

## RAPIDES PARISH POLICE JURY

REGULAR SESSION  
NOVEMBER 8, 2021

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, November 8, 2021, at three (3:02) 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 Doris Perry.

Absent: Theodore Fontaine, Jr.

Also present: Theresa Pacholik, Treasurer; Shane Trapp, Courthouse Building Superintendent; Donna Andries, Sales & Use Tax Administrator; Sonya Wiley-Gremillion, OHSEP Director; Elaine Morace, WIA Operations Director; Linda Sanders, Civil Service Director; Greg Jones, Legal Counsel and Laurel Smith, Secretary.

The invocation was given by Mr. Ollie Overton.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Sean McGlothlin.

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 next item on the agenda was to present a plaque to Ms. Doris Perry, Interim Police Juror, District I.

Mr. Craig Smith presented a plaque to Ms. Doris Perry and all Juror's expressed their appreciation to Ms. Perry for her service to the Rapides Parish Police Jury.

Mr. Joe Bishop, requested that the item on the agenda to recognize and hold a Public Hearing on a proposed reapportionment plan for the Rapides Parish Police Jury, be moved to the top of the agenda.

On motion by Mr. Joe Bishop, seconded by Mr. Bubba Moreau, to open a Public Hearing on the proposed reapportionment plan. On vote the motion carried at 3:05 pm.

The President recognized Mr. Matt Johns, Executive Director of the Rapides Area Planning Commission.

Mr. Johns stated he had presented the draft plan to the Jury a month ago and showed the changes based on what had to happen to adjust the population across

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the river. Four changes had to happen between now and then. They had to make sure no precincts were split, and the lines would line up with accuracy and balance correctly. A dozen of those, the vast majority affected no population, which is no problem.

Mr. Ollie Overton, District F, had two pieces that the lines did not line up exactly right. The district boundary was on the western side of Highway 71, which basically left the precinct, which lies on the eastern side of the roadway. This was split between the roadway, north bound/south bound of Highway 71. There are about 20 people that live within that district, a slender census block and we couldn't leave it where it was split, it has to match the precinct line. He stated they moved that line over and moved 20 people out of District F and into District E, per the map. It was his understanding they were acting that way all along anyway. That is a correction from ten years ago.

The second one falls between District F and District H, right along State Highway 457 south of Sam Carroll Road. The district line following the roadway was incorrect. Again, this mistake was ten years ago that we are correcting.

Those are the two clean ups that did affect population.

The other two are significant in that we had to change what we proposed to you. District C grew significantly, and District D lost in population. In order to make that change, because those two districts are not contiguous or adjacent to each other, we had to move through District B to get to District D. Mr. Johns showed what was originally proposed through District C, B and D on the map. He stated it took a few extra census blocks to get the population where they needed to. The problem is a precinct boundary, and we couldn't split that. We caught that this morning and we are going to make that change back the only thing we can do was to move back to the original line and look for something on the other side of the river. Originally District I was going to try take in the area around the Post Office on Odom Street. The problem is that the precinct line is much larger, it's the entire C11A. In order to take up the section we wanted, we had to take in the City of Alexandria complex. This actually takes some of the stuff back from the northside unless we have to, due to the precinct boundary and give some more on the southside, that is already directly adjacent to that district. To follow the rules as best we can, I will tell you for the record, we are taking the most liberal interpretation of the mediation rule, which says you can have a deviation of 10% from the average, so we are actually applying that to each District. The stricter interpretation is that you can't be 10% away from each other, which would put you at a negative 5% or a plus 5%. We are doing the more liberal interpretation. Those are the four initial changes, in addition to what you've already seen so far. Mr. Johns stated he wanted to make sure we had an all clear on the table. He questioned if there were any area's the Juror's wanted to look at or any questions.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Johns thanked Mr. Blake Powell and Mr. Jaime Wallace for their work behind the scenes.

Ms. Sandra Bonnette, Registrar of Voters was questioned if she had any input, to which she replied she had questions on the voters in District I. It is already lower

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as far as voters. She stated she understood this was done by population. She further stated she thought it was still a plus 5%, minus 5%.

