

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
GENERAL DISCUSSION
August 10, 2017 – 6:00 P.M.**

Present: Charles Sawyer, Mike Jones, John Watley and Lanny Parker. Also, present, Jerry W. Taylor, Derek Kennedy, Stan Smith and Bruce Hampton.

Mr. Sawyer called the meeting to order. Mr. Sawyer led the group in prayer.

Motion Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Watley and declared adopted by unanimous vote to approve the agenda with one addition:

- 5 Discuss and make recommendations, if necessary, concerning request from Jennifer Yelton.**

Motion Mr. Watley, seconded by Mr. Parker to approve the minutes of the August 1, 2017, meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

A discussion was held concerning the opinion from the Attorney General's office. The attorney general was asked three questions. (1) Does the Police Jury have the authority to abolish the Detention Center Commission? The Attorney General responded that the Police Jury does have the authority to abolish the Detention Center Commission.

(2) If the Detention Center commission is abolished, would the sheriff of Union Parish have the duty to be the keeper of the physical detention center? The Attorney General responded that the sheriff would be the keeper of the detention center and he cites La.R.S. 15:850.4. The sheriff will run and control it.

(3) If the Detention Center Commission is abolished and the expense of operating the physical detention center is the duty of the police jury, must the physical detention center continue to operate in the event that the Police Jury cannot budget enough funds to finance the operations? The Attorney General responded that the Police Jury still has the expense of operating and maintaining the detention center.

Mr. Hampton mentioned Pointe Coupee Parish whose situation is similar to Union Parish. The Parish and the Sheriff are in pending litigation as to who has to pay the personnel necessary for maintaining the inmates at the Detention Center. Salaries, insurance, retirement and workers compensation are a huge part of the budget at the Detention Center. If the sheriff were to take over running the Detention Center, the parish would still be responsible for utilities, maintenance of the building and grounds, telephone, equipment rental, general liability insurance, fuel, office supplies, food, medical related expenses and any miscellaneous expenses associated with the Detention Center. **No action taken.**

Motion Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Watley to allow Jennifer Yelton (Relay for Life of Union Parish) the use of the Farmerville Square (Courthouse Parking Lot) on Saturday, September 9, 2017 from 8:00 A.M. until 10:00 P.M.; The Relay for Life will furnish the liability insurance to cover the day/evening of the event. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the committee, Mr. Sawyer declared the meeting adjourned upon motion by Mr. Watley and seconded by Mr. Jones on this 10th day of August 2017

**Charles Sawyer, Chairman
Paula Strickland, Secretary-Treasurer**