroe, Louisiana and surrounding areas;

WHEREAS, Mayor Jamie Mayo has declared May 11-17, 2014 to be “Happy Week” in the City of Monroe and has encouraged residents to participate by performing “Random Acts of Kindness Everyday” during said week; and,

WHEREAS, the Ouachita Parish Police Jury finds that the concept of “Happy Week” is worthwhile and should be recognized outside the corporate limits of Monroe,

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ouachita Parish Police Jury, in Regular and Legal Session, does hereby endorse and support the City of Monroe’s “Happy Week” initiative;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ouachita Parish Police Jury does hereby designate the week of May 11-17, 2014, as “Happy Week” in the unincorporated area of Ouachita Parish and does further encourage residents to bring happiness to the lives of others by performing “Random Acts of Kindness Everyday” during such week.

The above resolution was adopted on the 5th day of May, 2014. No opposition.

The president asked to take up the engineering report at this time due to Mr. Crosby having another engagement.

The president recognized Mr. Crosby, Engineer. Mr. Crosby spoke regarding Change Order No. 1 for the J-1D Canal project. Mr. Crosby stated that the change order is for changing certain materials but that the cost would remain the same. Motion offered by Mr. Calhoun, seconded by Mr. Robinson to approve Change Order No. 1. Motion passed without opposition.

Mr. Crosby spoke regarding the Finks Hideaway Road project and stated that a pre-construction meeting will be on May 9 and that construction should begin in approximately 30 days.

Mr. Crosby spoke regarding the Moore Road Bridge project and stated that a pre-construction meeting will be May 30. Mr. Crosby stated that construction should begin July 1. Mr. Crosby stated that DOTD is responsible for inspection and construction and that the parish is responsible for testing.

Mr. Crosby spoke regarding Lakeland Gardens and stated that two residents are having trouble turning into their driveways due to a raised median. Mr. Crosby stated that the cost estimate is approximately \$45,000 to cut the medians back. Motion offered by Mr. Robinson, seconded by Dr. Reddix to approve obtaining quotes for the project. Motion passed without opposition.

Motion offered by Mr. Calhoun, seconded by Dr. Reddix to authorize the Public Works Department to prepare a cost estimate for the construction of a timber bridge to replace the current bridge at the western end of Travis Street. Motion passed without opposition.

Mr. Crosby stated that he is working on the 2014 Road Program and that he will inspect the roads with someone from the Public Works Department on Wednesday. Mr. Crosby stated that he is also working on the roads damaged by the pipeline construction company.

Mr. Smiley asked for an update on Oaks Circle. Mr. Crosby stated that he received the wetland determination and that the project is still with FEMA.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

The following department heads presented monthly reports.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

Deputy Wayne Heckford

Deputy Heckford stated that he did not have any items to add to his written report.

FEDERAL PROGRAMS:

Ms. Doretha Bennett, Director

Ms. Bennett stated that she did not have any items to add to her written report.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Chief Patrick Hemphill

Chief Hemphill asked to declare the following as surplus and allow to sale at public auction: 1982 Mini-Pumper, 1991 Mini-Pumper, and 1998 Ford F-250. Motion offered the Mr. Calhoun, seconded by Dr. Reddix to declare the vehicles as surplus and allow them to be sold at public auction. Motion passed without opposition.

Chief Hemphill stated that five firefighters will be recognized by LSU Medical Center for a job well done on an incident that took place in 2013.

GREEN OAKS:

Mr. Lamar Anderson, Director

Mr. Anderson thanked the Jury for their support for the Green Oaks tax renewal.

LIBRARY:

Ms. Robin Toms, Director

Ms. Toms thanked the Jury for their support for the Library tax renewal.

LSU EXTENSION SERVICE:

Mr. Steve Hotard

Mr. Hotard stated that there are 4-H programs in thirty schools in the parish with 1,240 students in the program. Mr. Hotard updated the Jury on the activities in the parish and stated that the food and nutrition staff is preparing programs for local schools. Mr. Hotard stated that the farmers are in the middle of planting season. Mr. Hotard spoke regarding the master gardener program and their ongoing projects.