Mr. Johns explained that basically no matter what you do, somebody could sue and win. All they have is show the data in a more proper way. Even if you follow the negative 5% plus 5% rule, you can be liable, because you have not done it the most practical way. No matter what you do, somebody can present one small change and say this is more practical. What we are doing is betting on the fact that nobody is going to be upset over these changes we are trying to follow all the rules as best we can. If we have to come back to you, we will, but we think this is our best shot, this action today.

Mr. Craig Smith questioned if there was any public comment, to which there was none.

On motion by Mr. Sean McGlothlin, seconded by Mr. Joe Bishop, to close the Public Hearing on the proposed reapportionment plan. On vote the motion carried at 3:17 pm.

On motion by Mr. Joe Bishop, seconded by Mr. Sean McGlothlin, to act on a proposed reapportionment plan for the Rapides Parish Police Jury. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Joe Bishop, seconded by Mr. Ollie Overton, to adopt the minutes of the Rapides Parish Police Jury held in Special Session on October 4, 2021 and in Regular Session on October 11, 2021, as published in the Official Journal. On vote the motion carried.

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

On motion by Mr. Bubba Moreau, seconded by Mr. David Johnson, to adopt a notice of Intent to Sell the following Abandoned/Adjudicated Properties:

TAX DEBTOR	DESCRIPTION
Angelinque (Stewart) Nelson	Lot Six (6), Square Four (4), Green Oak Subdivision Bearing the municipal address of: 3730 Fourth Street, Alexandria
Lannote Ducote Jr.	Part of Lot Twelve (12), Square Three (3), Green Oak Subdivision; 90' on Midway x 50' Bearing the municipal address of: 3703 4th Street, Alexandria
Manfield Lawson Est.	Lots Nine (9) and Ten (10), Square Four (4), Harris Subdivision Bearing the municipal address of: 609 Compton Street, Alexandria
Jarrol Pegues	Lot Four (4), Square Five (5), Lincoln Place Subdivision

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Bearing the municipal address of:  
131 Frances Street, Alexandria

Thomas J. Atkins Jr.

Lot Three (3), Square Seventeen  
(17), South Alexandria Land Co.,  
Addition

Bearing the municipal address of:  
2069 Overton Street, Alexandria

On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Ollie Overton, seconded by Mr. David Johnson, to authorize to sell to Rapides Parish Fire District No. 5, from Rapides Parish Fire District No. 8, the following equipment for a total of \$2,500.00, as agreed by both departments and boards.

Asset Number	Description	Disposal
10000	1988 Dodge Ram	Sold
10107	Light bar	Sold
10153	Skid Unit	Sold
10226	Hose Reel	Sold
9297	Hose Reel	Sold

On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Ollie Overton, seconded by Mr. Joe Bishop, to ratify the adoption of the Capital Outlay Budget Request for FY 2022/2023 for Fire District No. 2 to submit a request for the relocation/new construction of Fire Station No. 1 to be located at 1431 Ransbottom Drive. Fire District No. 2 will provide a 30% match from local funds towards the project. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Joe Bishop, seconded by Mr. Ollie Overton, to ratify the deletion from the Rapides Parish Highway Department, the following equipment, as this equipment was damaged in an accident, at no fault of the Jury and insurance claimed total loss. This was agreed by the Chairman of Committee and Parish President.

Asset number	Description	Disposal
10900	New Holland Tractor Workmaster 75	Removed and surrendered to insurance for agreed upon amount of \$14,902.00
12840	Bush Hog	Removed and surrendered to insurance for agreed upon amount of \$2,125.00

On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Ollie Overton, seconded by Mr. David Johnson, to delete from the Rapides Parish Courthouse Asset/Inventory Program the equipment listed below as it is no longer operational. We have purchased new replacement equipment.

