

## REGULAR MEETING UNION PARISH POLICE JURY

Farmerville, Louisiana  
September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**The Union Parish Police Jury met this date in regular session in the Police Jury meeting room, Courthouse Annex, Farmerville, Louisiana with the following present: Curtis Moses, Nathan Pilgreen, DeWayne Ramsey, Johnny Buckley, Ben Bridges, Ceis Nyegaard, L.W. Nolan, Brenda Abercrombie and John W. Watley. Absent: None. Also present was James Buckley, Assistant District Attorney. The President called the session to order and welcomed all guests. Mr. Ramsey offered the invocation. Mr. Watley led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.**

President Buckley welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked if anyone in the audience would like to register for public comment. At this time the public was given the opportunity to comment on any item shown on the agenda.

The Secretary/Treasurer made the following announcement:

There will be a special meeting on September 21<sup>st</sup> @ 6:00 PM for the Union Parish Assessor's Board of Review for the 2021 Tax Roll.

**Motion Mr. Pilgreen, seconded by Mr. Bridges and declared adopted by unanimous vote of the Jury to approve the agenda as written.**

**Motion Mr. Nolan, seconded by Mr. Watley to adopt the minutes of the August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.**

The Secretary/Treasurer presented the Budget to Actual Revenue and Expense report for the month of August and explained to the jurors that the report reflects what has been budgeted for the year compared to what has been spent. Each juror received a copy of the Revenue and Expense Report in their email packet. The Secretary/Treasurer reported that at this point in the year approximately 67% of the budget should have been expended.

The Secretary/Treasurer reported on the Road Maintenance fund. The Secretary/Treasurer provided a list of routine expenditures.

The Transitional Work Release Program generated \$112,909.46 in revenue for the month of August. That is down from last month, but there were three pay periods in July. The state income for DOC prisoners was \$158,184.14. There are currently 205 DOC inmates and 136 parish inmates. Out of the 136 parish inmates 13 are participating in programs such as substance abuse. There are 82 inmates participating in the work release program.

The Sales tax collection for the month was \$220,682.18 and that is down \$57,000 from last month. The Tipping Fees for the Landfill generated \$133,821.85.

Litter Court generated \$1,000 in fines and that money was disbursed between the JP/Constables who wrote tickets. Litter Court is held on the third Monday of each month.

**Motion Mr. Bridges, seconded by Mrs. Abercrombie to adopt the Revenue and Expenditures Report for the month of August. Motion carried unanimously.**

The Secretary/Treasurer presented a request from the Union Parish Coroner, Rene Smith. Mrs. Smith is requesting to enter into a grant agreement with the Louisiana Department of Health for a web-based reporting system. The web-based system will be used to report unexpected deaths of children, drug overdoses, specific types of violent deaths and any deaths that occur while in police custody. LDH is offering a grant to obtain access to the website, equipment for use in the field, training and technical assistance for two years. At the end of the two-year period, the cost will be approximately \$900 a year. This fee would be paid out of the General Fund. **Motion Mr. Nolan, seconded by Mrs. Abercrombie to allow the Union Parish Coroner to enter into a grant agreement with the Louisiana Department of Health for a web-based reporting system (MDLog). Motion carried unanimously.**

Sharon Dixon, HUD Director, addressed the Jury concerning two issues pertaining to Union Parish Section 8 Housing: (1) Utility Allowance Schedule and (2) Payment Standard. **Motion Mr. Moses, seconded by Mr. Nolan to approve the Utility Allowance Schedule for Union Parish Section 8 Housing and approve the payment standard for 2022 for metropolitan areas as the fair market rent for Section 8 Housing (One bedroom will increase from the established 100% to 110% of the Fair Market Rent). Motion carried unanimously.**

Mrs. Dixon reported that Union Parish Section 8 Housing was awarded forty (40) mainstream vouchers this year. The Mainstream Voucher Program is for individuals who are disabled and between the ages of 18 and 62. The head of household does not have to be disabled. It can be anyone in the household who is disabled so long as they meet the age requirement.

