

MINUTES
VERNON PARISH POLICE JURY
REGULAR MEETING

PARISH GOVERNMENT COMPLEX BUILDING
300 SOUTH 3RD STREET, 2ND FLOOR
LEESVILLE, LOUISIANA

MONDAY, MAY 16, 2011
10:00am

The Vernon Parish Police Jury met in Regular Session, Monday, May 16, 2011 at 10:00am in the Police Jury Meeting Room with the following members
PRESENT: Honorable James B. Tuck, President, Howard "Pete" Dowden, Tommy McMahon, Jackie Grimes, Reginald "Reggie" Johnson, Jerry Blair, Melvin Haymon, Joseph "Bo" Cryer, and Kenny Haymon. The following members were **ABSENT:** Leonard Johnson, Sam B. Fulton, Jr., and Curtis Clay.

The invocation was given by Mr. K. Haymon and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. McMahon.

The Vernon Parish Police Jury was convened as the governing authority of the Parish of Vernon, by James B. Tuck, President, and was then ready for the business on the agenda.

The President asked for public comment on agenda items, there were none.

Mr. L. Johnson and Mr. Clay arrived at the meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Grimes, seconded by Mr. M. Haymon and carried, to approve the minutes of the April 18, 2011 Regular meeting, the April 21, 2011 Special Call meeting, and the May 3, 2011 Special Call meeting and dispense with the reading of the minutes.

A motion was made by Mr. McMahon, seconded by Mr. Cryer and carried, to enter into a public hearing to hear public input on proposed redistricting plan. The jury entered into public hearing.

Mr. Rodney Schamerhorn spoke against the redistricting plan. He believes that the jury should only have 8-10 members, instead of the current 12, and that the districts should be realigned to give all jurors an equal number of road miles.

Juror K. Haymon spoke against the redistricting plan. He stated that as the representative for District 12 he could not vote for the plan because he believes it

would cost his district more money to operate since he is taking in an area on the other side of Lake Vernon.

Juror L. Johnson spoke against the redistricting plan. He does not believe that residents in District 7 are well represented with the new plan.

Juror Clay spoke in favor of the redistricting plan. Mr. Clay stated that no district was perfect and that everyone had to give and take to make this work. He also pointed out that redistricting was about the number of residents in a district, per the census, not about the number of road miles a district has in it.

Mr. Sherman Busby spoke against the redistricting plan. He believes that the new districts were not drawn with the best interest of the parish in mind.

Juror Blair stated that he thought the districts should be pie shaped with Leesville/Fort Polk as the center to give everyone an equal population count.

Mr. Bill Blair, with Redistricting LLC, spoke and explained that they had tried a pie shaped district plan, but it would not work. The smallest area they can use is a census block and Fort Polk is divided into only 5 census blocks so it could not be evenly divided by district. He stated that it was not a viable option so they did not pursue it.

There were no other comments.

A motion was made by Mr. Clay, seconded by Mr. R. Johnson and carried, to return to regular meeting. The jury is back in Regular Session.

A motion was made by Mr. Clay, seconded by Mr. M. Haymon, to adopt an ordinance to adopt redistricting plan, Trial Plan 7f, redistricting the twelve (12) member Police Jury Election Districts. The foregoing motion was subject to a roll call vote and recorded as follows:

YAES: Tuck, Dowden, McMahan, Grimes, R. Johnson, M. Haymon, Clay,
and Cryer

NAYS: Blair, L. Johnson, K. Haymon

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Fulton

The motion carried.

Mr. M. Haymon left the meeting to attend a funeral.

Mr. Curtis Clay, Chairman, Finance Committee, reported that the committee met on Monday, May 9, 2011 at 5:00pm in the Police Jury meeting room.

The committee recommends the jury approve pothole patching expenses for April 2011 to be transferred to the overlay account - \$13,041.62.

The committee recommends the jury approve invoice from AECOM, \$24,700.00, for professional services related to Plan Vernon Parish (grant).

The committee recommends the jury approve request from VP Health Unit to purchase a new copier, \$3695.00, from Automated Imaging Systems and to enter into a maintenance contract at .013 cents per print.

Received after the 05/09/2011 committee meeting:

Request for \$30,000.00 annual allocation to Fort Polk Progress; the police jury funds will be combined with funds from local municipalities, other Police Jury's, and regional partners to help fund the hiring of a director and other operating costs. The committee recommends the jury approve this request.

Mr. Blair requested that the committee look into using 10% of the timber severance tax again for road maintenance. The committee recommends this request be put back in committee for further review and discussion.

A motion was made by Mr. Clay, seconded by Mr. Cryer and carried, to adopt the additions received after the 05/09/2011 committee meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Clay, seconded by Mr. Grimes and carried, to adopt the Finance Committee report as read.