Asset Number	Description	Disposal
9654	AED Unit	Scrap - To be auctioned
9655	AED Unit	Scrap - To be auctioned

On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Joe Bishop, seconded by Mr. Rusty Wilder, to accept

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Public Works Director's Report. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Bubba Moreau, seconded by Mr. David Johnson, to accept Task Order A-3-2021 – District A - District Wide Asphalt Roadway Improvements as “Substantially Complete”, and authorize the Parish President to sign and record the “Substantial Completion” certificate, and authorize the Parish President to sign a Final Recap Task Order Change Order adjusting the final contract quantities and time period as necessary, as recommended by the Parish Engineer, Pan American Engineers, LLC. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Joe Bishop seconded by Mr. Ollie Overton, to accept Task Order A-4-2021 – Palmer Chapel Road Asphalt Overlay Improvements as “Substantially Complete” and authorize the Parish President to sign and record the “Substantial Completion” certificate and authorize the Parish President to sign a Final Recap Task Order Change Order adjusting the final contract quantities and time period as necessary, as recommended by the Parish Engineer, Pan American Engineers, LLC. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Ollie Overton, seconded by Mr. Joe Bishop, to authorize the Parish President to execute an Engineering Agreement with Pan American Engineers, LLC, to develop bidding documents for the Peart Road Cross Drain Replacement Project and authorize Pan American Engineers, LLC, to advertise and receive bids for the same. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Joe Bishop, seconded by Mr. Ollie Overton, to authorize the Rapides Parish Police Jury to enter into an agreement with Durable Piling Restoration, L.L.C. to perform bridge repairs on the Martin Springs Road Bridge at cost of \$35,784.00 and authorize the Parish President to sign necessary contract documents as recommended by Parish Engineer, Pan American Engineers, LLC. (This is in addition to the previously approved repairs of \$20,885). On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Bubba Moreau, seconded by Mr. Joe Bishop, to authorize to advertise for proposals for grass cutting services on various parish rights-of-way and authorize the President to sign any necessary documents.

Mr. Ollie Overton questioned if these are classified employees, are these being advertised for their services, proposing to leave our guys out, to which Mr. Smith stated there is an employee issues, not being able to get employees to get all the grass cut, so this he thought would fit in some of the areas so we can get caught up. Mr. Cory Ashmore, Public Works Director, also replied the grass cutting crews are seasonal/part-time.

On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Sean McGlothlin, seconded by Mr. Rusty Wilder, to authorize to advertise for proposals for ditching services on various parish rights-of-way and authorize the President to sign any necessary documents.

Mr. Ollie Overton stated the same question, to which Mr. Smith stated this will help fill in some of the services that the Highway Department was unable to fill because of the lack of employees. We are not covering our areas, so this is a way

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to help on some of the bigger projects.

Mr. Greg Jones, Legal Counsel stated this will be on an as needed basis.

On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Joe Bishop, seconded by Mr. Sean McGlothlin, to authorize to advertise for proposals for services to install culverts as needed throughout the parish and authorize the President to sign any necessary documents.

Mr. Smith stated also as needed jobs.

On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Ollie Overton, seconded by Mr. Sean McGlothlin, to authorize the President to 1) sign nomination form for Shanna Worth, Director of Sales with Courtyard by Marriott to replace Debbie Norman, and 2) sign a letter addressed to the Louisiana Workforce Commission concerning new members. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. David Johnson, seconded by Mr. Bubba Moreau, to receive the required report from Acadian Ambulance under the Contract for September 2021:

Response Zone	Number of Responses	Required %	Compliance %
Alexandria - 8 minute	508	80%	91.14%
Pineville - 8 minute	141	80%	82.98%
Rapides - 12 minute	191	80%	91.10%
Rapides - 20 minute	221	80%	88.24%

On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Joe Bishop, seconded by Mr. Bubba Moreau, that the following item(s) were not considered by the Committee of the Jury but were posted on the agenda after the Committee Meeting and added to the Jury agenda in compliance with the Public Meetings Law and are now confirmed as having been added to the agenda by unanimous vote:

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

NAYS: none

ABSENT: Theodore Fontaine, Jr.

On roll call vote the motion carried 8-0.

On motion by Mr. Joe Bishop, seconded by Mr. David Johnson, to authorize the President to sign a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Louisiana Department of Transportation for donation of reclaimed asphalt from the location of LA 119 to LA 1, State Project No. H0011598, approximately 780 cubic yards. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. David Johnson, seconded by Mr. Bubba Moreau, to authorize the sale of a 1995 Caterpillar 12 Motor Grader (RPPW asset #6752) by listing on electronic bid site. On vote the motion carried.

