

**OUACHITA PARISH POLICE JURY
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2014
POLICE JURY CONFERENCE ROOM**

The Finance Committee of the Ouachita Parish Police Jury met on October 20, 2014 in the Police Jury Conference Room. The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM by Chair Walt Caldwell.

Police Jurors present were:

Scotty Robinson
Mack Calhoun
Walt Caldwell
Ollibeth Reddix
Shane Smiley
Pat Moore

The 2014 Amended and 2015 Proposed budgets for the Ouachita Parish Public Library were presented by Director Robin Toms. State Aid to Public Libraries has been included in the 2014 budget but not in the 2015 budget. Mrs. Toms discussed the e-rate funding that the library has received to reduce telephone expenses. The library is required to budget their entire anticipated expenses. If the e-rate funding is approved, the actual expenses will be reduced which will be reflected in the amended budget presented in 2015.

Mr. Calhoun moved and Mr. Smiley seconded a motion to approve the 2014 Amended budget for the Ouachita Parish Public Library. Motion passed without opposition.

Mrs. Toms explained the deficit that appears in the 2015 Proposed Budget. It is anticipated that a new branch will be built to replace the Carver branch. Jurors requested information concerning location of current branches, number of visits at each branch, and proximity of the branches to each other and to the population.

No action was taken on the 2015 Proposed budget of the Ouachita Parish Public Library.

The 2014 Amended and 2015 Proposed budgets for Jail Operations were presented by Warden Patrick Johnson. Discussion ensued regarding the Women's Work Release Program, Gwen's

Law implementation, changes in medical costs after the changes in the LSU system, and housing for those Department of Corrections (DOC) prisoners who are on probation. Equipment for video visitation is also included in the 2015 proposed budget.

Mr. Calhoun moved and Mr. Robinson seconded a motion to approve the 2014 Amended and 2015 Proposed budgets for Jail Operations. Motion passed without opposition.

The 2014 Amended and 2015 Proposed budgets for the Jail 1996 Capital Outlay fund and the Jail Major Improvement fund were presented by Treasurer Brad Cammack.

Mrs. Moore moved and Mr. Robinson seconded a motion to approve the 2014 Amended and 2015 Proposed budgets for the Jail 1996 Capital Outlay fund and the Jail Major Improvement fund. Motion passed without opposition.

The 2014 Amended and 2015 Proposed budgets for the Jail Maintenance Reserve fund were presented by Mr. Cammack.

Mr. Smiley moved and Mr. Calhoun seconded a motion to approve the 2014 Amended and 2015 Proposed budgets for the Jail Maintenance Reserve fund.

The 2014 Amended and 2015 Proposed budgets for Cheniere Lake Park were presented by David Cobb, Public Works Assistant Director. One of the air conditioning units at the lodge needs to be replaced. A new storage building with fencing for security will be added to the campus.

Mr. Calhoun moved and Mr. Robinson seconded a motion to approve the 2014 Amended and 2015 Proposed budgets for Cheniere Lake Park. Motion passed without opposition.

The 2014 Amended and 2015 Proposed budgets for the Permit department were presented by Mr. Cobb. The department continues to use a portion of fund balance to fund its operations. Professional services accounts for a substantial portion of the department's expenditures. Revising the fee structure for permits may be necessary to offset these costs.

Mr. Calhoun moved and Mr. Robinson seconded a motion to approve the 2014 Amended and 2015 Proposed budgets for the Permit office. Motion passed without opposition.

Mrs. Moore introduced a discussion under the "Other Police Jury Budgets" section regarding debris removal in the parish and its effect on the Public Works budget. Mr. John Tom Murray,

Public Works Director, stated that Public Works had cleared the roadways and storm debris was picked up. They had maps of where they had been and work completed.

Residents taking debris to the landfills will be charged a fee. Jurors asked Mr. Cammack to get Mr. Jay Mitchell to call the landfills and ask if the fees could be reduced for residents who are cleaning their property of the storm damage.

Mr. Caldwell introduced a discussion regarding the District Attorney's budget in the General Fund and the Criminal Court Fund. Mr. Caldwell and Mr. Smiley have recently met with Mr. Jerry Jones, District Attorney. Mr. Jones would like the Police Jury to supplement the Criminal Court Fund. Discussion ensued. No action was taken.

Mr. Smiley moved and Mr. Calhoun seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed without opposition. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Walt Caldwell, Chairman

Karen Cupit, Recording Secretary