The Secretary/Treasurer reported that surplus property bids were opened on August 10, 2021. The following individuals bid the highest:

**Landfill property**

James Durham - \$57.77 (1995 Chevy PU)  
James Durham - \$37.77 (1997 Ford Van)  
James Durham - \$57.77 (1998 Ford Van)  
James Durham - \$527.77 (Freightliner)  
James Durham - \$27.77 (Pac Mor)  
James Durham - \$27.77 (Leach Refuse Body)  
James Durham - \$37.77 (1991 Mack Caboer)  
Curtis Dean - \$8,101 (scrapper pan)  
Christopher Johnson - \$124 (1997 Ford F-250)  
Max Nappier - \$1,555 (1997 Green Freightliner w Refuse body)  
Max Nappier - \$1,177 (1985 GMC Green Tandem Truck)

**Road property**

Greg Wainwright - \$5,500 (John Deere w/ side mower)  
James Durham - \$127.77 (2000 Ford Ext Cab)  
James Durham - \$279.79 (Chevy 2500 Ext Cab 4 x 4)  
James Durham - \$579.79 (Ford F250 Ext Cab 4 x 4)  
James Durham - \$179.79 (Dodge ¾ 4WD 2001)  
James Durham - \$79.79 (1997 Chevy Ceyenne ¾ ton)

James Durham - \$79.79 (1993 Ford F150)  
James Durham - \$79.79 (1989 Ford F250)  
James Durham - \$2,777.77 (1999 New Holland T590 Tractor)  
James Durham - \$3,391.91 (2000 John Deere 6Z10 Tractor)  
James Durham - \$37.77 (Portable roller)  
James Durham - \$3,791.91 (1988 John Deere 310C Backhoe)  
James Durham - \$179.79 (1991 John Deere 670B Grader)  
James Durham - \$379.79 (1993 John Deere Grader)  
James Durham - \$7,777.77 (Cat 130 Grader)  
James Durham - \$11,277.77 (Cat 130 Grader)  
James Durham - \$27.77 (Hydraulic Mounted Rotary Booms)

**Motion Mr. Bridges, seconded by Mr. Nyegaard to accept the surplus bids and authorize the Secretary/Treasurer to proceed with property distribution and collection of funds. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion Mr. Watley, seconded by Mr. Moses, to assist the Village of Junction City with their request dated August 11, 2021. This work will be performed as time permits. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion Mr. Watley, seconded by Mrs. Abercrombie to approve the Town of Bernice request for one load of cold mix and the repair of Reeves Street with the Town of Bernice to pay for the cost of the materials. This work will be performed as time permits. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion Mr. Moses, seconded by Mr. Bridges to appoint Stacey Gatson (replacing Beverly Loyd), Member at Large, to the Board of Commissioners for the East Union Hospital Service District for a six-year term. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion Mr. Nolan, seconded by Mr. Ramsey to approve the Annual Capital Improvement Plan for the Union Parish Airport and authorize the President to sign all necessary documents relating to the Annual Capital Improvement Plan. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **UNION PARISH RESOLUTION 2021-15**

WHEREAS, Title 2 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 provides that cities, towns, parishes, and other political subdivisions of this State may separately or jointly acquire, establish, construct, expand, own, lease, control, equip, improve, maintain, operate, regulate, and police airports and landing fields for the use of aircraft; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Louisiana, Department of Transportation and Development, Division of Aviation (formerly the LA DOTD-OAPT) is charged by Title 2 with the responsibility for the development of aviation facilities within the State to foster air commerce and to safeguard the interests of those engaged in all phases of the aviation industry and of the general public; and,

WHEREAS, the Union Parish Police Jury hereinafter referred to as "Sponsor", has completed an FAA and DOTD approved Master Plan, Action Plan, and/or Airport Layout Plan which outlines the specific future development of the Union Parish Airport; and, the Sponsor is desirous of implementing a portion of the approved Plan recommendations which provide for the critically

needed improvements as stated below to substantially improve the safety and usability of the Airport, but does not have sufficient funds of its own required for completing the needed improvements; and,

WHEREAS, the LA DOTD, Division of Aviation is authorized by Title 2 to expend funds for the construction or enlargement of airports for the safety and advancement of aeronautics;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

#### SECTION I

That the Sponsor does hereby formally request that the LA DOTD, Division of Aviation provide funds required to complete the airport improvements at the Union Parish Airport specifically as described in the Capital Improvement Program Application for State Financial Assistance dated August 26, 2021:

#### SECTION II

That the said LA DOTD, Division of Aviation be and is hereby assured that all necessary servitudes, rights-of-way, rights of ingress and egress and means thereof will be furnished by the Sponsor and the titles thereto will be valid and indefeasible, and that the Sponsor will assume ownership, financial reporting, and complete responsibility for the maintenance and upkeep of the airport after completion of said improvement.

#### SECTION III

That the Sponsor will save and hold the said LA DOTD, Division of Aviation, its officers, agents, and employees harmless from any liability or claim for damages arising out of the project, including death or injuries to third parties including, but not limited to, liability or claim for damages out of the negligence of said LA DOTD, Division of Aviation, its officers, agents, or employees, and expressly agrees to defend any suit of any nature brought against the LA DOTD, Division of Aviation as a result of this project.

#### SECTION IV

That the President of the Sponsor be and is hereby authorized and directed to evidence this agreement by affixing his signature at the place provided therefore on this resolution and on subsequent related documents/agreements as required by the rules and regulations of the Federal Aviation Administration and the State of Louisiana and the Clerk is hereby authorized to attest said execution.