OCC:

Warden Patrick Johnson

Warden Johnson stated that he did not have any items to add to his written report.

PRE-TRIAL DETAINEES:

Ms. Julia Kirby, Coordinator

Ms. Kirby stated that she did not have any items to add to her written report.

911 OFFICE:

Mr. Craig Lott

Mr. Lott stated that 25% of their calls are accidental and most come from mobile phones.

Mr. Lott spoke regarding the purchase request for mobile computer equipment and stated that local police and fire agencies are asking for mobile computers to run the CAD software. Mr. Lott stated that they can run the current version of the CAD software but the new upgrade will require them to have a newer operating system. Mr. Lott stated that the purchase would be approximately \$450,000 and that this purchase was not included in the budget. Motion offered by Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Caldwell to authorize a one time allocation of \$500,000 for purchase of mobile computer equipment for use by law enforcement and fire departments in Ouachita Parish with the 911 advisory board to make a recommendation as to the actual allocation of those funds between the departments. Mr. Smiley asked how many mobile licenses there are. Mr. Lott stated that there are currently 150 mobile licenses from New World. Mr. Caldwell asked for a cooperative endeavor between the 911 District and the participating agencies. Mr. Lott stated that he would rather see the money spent elsewhere possibly on a new 911 center. Discussion ensued. After discussion Mr. Calhoun called for a roll call vote and the vote thereon was as follows:

- YEAS: (4) Mr. Scotty Robinson, District A; Mr. Walt Caldwell, District C; Dr. Ollibeth Reddix, District D; and Mr. Shane Smiley, District E.
- NAYS: (1) Mr. Mack Calhoun, District B
- ABSTAIN: (0)
- ABSENT: (1) Ms. Pat Moore, District F

The motion passed this 5th day of May, 2014.

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A motion to recess the regular meeting in favor of the Personnel Committee meeting was offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Dr. Reddix. Motion passed without opposition.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING

The chairman, Mr. Robinson, called the Personnel Committee meeting to order at 6:18 p.m. The chairman recognized Chief Hemphill, Fire Department.

Chief Hemphill recommended the following personnel actions for approval.

SICK LEAVE

Hannon, M.	Termination of Extended Sick Leave	Effective 03/10/2014
Jones, J.	Termination of Extended Sick Leave	Effective 03/11/2014
Butler, D.	Termination of Extended Sick Leave	Effective 04/15/2014

Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Dr. Reddix to approve the sick leave as recommended by the chief. Motion passed without opposition.

SICK LEAVE

Maxey, Susan	Extended Sick Leave	Effective 03/24/2014
Maxey, Susan	Termination of Extended Sick Leave	Effective 05/05/2014
Harris, Dusty	Extended Sick Leave	Effective 04/01/2014

Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Smiley to approve the sick leave as recommended by the chief. Motion passed without opposition.

RETIREMENT

Martin, Dixie	Retired	Effective 04/07/2014
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Motion offered by Mr. Smiley, seconded by Mr. Caldwell to approve the retirement as recommended by the chief. Motion passed without opposition.

NEW HIRE

Dowdey, Artice	Communications Officer	Contingent on passing required tests
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Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Dr. Reddix to approve the new hire as recommended by the chief. Motion passed without opposition.

RESIGNATION

Owens, Justin	Firefighter Recruit	Effective 04/29/2014
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Motion offered by Mr. Robinson, seconded by Dr. Reddix to approve the resignation as recommended by the chief. Motion passed without opposition.

The chairman recognized Mr. Murray, Public Works. Mr. Murray requested to hire David Creed to the position of Survey Aide II. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Smiley to approve the request. Motion passed without opposition.

The chairman recognized Ms. Harper, Human Resources. Ms. Harper spoke regarding changes to the annual and sick leave due to policy changes in the Parochial Retirement System. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Dr. Reddix to approve the changes to annual and sick leave. Motion passed without opposition.

Ms. Harper spoke regarding the changes to the parish policy concerning DROP accruals. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Dr. Reddix to approve the change for DROP accruals. Motion passed without opposition.

The chairman recognized Ms. Bennett, Federal Programs. Ms. Bennett requested approval of job descriptions for the following positions and to open the positions: LaJet Assistant I, LaJet Assistant II, and Federal Program Office Assistant. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Dr. Reddix to approve the job descriptions. Motion passed without opposition.

