

**RAPIDES PARISH POLICE JURY
REGULAR SESSION
MARCH 9, 2020**

The Police Jury of the Parish of Rapides, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session at its regular meeting place, the Police Jury Room of the Parish Courthouse, 701 Murray Street, Alexandria, Louisiana, on Monday, March 9, 2020, at three (3:00) o'clock p.m. (Central Standard Time).

There were present: Craig Smith, President, Oliver "Ollie" Overton, Jr., Vice President and Police Jurors: Davron "Bubba" Moreau, Joe Bishop, Rusty Wilder, Sean McGlothlin, David Johnson and Scott Perry, Jr.

Absent was Theodore Fountaine, Jr.

Also present were: Ms. Donna Andries, Sales & Use Tax Administrator; Ms. Sonya Wiley-Gremillion, OHSEP Director; Ms. Elaine Morace, WIA Operations Director; Ms. Linda Sanders, Civil Service Director; Mr. Greg Jones, Legal Counsel and Ms. Laurel Smith, Secretary.

The invocation was given by Mr. Ollie Overton.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Rusty Wilder.

The Police Jury of the Parish of Rapides, State of Louisiana, was duly convened as the governing authority of said Parish by Hon. Craig Smith, President, who welcomed all present and then stated that the Police Jury was ready for the first item of business.

The President asked if there was any public comment on any agenda item, to which there was no response.

The first item on the agenda was to receive an update from Huddleston Smith Wealth Management.

Mr. Brad Smith and Mr. Dale Huddleston gave a brief update on the monies invested by the Police Jury. Mr. Smith stated the money earned is put into the checking account every month.

On motion by Mr. Ollie Overton, seconded by Mr. Bubba Moreau, to adopt the minutes of the Rapides Parish Police Jury held in Special Session January 30, 2020 and in Regular Session on February 10, 2020 as published in the Official Journal. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Ollie Overton, seconded by Mr. David Johnson, that approved bills be paid. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Joe Bishop, seconded by Mr. Rusty Wilder, to accept the Treasurer's report. On vote the motion carried.

The next items on the agenda were the appointments to be announced at the next meeting.

***Appointment to the Buckeye Recreation District for a five (5) year term to fill the expired term of Mr. Robert Matthew Ports. Term expired February 12, 2020.

***Appointment to the Buckeye Recreation District for a five (5) year term to fill

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the expiring term of Mr. Lance Speer. Term will expire April 12, 2020.

On motion by Mr. Joe Bishop, seconded by Mr. Ollie Overton, to waive the thirty (30) day announcement rule and reappoint Mr. Paul Fuselier to the Communications District for a four (4) year term. Term will expire April 9, 2024. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Ollie Overton, seconded by Mr. David Johnson, of Intent to Sale for the following Abandoned/Adjudicated Properties:

TAX DEBTOR	DESCRIPTION
Lessie D. Huel et al	Lot Eleven (11) of Block Nineteen (19) of Race Track Addition Bearing the Municipal address of: 361 N. 16th Street, Alexandria
Mildred W. Klock et al	Lot 124.6' on 2nd Street x 100' x 128' x 96' in UNK# Block 2nd and Casson Bearing the Municipal address of: 1705 Main Street, Alexandria
Leisa Phillips	Lot Seventeen (17), Square Three (3), Lincoln Place Bearing the Municipal address of: 150 Parkwood Drive, Alexandria
B & L Real Estate Investment	Lot Nine (9), Block Four (4) and Part of Lot Adj top of Hakenyos of Block Four (4), Ball Addition Bearing the Municipal address of: 2019 Levin Street, Alexandria

