

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

**Farmerville, Louisiana  
September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**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: Charles Sawyer, Lanny Parker, Nathan Futch, Glenn Hutto, Stan Smith, Mike Jones and John Watley. Absent: Derek Kennedy and Jerry Taylor. Also present was Bruce Hampton, Assistant District Attorney. The President called the meeting to order and welcomed all visitors. Mr. Watley offered the invocation and Mr. Hutto led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.**

President Sawyer 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. No comment was made.

**Motion by Mr. Watley, seconded by Mr. Hutto and declared adopted by unanimous roll call vote of the Jury to approve the agenda with no changes.**

**The following ordinance was offered by Mr. Jones and seconded by Mr. Hutto:**

### **ORDINANCE #778**

#### **AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH LEGAL LOAD LIMITS FOR VARIOUS BRIDGES IN UNION PARISH, STATE OF LOUISIANA.**

**WHEREAS**, the establishment of legal load limits for bridge structures maintained by the Union Parish Police Jury is in the public interest, and

**WHEREAS**, bridges that are designed and constructed with the capacity, uncompromised by condition, to safely perform under the legal loads established by the State of Louisiana shall not be required to display load posting signs, and

**WHEREAS**, when a reduced load limit has been recommended by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development or determined necessary by engineering analysis, inspection and/or judgement performed and certified by a professional engineer

licensed to practice in the State of Louisiana, a bridge should be load posted with a load limit less than the legal load limit established by the State of Louisiana, now, therefore,

**BE IT ORDAINED** that the load posting limits on various bridges in Union Parish less than the legal limit established by the State of Louisiana be established as follows:

Structure No.	Recall No.	Parish Road	Feature Crossed	Recommended By	Regulatory [Advisory]* Posted Load Limit (Tons)
P5632513922021	050065	Sweet Lilly Road	Bayou De Loutre/Little Cane Creek	David M. Dumas, P.E.	5
P5632599923951	400434	Pilgrims Rest Church Road	Mill Creek	LA DOTD	10-15
P5632407921411	400614	Rocky Branch Road	Bayou D'Arbonne	David M. Dumas, P.E.	5
P5632486921581	400615	Linville Fire Tower Road	Bayou De Loutre	David M. Dumas, P.E.	10-15

\* [Advisory] indicates an advisory weight posting, i.e. [10-15].

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** that the appropriate signs be erected on the above bridge structures to further provide notice to the public of the posted load restrictions that have been established for the bridge structure, and

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** that during emergency conditions the President of the Union Parish Police Jury is authorized and directed to make necessary changes in load limits, cause load limits to be posted, to closed roads and bridges, to restrict traffic and/or other measures deemed necessary to ensure the safety of the public.

Union Parish bridges may be posted with 1) **advisory weight** signs (black lettering on a yellow background), drivers are urged to use their own discretion in crossing these bridges with heavy loads, or 2) regulatory **weight limit** signs (black lettering on a white

background). Violation tickets will be issued for vehicles crossing these bridges in excess of the posted regulatory weight limit with a minimum fine of \$100.00. The ticket shall be issued based upon the difference between the actual gross weight of the vehicle and load at the time of the stop and the amount of weight for which the particular bridge is regulatory posted weight limit at the time of the stop.

Neither the Parish of Union nor the Union Parish Police Jury, it's employees or agents shall incur any liability from any injury or property damage caused by the crossing of a load posted bridge with a load in excess of posted advisory or regulatory weight limits.

All other ordinances, or any parts thereof, which are in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

The foregoing ordinance was introduced by **MR. JONES**, who moved its adoption and duly seconded by **MR. HUTTO** and was then adopted by the following YEA and NAY vote:

YEAS: Sawyer, Parker, Hutto, Futch, Smith, Jones and Watley

NAYS:

ABSENT: Taylor and Kennedy

**WHEREUPON**, the Ordinance was declared duly adopted this 26<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2017. Ordinance becomes effective on this the 26<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2017.

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Charles Sawyer, President

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Paula Strickland, Secretary/Treasurer

**The following ordinance was offered by Mr. Jones and seconded by Mr. Hutto:**

**ORDINANCE #779**

**AN ORDINANCE REDUCING THE SPEED LIMIT OF 35 MILES PER HOUR ON ROCKY BRANCH ROAD BRIDGE TO 10 MPH FROM 100 FEET EAST OF THE EAST END TO 100 FEET WEST OF THE WEST END OF THE BRIDGE AND SETTING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS.**

SECTION I: BE IT ORDAINED by the Police Jury of Union Parish that a maximum speed limit for any truck, car, motorcycle or any other equipment traveling on **Rocky Branch Road Bridge** from 100 feet East of the East end to 100 feet West of the West end of the bridge and shall not exceed 10 miles per hour.

SECTION II: BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Police Jury of Union Parish, State of Louisiana, that any person, firm or corporation violating any provisions of this ordinance, upon conviction, shall not exceed the maximum fine for speeding upon a state highway plus court cost.

SECTION III: BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that if any section, sentence, clause or words of this ordinance shall be held invalid by any court of final jurisdiction, the same shall not affect the validity of any other section.

SECTION IV: BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that ordinance or parts of ordinance in conflict herewith be and the same are hereby repealed.

The foregoing ordinance was introduced by **MR. JONES**, who moved its adoption and duly seconded by **MR. HUTTO** and was then adopted by the following YEA and NAY vote:

YEAS: Sawyer, Parker, Hutto, Futch, Smith, Jones and Watley

NAYS:

ABSENT: Taylor and Kennedy

**WHEREUPON**, the Ordinance was declared duly adopted this 26<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2017. Ordinance becomes effective on this the 26<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2017.

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CHARLES SAWYER  
PRESIDENT  
UNION PARISH POLICE JURY

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PAULA STRICKLAND  
SECRETARY/TREASURER  
UNION PARISH POLICE JURY

At this time David Dumas addressed the jury concerning Rocky Branch Road Bridge. Lane Rugg, Road Superintendent, and David have been watching the bridge deck for several months. There has not been a huge progression, but some subtle movements have been detected. The structure is moving and there may be some issues with the pilings shifting underneath. The pilings are 57-foot spans and the pilings have been deemed fracture critical by the state. The jury has an ongoing contract with Ben Allen and the Rocky Branch Road Bridge is his last project. The bridge has gotten considerably worse in a three-week span. A phone call was made yesterday to set up an underwater inspection with the company that has an ongoing contract with DOTD. The underwater inspection will take place on Wednesday, September 27, 2017. David is recommending that the jury send a letter to Ben Allen and delay the project until further notice. **Motion Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Hutto to give Ben Allen, Inc. notice to delay the**

**contract for at least thirty days and authorize the president to sign the Notice to Delay. Motion carries unanimously.**

**Motion Mr. Hutto, seconded by Mr. Jones to authorize David Dumas to purchase sixteen (16) Economy Standard Crack Monitors at a price of \$13.98 each. Motion carries unanimously.**

In accordance with Ordinance 549, time for public comment was given. Mr. Parker recognized his neighbor, Bill Thurston, whose quick thinking saved the life of a handicapped woman and her pet. No comment was made.

**There being no further business to come before the Jury, the President declared the meeting adjourned upon motion by Mr. Hutto, seconded by Mr. Jones on this the 26<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2017.**

Paula Strickland  
Paula Strickland, Secretary-Treasurer

Charles Sawyer  
Charles Sawyer, President