Mr. Reginald "Reggie" Johnson, Chairman, Highway Committee, reported that the committee met on Monday, May 9, 2011 at 5:00pm in the Police Jury meeting room.

The committee recommends the jury approve resolution to perform work inside the municipality of: **1.) Village of Simpson (June 2011):** grade the following roads and/or repair potholes where needed: Acorn Dr., A. Jackson Rd., Andre St., Buck Run, D. Davis Rd., D. Welch Rd., Dogwood Ln., Elmer Bennett Rd., Forest Dr., G. Parker Rd., Joy Lawrence Rd., Kountry Rd., Magnolia Rd., Misty Rd., Netherland Rd., Oak St., Odie Jackson Rd., Pine Tree Ln., Ponderosa Dr., Quail

Creek Rd., Royce Parker Rd., Shadywood Dr., Welcome Cemetery Rd., Chipper Ln., Third St., Wildwood Ln., and Wise Rd.

Judgment rendered on March 25, 2011 for Pippin v Pippen and VPPJ; Jack Dean Rd. is a public road on all portions of Jack Dean Rd. maintained by the VPPJ (1900 ft., in its entirety, D3 W3) to the point that ends at the residence of Jack Dean Pippin, Sr. The committee recommends the jury request legal counsel review to determine the width of the road. Parish Legal Counsel was present at the meeting and reported that a new trial motion was pending on this case but has not been ruled on yet.

The committee reviewed a request from VP Health Unit to assist with an abandoned mobile home on the property of Anita Henry, 222 Addison Rd., Anacoco, D3 W3, the structure is considered a potential health hazard and nuisance and is harboring undesirable creatures. The committee recommends the jury approve the request.

The committee reviewed a request from VP Health Unit to dispose of a dead horse located at 127 McNeely Rd., D2 W2, to prevent a potential health hazard and nuisance; property owner Brenda Gore. The committee recommends the jury approve this request.

The LCDBG road grants submitted for D2 (DeSoto Dr., Teal Rd., Tilley Dr., and Wood Duck Rd.) and D6 (Bolton McLaren Lp., Brooks, D.E. Jeane, Jeane Trailer Park Rd., Willard McGee, and Dale Miller Rd.) are being pulled from this year's funding. The grants, as they were written, did not include base work, culverts, or asphalt (roads would be 2-shot) and would have resulted in a sub-standard road. The grants will be re-submitted in November and will be written to include all necessary base work, culverts, and asphalt. Once grants are approved, work should begin in April 2012.

The committee reviewed a proposed ordinance revision for Chapter 17, Article III: Permits for pipeline crossings, dredging, and oil, gas and mineral exploration and production, Sec 17-43, Paved and other roads, to require driveways leading to and from Oil & Gas Well sites to be paved. The committee recommends

the jury hold a public hearing on June 20, 2011 at 10:00am to hear public comment on the proposed ordinance revision.

Received after the 05/09/2011 committee meeting:

The committee reviewed resolution to approve work inside the municipality of: 1.) **Village of Anacoco**: 219, 247, & 259 Ball Park Rd. – ditches need cleaned out; Huey Bean & Johnny Guy Rd. – needs grading; Port Author – edge of road needs repair; Miers & Beavers Rd. – potholes.

Request from Timos Lofton to abandon Joe Dailey Rd. in its entirety (1056 ft.), #3111, D9 W3. Parish Road Supervisor has reviewed the request and recommends the parish abandon the road (public hearing June 20, 2011). The committee recommends the jury approve this request.

The committee reviewed a request from Holton Cemetery for fill dirt and dirt work; D6 W8. The committee recommends the jury approve this request.

The committee recommends the jury approve request from VP Health Unit to fill in an abandoned well at 496 Hwy 392, Hornbeck; property owner Harold Knippers.

A motion was made by Mr. R. Johnson, seconded by Mr. McMahon and carried, to adopt the additions received after the 05/09/2011 committee meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. R. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Blair and carried, to add to the report a hardship request from Thomas Goins, D6 W2, Coldspring Lp., pending receipt and approval of paperwork.

A motion was made by Mr. R Johnson, seconded by Mr. McMahon and carried, to adopt the Highway Committee report as read.

Mr. Reginald “Reggie” Johnson, Chairman, Road Construction Committee, reported that he committee met on Monday, May 9, 2011 at 5:00pm in the Police Jury meeting room.

La DOTD will be putting Section Line Bridge and Johnsonville Bridge out for bid in July 2012. Parish Legal Counsel reported that there is a potential issue remaining with a right-of-way on Section Line Bridge and a succession will need to be done on one of the properties. The committee recommends the jury authorize

Parish Legal Counsel to hire an attorney on behalf of the parish to complete the succession and to allow for fees up to \$2000.00 to pay for the service.