On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Joe Bishop, seconded by Mr. Ollie Overton, to request Legal Counsel to obtain an Attorney General opinion in regards to Sales Tax Distribution Derived from Act No. 14, First Extraordinary Session 2016 (LA R.S. 47:551), conflicting requirements for the distribution of the tax proceeds and also mandates the local collector to distribute the tax proceeds at no charge. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. David Johnson, seconded by Mr. Joe Bishop, to authorize Rapides Parish Fire District No. 4 to purchase one (1) Dodge Ram 2500 Enforcement off State Contract No. 4400016143, not to exceed with options \$38,000.00, as recommended by the Board and Fire Department Chief. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Rusty Wilder, seconded by Mr. Sean McGlothlin, to authorize Rapides Parish Fire District No. 8 to accept the quote of \$47,000 from Tarver Land Development to mill, grade, soil cement and pave the parking lot, for Fire Station No. 1, located at 55 Parker Road, Boyce, as recommended by the

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Cotile Volunteer Fire Department Board of Directors and the Purchasing Agent, to be paid out of Fire District No. 8 funds. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Bubba Moreau, seconded by Mr. David Johnson, to approve the purchase of two (2) Chevrolet Silverado SSV's off State Contract from Gerry Lane Chevrolet for the amount of \$33,954.33, each to be paid from Fire District No. 2 funds, as requested by the Fire Chief. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Ollie Overton, seconded by Mr. David Johnson, to accept the Public Works Director's Report. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Bubba Moreau, seconded by Mr. Ollie Overton, to authorize to advertise for bids for Various Road Materials, (gravel, lightweight aggregate and pit-run) for annual contract, as recommended by the Purchasing Agent. The current awarded vendor did not wish to extend current contract. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Ollie Overton, seconded by Mr. Bubba Moreau, to conduct an annual review of the Rapides Parish Police Jury Stormwater Ordinance as required by Rapides Parish Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan and LDEQ Permit. On vote the motion carried.

Mr. Cory Ashmore, Interim Superintendent of the Rapides Parish Highway Department conducted an annual review of the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan.

On motion by Mr. David Johnson, seconded by Mr. Sean McGlothlin, to authorize the advertisement of the construction contract for the Ball Lane – Victoria Drive Area Drainage Improvements Phase 1 project for bids, as recommended by Meyer, Meyer, LaCroix & Hixson, Engineers, following the recording of the drainage servitude associated with the project. The project will be constructed using Ward 8, District I Road Maintenance Funds.

Mr. Greg Jones, Legal Counsel, stated he had spoken with Mr. Scott Perry and this item was to be laid over.

Motion was laid over.

On motion by Mr. Bubba Moreau, seconded by Mr. Joe Bishop, to authorize to advertise to receive bids for Various Road Improvements in Rapides Parish for 2020, to be paid from Various Road Maintenance Funds as budgeted. On vote the motion carried.

The next item on the agenda was to receive an update from Rick Reno, Rapides Parish Coliseum.

Mr. Rick Reno, Coliseum Manager, briefly spoke about past events at the Coliseum. He also spoke about upcoming events such as the Harlem Globetrotters, WWE, 3 Dog Night, Beach Boys and High School Graduations for the summer months.

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On motion by Mr. Ollie Overton, seconded by Mr. Rusty Wilder, the following proclamation was presented and adopted:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the 52nd Anniversary of the National Fair Housing Law, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, during the month of April, is an occasion for all Americans-individually and collectively-to rededicate themselves to the principle of freedom from housing discrimination whenever it exist; and

WHEREAS, this law guarantees for each citizen the critical, personal element of freely choosing a home; and

WHEREAS, a fair housing law has been passed by the State of Louisiana, and implementation of the law requires the positive commitment, involvement, and support of each of our citizens; and

WHEREAS, the department and agencies of the State of Louisiana are to provide leadership in the effort to make fair housing not just an idea, but an ideal for all our citizens; and

WHEREAS, barriers that diminish the rights and limit the options of any citizen to freely choose a home will ultimately diminish the rights and limit the option of all.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Craig Smith, President of the Rapides Parish Police Jury do hereby proclaim the month of April 2020, as FAIR HOUSING MONTH in the Parish of Rapides.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED this 9th day of March, 2020.