Ms. Bennett requested to hire Passion Galbert to the position of LaJet Assistant I, Karen Atkins to the position of LaJet Assistant II, and Patiece Smith to the position of Federal Programs Office Assistant. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Dr. Reddix to approve the request. Motion passed without opposition.

The chairman recognized Mr. Anderson, Green Oaks. Mr. Anderson requested to hire Georgia DeVille to the position of Administrative Assistant. Motion offered by Dr. Reddix, seconded by Mr. Caldwell to approve the request. Motion passed without opposition.

Mr. Anderson requested to open the position for Juvenile Detention Supervisor. Motion offered by Dr. Reddix, seconded by Mr. Caldwell to open the position. Motion passed without opposition.

Mr. Anderson requested to open the position for Juvenile Detention Officer II. Motion offered by Dr. Reddix, seconded by Mr. Smiley to open the position. Motion passed without opposition.

Mr. Anderson requested to open two positions for Juvenile Detention Officer II – Male. Motion offered by Dr. Reddix, seconded by Mr. Smiley to open the positions. Motion passed without opposition.

Mr. Anderson requested to open the position for Juvenile Detention Officer II – Female. Motion offered by Dr. Reddix, seconded by Mr. Caldwell to open the position. Motion passed without opposition.

Mr. Anderson spoke regarding the education reimbursement for Jermaine Cooper and recommended approval. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Dr. Reddix to approve the education reimbursement subject to police jury policy. Motion passed without opposition.

The chairman recognized Mr. Cammack, Treasurer. Mr. Cammack requested to promote Demacus Slater to permanent building superintendent. Motion offered by Mr. Smiley, seconded by Mr. Calhoun to approve the request. Motion passed without opposition.

There being no other business to come before this committee, a motion to adjourn was offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Dr. Reddix. Motion passed without opposition.

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A motion to enter into the Public Works Committee meeting was offered by Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Caldwell. Motion passed without opposition.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING

The chairman, Mr. Calhoun, called the Public Works Committee meeting to order at 6:27 p.m. The chairman recognized Mr. Murray, Director.

Mr. Murray spoke regarding the bid results for culverts and stated that the low bid was from Contech Engineered Solutions. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Robinson to accept the low bid from Contech Engineered Solutions. Motion passed without opposition.

There being no other business to come before this committee, a motion to adjourn and reconvene the regular meeting was offered by Mr. Robinson, seconded by Dr. Reddix. Motion passed without opposition. The meeting was adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

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MOTIONS * ORDINANCES * RESOLUTIONS:

The president recognized Mr. Robinson, District A.

MR. SCOTTY ROBINSON, DISTRICT A:

Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Caldwell offered the following ordinance for adoption.

ORDINANCE NO. 9035

AN ORDINANCE REVOKING KNOE TOWER ROAD; AND, FURTHER PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, KNOE Tower Road is an unimproved parish road running to the southwest off Good Hope Road for a distance of approximately 880' to a dead-end;

WHEREAS, KNOE Tower Road originally provided access to the broadcast antennas of the KNOE radio and television stations, but the use of said antennas has ceased and they have been removed and the property cleared for residential development;

WHEREAS, the owner(s) of all properties fronting on and having access to KNOE Tower Road have requested, or agreed to, the revocation of said road in order to facilitate the development of such property; and,

WHEREAS, there exists no public purpose for the continuation of said KNOE Tower Road as a public road of Ouachita Parish; and,

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED by the Ouachita Parish Police Jury at a Regular Meeting held on May 5, 2014, that KNOE Tower Road be, and is hereby, revoked.

The ordinance was introduced on the 21st day of April, 2014.

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

YEAS:	(5)	Mr. Scotty Robinson, District A; Mr. Mack Calhoun, District B; Mr. Walt Caldwell, District C; Dr. Ollibeth Reddix, District D; and Mr. Shane Smiley, District E.
NAYS:	(0)	
ABSTAIN:	(0)	
ABSENT:	(1)	Ms. Pat Moore, District F

The ordinance was adopted this 5th day of May, 2014.