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On motion by Mr. David Johnson, seconded by Mr. Ollie Overton, to reappoint Mr. Alton Beaver to the Cheneyville Recreation District for a five (5) year term. Term will expire December 10, 2026. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Joe Bishop, seconded by Mr. Sean McGlothlin, to authorize an increase in the annual contract for Groundskeeper at Buckeye Recreation Park, from \$21,000.00 to \$31,500.00, as approved by the Recreation Board on October 28, 2021, to begin on January 1, 2022. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Rusty Wilder, seconded by Mr. David Johnson, to transfer responsibility back to the Rapides Parish Highway Department from the Office of Economic and Workforce Development, declare as surplus and place in auction, the following asset:

Asset Number	Description
9995	2006 – Expedition VIN# 1FMPU15516LA14747

On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Joe Bishop, seconded by Mr. Bubba Moreau, to amend the November 13, 2006, approved work schedule of the Rapides Parish Highway Department employees, and any other motion in conflict with this motion and to provide uniform fairness to the Parish employees, the work schedule is to be set as follows: set a 40 hour regular time work week (Monday-Friday) for the Parish Highway Department, granting the Parish Public Works Director the authority to determine the weekly work schedule of an employee or employees of the department, that provides the most efficient utilization of employee time, Parish resources, and prompt service, and addresses the work and weekly needs of the Parish, and the taxpayers and citizens of Rapides Parish. Effective date, January 1, 2022.

Mr. Craig Smith read a motion from November 2006 as follows: On motion by Mr. Scott Perry, seconded by Mr. Richard Billings, to set the work schedule for the Parish Highway Department to be four ten-hour days per week, effective November 27, 2006, as requested by the Public Works Director.

Mr. Smith stated basically this motion sits on the books and it doesn't really say what day of the week, it just says ten-hour days.

Mr. Greg Jones stated he would like to make one clarification. The forty-hour regular work week will still be Monday through Friday, and Saturday and Sunday as overtime days. However, it gives the Public Works Director the discretion to use four ten-hour days to set the days and work schedule, based upon the needs of the Parish.

Mr. Overton stated you could have a Monday through Thursday crew and have a Tuesday through Friday crew. Long as they have two consecutive days off. Mr. Overton further stated he would like for the employees to have proper notification, at least a forty-eight hour or seventy-two-hour notice, as to what shift they are going to be working the next week.

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Mr. Greg Jones stated that is a very reasonable suggestion and that is why you see the effective date of January 1<sup>st</sup>. It will give time for this to be worked out prior to January 1.

Discussion ensued.

Ms. Marla West, Purchasing Agent, stated where it says the Parish Highway Department, does that mean the administrative staff also, like the office, is it going to be open on Fridays, to which Mr. Cory Ashmore stated should be. Ms. West questioned about the leave time. A lot of the guys have Friday's jobs and when you go to changing their schedules, they are going to actually lose money by having to work the Tuesday through Friday. She asked if the Jury would take that into consideration.

Mr. Rusty Wilder stated he liked this because in his area the Cotile Lake Recreational Area, he can get work done on a Friday, whereas before, he couldn't.

Mr. Ashmore stated more inmates would help. They are down to two inmates per crew. On Friday's there is only one inmate. The Sheriff's Department contacted him about the using the inmates. They can work them Monday through Friday now.

Mr. David Johnson stated his concern was about the employees, to which Mr. Ashmore stated they all thought the motion was five eights.

Mr. Smith stated they thought it was going to five days a week and that is not what they are stating. He stated they are going to work forty hours and five day work weeks. It could be four tens, it would be whatever the discretion of the Public Works Director needs to do his job.

Discussion ensued.

On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Joe Bishop, seconded by Mr. Sean McGlothlin, for the Rapides Parish Police Jury to amend and replace the current CompTime/Overtime Policy with only a Paid Overtime Program, to provide uniform fairness to all Parish employees, as well as the most efficient utilization of employee time and Parish resources to address the work, services, and annual needs of the Parish, and the taxpayers and citizens of Rapides Parish. Effective date, January 1, 2022.