On motion by Mr. Ollie Overton, seconded by Mr. Rusty Wilder, the following Proclamation was presented and adopted:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Community Development Block Grant Program has operated since 1974 to provide local governments with the resources required to primarily meet the needs of low and moderate income person; and

WHEREAS, the Community Development Block Grant Program is among the few remaining federal programs available to address the needs of low and moderate income persons and small cities; and

WHEREAS, the Community Development Block Grant Program has provided the state of Louisiana with important and flexible assistance to meet the needs of low and moderate income residents of small cities by funding sewer, water, and street improvements projects, economic development projects, and other public improvement projects; and

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WHEREAS, Congress and the nation acknowledge the critical value of the Community Development Block Grant Program and the significant projects that rely on its funds for support; and

WHEREAS, the week of April 13-18, 2020, has been reserved for recognition and appreciation of the Community Development Block Grant Program

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Craig Smith, President of the Rapides Parish Police Jury do hereby proclaim the week of April 13-18, 2020, as Community Development Week in the Parish of Rapides

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED this 9th day of March, 2020.

On motion by Mr. Bubba Moreau, seconded by Mr. Sean McGlothlin, to **lay over till April** the following motion:

Motion to approve Change Order No. 2 to the construction contract with Progressive Construction Co., LLC, for the Red River Levee Recertification, Aloha Rigolette North Bank Project, 40 PARA3301, for an increase amount of \$277,383.23 (alternate approach to dewatering the Bayou Darrow and Bayou Rigolette flow control structures, modifications and remedial work to the two flow control structures and replacement of the damaged and obsolete sluice gate operators at the Darrow structure), the cost to be covered by the project contingencies and to extend the contract time by 324 days due to river stage delays, fabrication and delivery time for the mechanical equipment and the performance of the work, as recommended by Meyer, Meyer, LaCroix & Hixson, Engineers, contingent upon approval by the State of Louisiana Office of Community Development and authorize the President to sign same.

On vote the motion carried to lay over till April meeting.

On motion by Mr. Joe Bishop, seconded by Mr. Ollie Overton, to award Bid #2782 – (Parking Garage Gates) to Simpson Security Systems Inc. for the amount of \$142,485.00, as recommended by the Purchasing Agent and Courthouse Superintendent. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. David Johnson, seconded by Mr. Joe Bishop, to reappoint Mr. Paul Fuselier, for a three (3) year , to the Fire District No. 7 Civil Service Board, nominee of LSU-A. Term will expire February 7, 2023. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Sean McGlothlin, seconded by Mr. David Johnson, to acknowledge the election of Mr. Ian Anthony, employee elected, for a three (3) year term, to the Rapides Parish Fire District No. 4 Civil Service Board. Term will expire November 12, 2022. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Ollie Overton, seconded by Mr. Joe Bishop, to waive the thirty (30) day announcement rule and reappoint Major Marcus Sandoval, to the 911 Communications District Board, for a four (4) year term. Term will expire March 17, 2024. On vote the motion carried.

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The next item on the agenda was to receive a recruiting plan from Ms. Linda Sanders, Civil Service Director.

Ms. Sanders stated she had advertised on Indeed.com, which is free for seven days, and certified two or three applicants from there. LA Works is actually free and she also placed the Job Fair on the Community Calendar on Jambalaya. It was posted at LSUA and LC and she reached out to the Coastal Driving Academy. The laborer positions don't require a CDL. Ms. Sanders stated there isn't a link on the Police Jury website to apply for positions. She spoke with Kinetics and she is going to be a link where she can add the vacant positions and an interested applicant can retrieve the application.