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The president recognized Mr. Calhoun, District B.

MR. MACK CALHOUN, DISTRICT B:

Mr. Calhoun stated that he did not have any additional items.

The president recognized Mr. Caldwell, District C.

MR. WALT CALDWELL, DISTRICT C:

Mr. Caldwell asked for an update on Old Wall Lake Road Bridge. Mr. Murray stated that they are waiting for the water to go down before beginning construction.

The president recognized Dr. Reddix, District D.

DR. OLLIBETH REDDIX, DISTRICT D:

Dr. Reddix asked for an update on the J. S. Clark Cemetery. Mr. Cammack and Mr. Murray provided the update. It has been determined that the cemetery will benefit from the leveling of the property. A contractor with proper equipment and top soil are needed for the project.

Motion offered by Dr. Reddix, seconded by Mr. Caldwell to approve contracting with a vendor to provide the labor and equipment to level the cemetery property. The funds are to come from the J. S. Clark Cemetery fund. Motion passed without opposition.

Motion offered by Dr. Reddix, seconded by Mr. Caldwell to approve the purchase of top soil to be delivered to J. S. Clark Cemetery for the purpose of leveling the cemetery at a cost not to exceed \$10,000.00. The funds are to come from the General Fund. Motion passed without opposition.

Dr. Reddix spoke to the possibility of obtaining adjudicated property to add to the cemetery's property. Mr. Mitchell will report to the Jury concerning this at a future meeting.

MR. SHANE SMILEY, DISTRICT E:

Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Robinson to approve the letter of support for a Capital Outlay application for the Downtown Economic Development. Motion passed without opposition.

The president noted that Ms. Moore was not at the meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

The president recognized Mr. Cammack, Treasurer.

FISCAL: Mr. Brad Cammack, Treasurer

Mr. Cammack stated that he did not have any additional items.

The president recognized Mr. Mitchell, Assistant District Attorney.

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

Mr. Mitchell recommended approval of the lease for FEMA flood buy-out property at 1108 North 8th Street, West Monroe to Linda Strawder. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Robinson to approve the lease. Motion passed without opposition.

Mr. Mitchell recommended approval of the lease for FEMA flood buy-out property at 105 Oak Circle to Shirley Savage. Motion offered by Mr. Caldwell, seconded by Dr. Reddix to approve the lease. Motion passed without opposition.

Mr. Mitchell recommended approval to contract with a real estate office to lease property at 423 Raymond Drive to. Motion offered by Dr. Reddix, seconded by Mr. Calhoun to approve the lease. Motion passed without opposition.

The president recognized Mr. John Tom Murray, Public Works Director.

PUBLIC WORKS: Mr. John Tom Murray, Director

Mr. Murray requested to declare the following as surplus and allow to sale at public auction: 2000 Ford F-250, 2005 Ford F-150, 2007 Ford F-150, 1989 Ford tractor, two 1999 Ford tractors, and a 2006 New Holland tractor. Motion offered by Mr. Calhoun, seconded by Mr. Caldwell to declare the vehicles and allow for sale at public auction. Motion passed without opposition.

BEER AND WHISKEY APPLICATIONS:

Mr. Mitchell spoke regarding the following beer and whiskey applications and recommended approval with the first application subject to receiving the survey. Motion offered by Mr. Smiley, seconded by Mr. Robinson to approve the applications as recommended. Motion passed with Mr. Caldwell abstaining.

1) **ALI, FAISAL**

**J-MART WEST LLC DBA J-MART WEST,
6588 CYPRESS ST, WEST MONROE, LA
71291, RETAIL BEER "CLASS B", RETAIL
LIQUOR "CLASS D", 2014 NEW**

2) **BLAKLEY, ROSA**

**BLAKLEY INC., DBA HARTS CORNER,
4268 HIGHWAY 139, MONROE, LA 71203,
RETAIL BEER "CLASS B", RETAIL
LIQUOR "CLASS D", 2014 NEW**

OTHER BUSINESS:

There being no other business to come before the Jury, a motion to adjourn was offered by Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Smiley. The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Shane Smiley, President

Karen Cupit, Recording Secretary