

**COURTHOUSE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
June 13, 2019  
4:00 P.M.**

Present: Lanny Parker, Charles Sawyer, John Watley and Stan Smith. Also present, Jerry W. Taylor and David Dumas.

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

**Motion Mr. Sawyer, seconded by Mr. Watley and declared adopted by unanimous roll call vote of the Committee to approve the agenda with the following additions:**

- #5 Discuss and make recommendations, if necessary, regarding the lease agreement with the Union Parish School Board**
- #6 Discuss and make recommendations, if necessary, regarding the request from the Farmerville Jaycees.**

**Motion Mr. Watley, seconded by Mr. Sawyer and declared adopted by unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Dumas addressed the committee regarding the courthouse siding project. Mr. Dumas stated that it was his understanding that any project he had worked and put time into he would be able to keep. Mr. Dumas stated that he was originally approached regarding the marble removal due to the emergency situation. Mr. Dumas said he billed very little if any for the emergency marble removal. After the March 2016 disaster Mr. Dumas suggested trying to fund the project through disaster money. Mr. Dumas stated that he would like to continue to work on the courthouse siding project due to the fact that he has invested a considerable amount of time on this project.

Mr. Dumas stated that he can draw up a set of set of plans and specs in about a month. He has prepared a preliminary estimated cost based on the research he has done. The preliminary cost is broken down into two steps. The first step, the removal of the marble would be approximately \$119,774.32. The second step, plus engineering is \$142,419.66 which brings the total cost to \$262,194.48. Mr. Dumas also presented a second proposal for a type of metal siding. The total cost for the metal siding project would be approximately \$244,877.62.

Mr. Taylor addressed the committee and said that in an April meeting with Mr. Dumas and Mr. Sawyer, Mr. Dumas said the courthouse siding project was over with and that FEMA was not going to do anything, and that the project was done. Mr. Taylor stated that at no time did Mr. Dumas mention he wanted to move forward or come up with any alternative solutions. Mr. Taylor stated that the police jury agreement was a verbal commitment and the jury allowed Mr. Dumas to keep any FEMA projects that were still open. Mr. Taylor stated that the jury honored their commitment. Now that the project is no longer a FEMA project Mr. Taylor does not feel

like the jury has any obligation to Mr. Dumas. Mr. Taylor also stated that he does not know if the jury can afford to do the courthouse siding project like Mr. Dumas will insist on doing. The project may have to be taken in steps. Mr. Taylor states that if the committee wants to authorize Mr. Dumas to move forward then he will support their decision.

Mr. Dumas came back and said his understanding was that if he had invested time and money on a project then he would be allowed to continue working on that particular project. The project can be funded out of the police jury budget. Mr. Dumas stated that he is asking for the committee's consideration in keeping the courthouse siding project. **Motion Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Watley to table the courthouse siding and revisit the issue in 2020. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Sawyer to recommend to the full jury to approve the lease agreement with the Union Parish School Board for the Courthouse parking lot in the amount of \$1.00 per year for twenty-five years and authorize the President to execute the lease agreement. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion Mr. Watley, seconded by Mr. Sawyer to recommend to the full jury to approve the request from the Farmerville Jaycees to use the Courthouse square and parking lot on Friday, July 26 and Saturday, July 27 for the 56<sup>th</sup> annual Louisiana Watermelon Festival. Motion carried unanimously.**

**There being no further business to come before the committee, Mr. Parker declared the meeting adjourned upon motion by Mr. Watley and duly seconded by Mr. Sawyer on this the 13<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2019.**

**Lanny Parker, Chairman  
Paula Strickland, Secretary-Treasurer**