Request from District 8 to add Jeane Chapel Extension to 2011 Overlay List, \$131,360.00. The committee recommends the jury deny this request.

The committee recommends the jury approve repair on Bus Turnaround at 902 Courtney Lane (D2 W2), pending receipt of letter from VP School Board.

The committee recommends the jury approve request from Parish Road Supervisor to 2-shot the following roads in D5:

Foshee Rd. – 14' x 925' & 14' x 560'

Buddy Doyle Rd. – 13' x 500'

Andy Bailey Rd. - 16' x 1100'

Floyd Wills Rd. 13' x 1100'

Estimated cost is \$34,243.63 to be paid from D5 funds.

A motion was made by Mr. R. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Clay and carried, to adopt the Road Construction Committee report as amended.

Mr. Howard "Pete" Dowden, Chairman, Parish Equipment Committee, reported that the committee met on Monday, May 9, 2011 at 5:00pm.

There was no business to discuss.

Received after the 05/09/2011 committee meeting:

Request from District 5 to authorize Parish Road Supervisor to advertise for bids for a new bulldozer. The committee recommends the jury approve this request.

A motion was made by Mr. Dowden, seconded by Mr. Cryer and carried to adopt the additions received after the 05/09/2011 committee meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Dowden, seconded by Mr. R. Johnson and carried, to adopt the Parish Equipment Committee report as read.

Mr. Leonard Johnson, Chairman, Permit & Claims Committee reported that the committee met on Monday, May 9, 2011 at 5:00pm in the Police Jury meeting room.

The committee recommends the jury approve application received from Eagle Rock Pipeline, Houston, Texas, for Road Crossing Permit – Parish Road 64 (McElveen Cut Off Rd., D3 W3); \$500.00 permit fee has been received.

The committee recommends the jury approve application for Beer & Liquor permit received for Polk Express dba Jaiambe of Fort Polk, LLC, 1171 Entrance Rd., Leesville; Class "B" License, \$560.00. The store has not been closed for 6 months.

A motion was made by Mr. L. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Grimes and carried, to adopt the Permit & Claims Committee report as read.

Mr. Jerry Blair, Chairman, Personnel Committee, reported that the committee met on Monday, May 9, 2011 at 5:00pm in the Police Jury Meeting Room.

The committee recommends the jury approve request from Nuel Corley for termination leave; since he was employed by the jury for over 10 years he is eligible for an additional 137 hours (accrued sick leave) of pay, per section 6.11 of the Personnel Policy & Procedure Manual.

The committee recommends the jury approve COE Student, Shantasia Williams, LHS, to work at Parish Wide Maintenance office in the Fall.

The committee recommends the jury approve hiring 1 new employee in D3, D5, D6, and D7. D3 will be over by one employee, all others remain in within their limits. Parish Road Supervisor will provide names to the jury after he reviews applications.

Received after the 05/09/2011 committee meeting:

Request from Parish Road Supervisor to hire Robert R. Strother, District 5, Equipment Operator, available immediately. The committee recommends the jury approve this request.

A motion as made by Mr. Blair, seconded by Mr. R. Johnson and carried, to adopt the additions received after the 05/09/2011 committee meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Blair, seconded by Mr. R. Johnson and carried, to adopt the Personnel Committee report as read.

Mr. Tommy McMahan, Chairman, Subdivision Committee, reported that the committee met on Monday, May 9, 2011 at 5:00pm in the Police Jury meeting room.

There was no business to discuss.

Received after the 05/09/2011 committee meeting:

Letter from Parish Road Supervisor regarding Tracy Acres, Phase I, Lots 1-4; there are no streets, alleys, or other right-of-ways through subdivision and all lots are

accessed off of J.P. Calcote Rd. (D5 W7). Parish Road Supervisor recommends the jury accept the plat only. The committee recommends the jury approve this request.

A motion was made by Mr. McMahon, seconded by Mr. Grimes and carried, to adopt the additions received after the 05/09/2011 committee meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. McMahon, seconded by Mr. Grimes and carried, to adopt the Subdivision Committee report as read.

Mr. Joseph "Bo" Cryer, Ways & Means Committee, reported that the committee met on Monday, May 9, 2011 at 5:00pm in the Police Jury meeting room.

The Police Jury approved the acceptance of an Errors and Emissions policy with Fertitta Insurance for a cost of \$4,800.00. Norris Insurance Consultants overlooked the fact that Fertitta's E & O policy was contingent only if we also accepted the Liability policy. That was how they were able to get such a low premium on the E & O. Therefore, the only E & O policy that the jury can accept is the one offered by Morris Insurance Agency for \$13,755.00. The committee recommends that we do not accept the policy offered by Morris Insurance Agency.

The committee recommends the jury approve request to allow the Anacoco Fire Department to use an old dump site, located off of Green Head Rd., to practice using the Jaws of Life. The Fire Department will keep the area clean and dispose of any debris that they create.

