

**DETENTION CENTER COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
March 9th, 2017**

The Detention Center Commission met this date at 3:00 P.M., in the Union Parish Police Jury meeting room, Union Parish Courthouse Annex, Farmerville, Louisiana. Present were: Lanny Parker (UPPJ), Charles Sawyer (UPPJ), John Belton (District Attorney) and Dusty Gates (Union Parish Sheriff). Absent: Chief Bim Culbertson (Town of Farmerville).

Mr. Parker called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Mr. Parker led the group in prayer. Roll call was taken. Mr. Parker asked if anyone in the audience would like to register for public comment. No one registered for public comments.

Motion made by Mr. Sawyer and seconded by Sheriff Gates and declared adopted by Roll Call vote to approve the agenda with no additions.

Motion made by Mr. Sawyer and seconded by Sheriff Gates to adopt the minutes of the Thursday, March 2nd, 2017 meeting. Motion carries unanimously.

Motion made by Sheriff Gates and seconded by Mr. Sawyer for Commission to enter into executive session for personnel issue (interview applicant for the Warden position). Roll call vote: YEAS 3, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1. *Mr. Belton joined the meeting as interview process was starting.* Interview Gary Copes.

Motion made by Mr. Sawyer, seconded by Sheriff Gates for Commission to come out of executive session and to return to meeting; no action taken in executive session. Roll call vote: YEAS 4, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1.

Motion made by Mr. Belton, seconded by Sheriff Gates to employ Dr. Gary Copes as the Warden of the Union Parish Detention Center, effective, Monday, March 20, 2017. Salary is set at \$72,000 annually. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mr. Belton, seconded by Mr. Sawyer approving the removal of Jerry Ward as authorized signer on the UPDC accounts, effective March 10, 2017 and authorizing the addition of Dr. Gary Copes and Donnie Adams as authorized signers on the UPDC accounts.

A discussion was held on transportation. An ad had been placed in the Gazette and the Banner for the purchase of two (2) used vans. After consulting with a couple of dealers, Sheriff Gates was told it is hard to bid on used vans. At this time, Sheriff Gates would like to pursue the purchase of one (1) used van. No action taken.

There being no further business to come before the commission, Mr. Parker declared the meeting adjourned upon motion by Sheriff Gates, seconded by Mr. Sawyer, on this the 9th day of March, 2017.

Lanny Parker, Chairman
Paula Strickland Sec-Treasurer