On motion by Mr. David Johnson, seconded by Mr. Sean McGlothlin, to receive the required report from Acadian Ambulance under the Contract for January, 2020:

Response Zone	Number of Responses	Required %	Compliance %
Alexandria - 8 minute	537	80%	89.01%
Pineville - 8 minute	208	80%	87.50%
Rapides - 12 minute	267	80%	94.76%
Rapides - 20 minute	217	80%	84.33%

On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Bubba Moreau, seconded by Mr. Sean McGlothlin, to authorize the Treasurer to do a Request for Proposals for the Group Health Insurance for 2021. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. David Johnson, seconded by Mr. Sean McGlothlin, to authorize to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between Fire Protection District No. 10 and the Plainview Volunteer Fire Department, to provide necessary manpower and available equipment and facilities, for the purpose of providing fire protection within the area of Fire Protection District No. 10 of the Parish of Rapides, State of Louisiana, with an option to renew for an additional ten (10) year period. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Bubba Moreau, seconded by Mr. Ollie Overton, to add the following motions to the agenda, received after the Jury Meeting agenda was posted in compliance with the Public Meetings Law and are now confirmed as having been added to the agenda by unanimous vote:

YEAS: Scott Perry, Jr, David Johnson, Sean McGlothlin, Rusty Wilder, Joe Bishop, Davron "Bubba" Moreau, Oliver "Ollie" Overton, Jr. and Craig Smith

NAYS: none

ABSTAINED: none

ABSENT: Theodore Fontaine, Jr.

On roll call vote the motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Mr. Rusty Wilder, seconded by Mr. David Johnson, to ratify authorization for Rapides Parish Fire District No. 15 to submit a grant application

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to the Volunteer Fire Assistance Program administered through the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry, Office of Forestry, for firefighting enhancement and communications, as requested by the Taylor Hill Volunteer Fire Department Board of Directors and authorize the President to sign necessary documents. This is a matching fund program with a total award of \$6,786.00. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Bubba Moreau, seconded by Mr. Joe Bishop, to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Ward 10 Recreation District for the Rapides Parish Highway Department to provide labor and equipment to perform approximately ten (10) hours of hauling and spreading 610 base, to be paid out of Ward 10 Maintenance funds and authorize the President to sign same. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Joe Bishop, seconded by Mr. David Johnson, to transfer from the Rapides Parish Coroner's Office to the Rapides Parish Highway Department Asset #9565 – (2003 Ford Pickup) as requested by the Purchasing Department and the Acting Public Works Superintendent. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Ollie Overton, seconded by Mr. David Johnson, to review and discuss Drug Free Workplace Policy as drafted by Drug Policy expert, outside counsel, Bryce Denny, amending and replacing Chapter 2. Administration, Article VII of the Rapides Parish Code of Ordinances.

Mr. Greg Jones, Legal Counsel, stated the drug policy was written almost thirty (30) years ago. He asked if a substitute motion could be to "Approve and adopt".

On motion by Mr. David Johnson, seconded by Mr. Ollie Overton, to approve and adopt the Drug Policy drafted by the expert, outside counsel, Mr. Bryce Denny, amending and replacing Chapter 2. – Administration, Article VII, of the Rapides Parish Code of Ordinances. (Final adoption of the Ordinance will be in the April meeting) On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Joe Bishop, seconded by Mr. David Johnson, to authorize the Interim Superintendent to hire up to 12 seasonal workers for the mowing crews and for general labor. Work to begin on or about April 1, 2020 and end no later than October 31, 2020, at the rate of \$10.00 per hour and foreman at \$10.50 per hour, to be paid from the Road & Bridge Salary line item. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. David Johnson, seconded by Mr. Sean McGlothlin, to grant the request of the Ruby-Kolin Board of Directors to create and hire a full time Fire Chief, to be paid from Fire District No. 7 funds. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Scott Perry, seconded by Mr. David Johnson,, there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m. On vote the motion carried.

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Laurel Smith, Secretary
Rapides Parish Police Jury

Craig Smith, President
Rapides Parish Police Jury