Mr. Ollie Overton stated out of Civil Service, we have 73 employees. I suggested that we take a survey to see how the employees felt. The survey comes back with 45 wanting comp time and 27 wanted overtime. He stated he didn't know who voted for what, there were no names. We put out the survey and it is clear what the survey says.

Mr. Smith questioned Mr. Ashmore how many employees he had, to which he stated he had 27 on the crew. He stated he was approached by a lot of employees wanting to get paid for overtime. Mr. Ashmore further stated he has run into trying to schedule jobs and the guys wouldn't work because they didn't want comp time, they wanted pay.

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Mr. Johnson stated if you want comp time, take comp time, if you want paid, you get paid.

Mr. McGlothlin stated it seemed like the problem was at the Highway Department. He questioned Mr. Greg Jones, Legal Counsel and Ms. Linda Sanders, Civil Service Director, if the Courthouse and office personnel don't get a lot of comp time opportunity, could we limit this to the Highway Department and not the other parish employees.

Mr. Jones stated they could look at it and study that option. For the record, last year was a particularly grievous year. Two hurricanes and a tornado tearing up our barn. The last quarter of the year, October through December, they had some employees that had 400 comp time hours. They needed to take some time off because they can only carry over 240 hours. Problem was, because of the workload they couldn't allow time to be taken, so they ended up paying them off, just so they could carry 240 hours over. Because you have so much work scheduled, you couldn't afford to give somebody 200 hours off the last quarter of the year. It might be possible to see if we can address the department that it affects.

Discussion ensued.

Ms. West stated she had 25 to 30 phone calls and she had one employee say he wanted comp pay. She further stated that most of the phone calls she got was the Highway Department.

Mr. Ashmore stated he had just the opposite. He stated he had several guys come to him today, that said comp time will not pay my electric bill.

Roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

Yeas: Doris Perry, Sean McGlothlin, Rusty Wilder, Joe Bishop and Craig Smith.

Nays: David Johnson, Davron "Bubba" Moreau and Ollie Overton

Abstain: none

On roll call vote the motion carried 5 to 3.

On motion by Mr. Joe Bishop, seconded by Mr. Ollie Overton, to call for a Public Hearing on December 13, 2021, at 3:00 p.m. to discuss the proposed Rapides Parish Police Jury 2022 Budget. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Rusty Wilder, seconded by Mr. David Johnson, to reaffirm and approve the annexation of the new Rapides Parish Library branch at Boyce, Louisiana, into the corporate limits of the Town of Boyce, subject to approval by the Parish Library Board of Directors. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Joe Bishop, seconded by Mr. David Johnson, to confirm the variance to parish ordinance number four-sixty-three granted to MDK Inc. and DJK Inc aka JSS) on October 14, 2021, in resolving pending litigation. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Joe Bishop, seconded by Mr. David Johnson, to adopt an

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ordinance to amend Chapter 14 - Health and Sanitation, Article I. – In General, Section 14-6 of the Rapides Parish Code of Ordinances:

Chapter 14 - HEALTH AND SANITATION

ARTICLE I. - IN GENERAL

Sec. 14-6. - Existing systems and/or residents without an approved system.

...

(2) The permittee shall also obtain and maintain at their own expense a policy of insurance issued by an insurance company licensed to do business in the State of Louisiana which provides coverage for this indemnification in the limits of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) per occurrence. The policy of insurance shall name the Rapides Parish Police Jury as an additional insured additional interested party or additional insured and shall provide that the Rapides Area Planning Commission shall be notified ten (10) days prior to the termination of the policy.

...

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this ordinance is to be effective immediately.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED in all other respects Section 14-6 – Existing systems and/or residents without an approved system, of the Rapides Parish Code of Ordinances shall remain unchanged.

THUS, DONE AND ADOPTED this 8th day of November, 2021.

On motion by Mr. Joe Bishop, seconded by Mr. Ollie Overton, there being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:02 p.m.

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Laurel Smith, Secretary  
Rapides Parish Police Jury

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Craig Smith, President  
Rapides Parish Police Jury