#### SECTION V

That this resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its adoption.

The President and Police Jury for the Sponsor of the Parish of Union met in regular session on this date. The aforesaid resolution was offered by Mr. Nolan and seconded by Mr. Ramsey. The aforesaid resolution, having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

MEMBERS:	YEAS	NAYS	ABSENT	ABSTAINING
Curtis Moses	x			
Nathan Pilgreen	x			
DeWayne Ramsey	x			
Johnny Buckley	x			
Ben Bridges	x			
Ceis Nyegaard	x			
L.W. Nolan	x			
Brenda Abercrombie	x			
John W. Watley	x			

**WHEREUPON**, the motion was declared duly adopted by unanimous vote of the Jury this the 7<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**PAULA H. STRICKLAND**  
**SECRETARY-TREASURER**  
**UNION PARISH POLICE JURY**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**JOHNNY BUCKLEY**  
**PRESIDENT**  
**UNION PARISH POLICE JURY**

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**STATE OF LOUISIANA**

**PARISH OF UNION**

I, **Paula H. Strickland**, Secretary/Treasurer of the Police Jury of Union Parish, Louisiana, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of one (1) motion adopted by the Union Parish Police Jury in regular session on September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at which meeting a quorum was present. Given under my official Signature and Seal of Office on this the \_\_\_\_ day of September, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paula H. Strickland  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Police Jury of Union Parish, Louisiana

**Motion Mr. Ramsey, seconded by Mr. Bridges to authorize travel for the Secretary/Treasurer to attend the Government Finance Officers Association of LA conference October 6 through October 8 in Baton Rouge. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion Mr. Moses, seconded by Mrs. Abercrombie to allow Jackie Hill to place a silhouette display on the Union Parish Courthouse lawn in honor of Domestic Violence Victims September 27, 2021 through October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Recommendations from the Insurance Committee:**

Mrs. Abercrombie reported that the Insurance Committee met earlier with Megan Dunn, Dunn & Dunn Insurance. Mrs. Dunn discussed claims and the potential increase the jury faces with the upcoming renewal.

**Recommendations from the Road Committee:**

Mr. Bridges reported that the Road Committee met earlier and have four motions to recommend to the jury.

**Motion Mr. Bridges, seconded by Mr. Pilgreen to discontinue the Union Parish Dean Road Drainage Improvement Project (FEMA-4263-DR-LA Project #0032) and authorize the expenditure of approximately \$50,000 to finish the remainder of Dean Road. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion Mr. Bridges, seconded by Mr. Pilgreen to authorize the Secretary/Treasurer to advertise for the deletion of approximately 5.1 miles of Tennessee Road beginning at Concord Road and ending 6/10ths of a mile East from Game Reserve Road from the Union Parish Police Jury Road System. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion Mr. Bridges, seconded by Mr. Nolan to authorize the Secretary/Treasurer to advertise for the deletion of Buffalo Landing Road in its entirety from the Union Parish Police Jury Road System. Motion carried unanimously.**

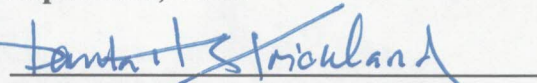
The Road Committee has been searching for a better way to handle bush hogging in the parish. An independent contractor has been consulted and proposed a rate of \$50 per hour to bush hog. The Road Committee is recommending one week of work to see if it is feasible to hire out the parish bush hogging. **Motion Mr. Bridges, seconded by Mrs. Abercrombie to authorize Preston White, White Land Works, to bush hog in the Parish for one week at the rate of \$50 per hour not to exceed \$2,000. Motion carried unanimously.**

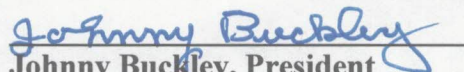
In accordance with Ordinance 549, time for public comment was given.

Lynn Ramsey addressed the jury regarding Liberty Hill Church Road and the ongoing issues. Mrs. Ramsey also thanked the jurors who participated in the Veterans bake sale. Mrs. Ramsey also announced that there will be a Senior Citizens Christmas Banquet on December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The banquet will be held at the Willie Davis Recreation Center.

Michelle Bryan addressed the jury on behalf of Keep Union Beautiful. Mrs. Bryan announced that there will be a River/Landing cleanup on September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

**There being no further business to come before the Jury, the President declared the meeting adjourned upon motion by Mr. Ramsey, seconded by Mr. Bridges, on this the 7<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2021.**

  
Paula Strickland, Secretary/Treasurer  
Union Parish Police Jury

  
Johnny Buckley, President  
Union Parish Police Jury