

## **SPECIAL MEETING UNION PARISH POLICE JURY**

**Farmerville, Louisiana  
October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**The Union Parish Police Jury met this date in special session in the Police Jury meeting room, Courthouse Annex, Farmerville, Louisiana with the following present: Curtis Moses, Johnny Buckley, Ben Bridges, Ceis Nyegaard, L.W. Nolan, Brenda Abercrombie and John W. Watley. Absent: Nathan Pilgreen and DeWayne Ramsey. Also present was Judith Hampton, Assistant District Attorney. The President called the meeting to order and welcomed all visitors. Mr. Nyegaard offered the invocation and Mr. Bridges led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.**

President Buckley welcomed the visitors in the audience and asked if anyone in the audience would like to register for public comment. The public was given the opportunity to comment on any item shown on the agenda.

**Motion Mr. Bridges, seconded by Mr. Nyegaard and declared adopted by unanimous roll call vote of the Jury to approve the agenda with the following addition:**

**13A Discuss and take action, if necessary, on entering into an agreement with TFRA (Technology for Rural America) and authorize the President to execute any necessary documents.**

A brief discussion was held regarding a project for the Capital Outlay funding for the next cycle. Mrs. Abercrombie recommended River Road for the application process. The Secretary/Treasurer reported that if a chip and seal process was done it would cost approximately \$241,200 with a 25% match of \$60,300. The soil cement option with 2 layers of asphalt would increase the price to \$660,000 with a 25% match of \$165,000. **Motion Mrs. Abercrombie, seconded by Mr. Moses to authorize the Secretary/Treasurer to pursue a Capital Outlay Request for River Road and authorize the President to execute any necessary documents. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion Mr. Bridges, seconded by Mr. Nyegaard to hire Jory Hudson for full-time employment effective November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 with his time counted back to his original hire date of July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021. He is now eligible for all police jury benefits including retirement, insurance, vacation, sick leave and holiday pay. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion Mr. Watley, seconded by Mr. Moses to assist the Town of Bernice in repairing Graves Street. The Town of Bernice will pay for the cost of the materials. This work will be performed as time permits. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion Mr. Moses, seconded by Mrs. Abercrombie to allow the Union Parish Chamber of Commerce use of the Courthouse Parking Lot on December 4<sup>th</sup> and December 5<sup>th</sup> to host the sixth annual Christmas Parade, Open House & Shop Up with the Chamber providing liability insurance for the event. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion Mr. Bridges, seconded by Mr. Watley to approve the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire for the 2021 audit and authorize the President and Secretary/Treasurer to execute all necessary documents. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion Mrs. Abercrombie, seconded by Mr. Moses to authorize the President to sign the 2021 audit engagement agreements (Union Parish Police Jury, Union Parish Detention Center and Union Parish Landfill) with the CPA firm of Bosch & Statham, LLC. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion Mr. Nyegaard, seconded by Mr. Nolan to authorize the President to sign the 2021 audit engagement agreement with the firm of Kenneth D. Folden and Co. CPA's to oversee the preparation of the Jury's financial statement and notes for the year ending December 31, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Recommendations from the American Rescue Plan Act Funding Committee:**

Mrs. Abercrombie reported that the ARPA Funding Committee met on October 20, 2021 and have the following recommendations:

**Motion Mrs. Abercrombie, seconded by Mr. Nolan to authorize the Secretary/Treasurer to solicit proposals for a grants manager that will oversee the American Rescue Plan Funds. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion Mrs. Abercrombie, seconded by Mr. Nolan to authorize premium pay for 160 hours for the police jury eligible workers who worked through the pandemic (Landfill, Road, General Maintenance and General Annex). This will be paid out of the ARPA Funds. Motion carried unanimously.**

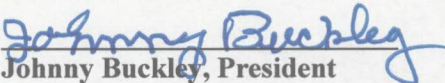
**Motion Mrs. Abercrombie, seconded by Mr. Bridges to authorize an expenditure of up to \$60,000 out of the ARPA funds to cover the Phase 1 and Phase 2 grant opportunity for Broadband funding. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion Mrs. Abercrombie, seconded by Mr. Bridges to enter into an agreement with Technology for Rural America for pursuing broadband funding opportunities and authorize the President to execute any necessary documents. Motion carried unanimously.**

In accordance with Ordinance 549, time for public comment was given. No comments were made.

**There being no further business to come before the Jury, the President declared the meeting adjourned upon motion by Mr. Nolan, seconded by Mr. Nyegaard on this the 28<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021.**

  
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Paula Strickland, Secretary/Treasurer  
Union Parish Police Jury

  
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Johnny Buckley, President  
Union Parish Police Jury