Received after the 05/09/2011 committee meeting:

The committee recommends the jury approve a \$150,000.00 in-kind match to the Industrial Park to help pay for upgrades required to the facilities for a business that is looking to relocate to the parish.

A motion was made by Mr. Cryer, seconded by Mr. Clay and carried, to adopt the additions received after the 05/09/2011 committee meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Cryer, seconded by Mr. R. Johnson and carried, to adopt the Ways & Means Committee report as read.

Mr. Reginald "Reggie" Johnson, reported that the Wildlife & Lakes committee met on Monday, May 9, 2011 at 5:00pm in the Police Jury meeting room.

There was no business to discuss.

Received after the 05/09/2011 committee meeting:

Per request approved on 02/22/2011, Parish Road Supervisor will pick up a 2003 Chevrolet C2500 Silverado, \$14,900.00, 31,000 miles, to be used by Mr. Al Peltier; payment to be split between PWM and Fish & Wildlife Commission.

A motion was made by Mr. R. Johnson, seconded by Mr. McMahon and carried, to adopt the additions received the 05/09/2011 committee meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. R. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Clay and carried, to adopt the Wildlife & Lakes Committee report as read.

A unanimous motion, and second, was made to adopt a Memorial Resolution for Sgt. Matthew D. Hermanson and PFC Jonathan M. Villanueva, who died in Afghanistan as a result of enemy attacks.

A motion was made by Mr. K. Haymon, seconded by Mr. Grimes and carried, to adopt a resolution approving the holding of an election in West Vernon Parish Waterworks District, Louisiana, on Saturday, October 22, 2011, to authorize the levy of a special tax therein. This is a tax renewal.

A motion was made by Mr. R. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Clay and carried, to hold a public hearing on Monday, June 20, 2011 at 10:00am to hear public input on the following agenda items:

- a. Proposed ordinance revision for Chapter 17, Article III: Permits for pipeline crossings, dredging, and oil, gas and mineral exploration and production, Sec 17-43, Paved and other roads, to require driveways leading to and from Oil & Gas Well sites to be paved.
- b. Request to abandon Joe Dailey Rd., in its entirety (1056 ft.), #3111, D9 W3.

A motion was made by Mr. Grimes, seconded by Mr. Clay and carried, to adopt a resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the special elections held in the Parish of Vernon, State of Louisiana, Road District No. One, Vernon Parish, Louisiana, Road District No. Three, Vernon Parish Louisiana, and Road District No. Four, Vernon Parish, Louisiana, on Saturday, April 30, 2011, to authorize the levy of special taxes therein.

A motion was made by Mr. Cryer, seconded by Mr. Clay and carried, to adopt a resolution to accept into the Parish Road Maintenance System, Star Drive, D6 W1,

in the North Star Estates Subdivision beginning at Gill Hunt Rd. and ending at Hwy 117, a distance of 1815 feet.

A motion was made by Mr. Clay, seconded by Mr. R. Johnson and carried, to appoint Merchants & Farmers Bank & Trust Co., The Vernon Bank, and Sabine State Bank & Trust Co. as fiscal agents for 2011-2012.

A motion was made by Mr. K. Haymon, seconded by Mr. Clay and carried, to appoint the Leesville Daily Leader as official journal for Vernon Parish, from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012.

A motion was made by Mr. Clay, seconded by Mr. McMahon and carried, to authorize payment of all invoices as authorized by the Finance Committee and authorize payment of all expenditures above the budgeted amount from Ward Maintenance Accounts.

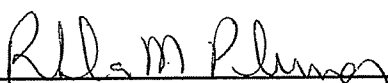
A unanimous motion, and second, was made to adopt a Memorial Resolution for Shai Lane Boone who recently passed away.

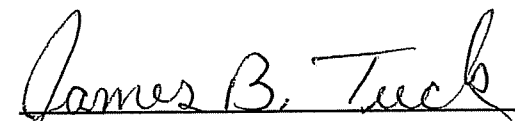
Mr. R. Johnson requested that the jury present the Hicks High School Pirates as certificate congratulating the team on their recent state championship.

The jury congratulated Parish Road Supervisor, Carl H. Thompson, for his recent certification in floodplain management; he is now a Certified Floodplain Manager.

Parish Legal Counsel advised the jury of his opinion that the jury should not donate \$25,000.00 to the Family Counseling Agency. The agency had requested the donation at the April 2011 Police Jury meeting to offset costs due to recent state budget cuts. It is Legal Counsel opinion that the jury cannot donate public funds to a private agency.

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. L. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Cryer and carried, to adjourn.


 Rhonda M. Plummer
 Secretary/Treasurer
 Vernon Parish Police Jury


 James B. Tuck
 President
 Vernon Parish Police Jury