

REGULAR MEETING UNION PARISH POLICE JURY

Farmerville, Louisiana
February 2nd, 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, L.W. Nolan, Brenda Abercrombie and John W. Watley. Absent: Ceis Nyegaard. Also present was Tracy Houck, Assistant District Attorney. The President called the session to order and welcomed all guests. Mr. Nolan offered the invocation and Mr. Ramsey 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.

Mr. Ramsey asked that everyone remember Mona Garris. Mona Garris is currently in the hospital with COVID and is in serious condition.

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

Motion Mr. Watley, seconded by Mrs. Abercrombie to adopt the minutes of the January 5th, 2021 regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

The Secretary/Treasurer presented the Budget to Actual Revenue and Expense report for the month of January and explained to the jurors that the report reflects what has been budgeted for the year compared to what has been spent.

The Secretary/Treasurer reported that the 2020 audit has begun. The Secretary/Treasurer met with the auditors on January 15th and the audit process will be slightly different this year. Due to COVID the auditors are going to try and do everything via email. All necessary documents will be scanned and uploaded to a shared document file.

The majority of the Ad Valorem Tax, \$1,918,686.82, was received in January and expensed to the appropriate funds; General Fund, Road Maintenance, Road Construction, Library and Council on Aging. The State Revenue Payment #1 was received in the amount of \$83,000. That was expensed to the General Fund, Road Maintenance, Road Construction and Library Fund. The Green Oaks invoice for January was \$12,500.

The Detention Center received \$198,654.30 in state funds for DOC inmates. The work release program generated \$98,542.37 for the month. There are currently eighty-one inmates participating in the work release program and an additional twelve inmates will begin work next week. There are currently 238 DOC inmates and 104 parish inmates being housed at the Detention Center.

The one cent sales tax for the Landfill generated \$312,873.04 in income for the month of January. That is an increase of \$52,000 from last year. The tipping fees generated \$93,616.58 for the month of January.

Motion Mr. Bridges, seconded by Mr. Ramsey to adopt the Revenue and Expenditures Report for the month of January. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion Mr. Bridges, seconded by Mr. Moses to authorize the purchase of three (3) ¾ ton, LWB, regular cab pickup trucks from Courtesy of Acadiana, LLC dba Courtesy Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, RAM. The three (3) trucks are for the Road Department and cost \$23,750 each. The trucks are being purchased through a cooperative purchasing agreement with the City of Alexandria. Motion also authorizes President to execute all necessary documents. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion Mr. Nolan, seconded by Mr. Bridges to appoint Lance Futch (replacing Ann Halley) and Sherri Banks (replacing Howard Allen) to the Board of Commissioners for the East Union Hospital Service District for six-year terms beginning January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion Mr. Pilgreen, seconded by Mrs. Abercrombie to appoint Bennett Taylor, Keith Bowen, Channing Washington, Kim Stinson and Aquanna Burch to the Ward 2 Recreational District. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion Mr. Ramsey, seconded by Mr. Bridges to hire Sidney Caughman for full-time employment effective February 8, 2021 at the Landfill Department with his time being counted back to his original hire date of July 30, 2020. He is eligible for all police jury benefits including retirement, insurance, vacation, sick leave and holiday pay. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion Mr. Ramsey, seconded by Mr. Bridges to hire Malcolm Himes for full-time employment effective February 8, 2021 at the Road Department with his time being counted back to his original hire date of July 20, 2020. He is eligible for all police jury benefits including retirement, insurance, vacation, sick leave and holiday pay. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion Mr. Ramsey, seconded by Mr. Pilgreen to authorize the Secretary/Treasurer to advertise to close .5 miles of Barnes Bridge Road from the closed bridge back towards Spearsville Road. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion Mr. Nolan, seconded by Mr. Ramsey to appoint Joseph A. Cusimano, Jr. to the Union Parish Tourist Commission Board as Chairman of the Board for a term of one year with his term expiring 12/31/21; the re-appointment of Ann Smith to the Union Parish Tourist Commission for a four-year term beginning January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2024; and the appointment of Penny Wainwright (At Large #1) for a four-year term beginning January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

Recommendations from the Road Committee:

Mr. Watley reported that the Road Committee met on January 14th and February 2nd and have the following recommendations:

Motion Mr. Watley, seconded by Mr. Bridges to hire HUVAL & Associates, Inc., Consulting Engineers as engineers for the Rocky Branch Bridge. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion Mr. Watley, seconded by Mr. Ramsey to adopt the Annual Road Capital Improvement Policy.

**UNION PARISH POLICE JURY
ANNUAL ROAD CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT POLICY
ADOPTED
February 2, 2021**

FOR YEARS 2021, 2022 and 2023

1. Every three years the Parish will, using the priority rating scheme approved by the Police Jury, assign a priority rating number to each Parish road or section of Road.
2. Two groups of priority rating lists will be compiled every third year. One group will apply to existing gravel roads or oil roads which are to receive gravel, surface treatment, asphaltic concrete or a cracked fuel oil treatment; the other group will apply to capital improvements for existing asphalt or concrete roads. The existing gravel group is split up into two categories, gravel list and oil road list. Oil roads are roads that have been constructed by Parish personnel using the cracked fuel oil process. Existing blacktop roads are split up into three categories, major, minor, and overlay. The overlay list will primarily consist of roads which had been chip sealed, overlaid, or reconstructed in previous road programs (1999 to present). Only roads that need minor repairs and/or maintenance in the opinion of the Engineer will be on this list. Existing blacktop roads that were not constructed or overlaid in previous road programs, but, in the opinion of the Engineer, need only minor repairs or maintenance can be included in the overlay list. Roads that need more than minor patching, leveling, chip seal, or Asphalt overlay in the opinion of the Engineer, will be placed on one of the other two existing blacktop lists. Major blacktop consists of blacktop roads with an ADT greater than 50. Minor blacktop consists of roads with an ADT less than 50.
3. The Police Jury will, each year, based upon available funding and need annually, designate the division and amount of funds to be used for hard surfacing existing gravel roads or oil roads and for existing hard surface roads. The Police Jury will also, each year, determine the amount of funds to be used.
4. In order to more equally distribute capital improvement projects throughout the parish because of limited funds, no more than one mile of new hard surface or oil road will be constructed on any one road in any one year on any existing gravel road or oil road and no more than two miles will be constructed on any one road in any one year on any existing hard surface road. The mileage limitation can be increased by the Police Jury if required to reach a desired stopping point, upon Engineer's recommendation. This increase can include portions of the road which are on different lists.
5. Except on roads constructed by Parish personnel using the cracked fuel oil process or by placing rock, whenever possible, no new hard surface road will be constructed unless there is right-of-way available for a two-lane road (60' minimum). For purposes of this determination, the driving surface of any new hard surface road shall be a minimum of eighteen feet wide. Engineers recommendation can reduce that width. In the event a road (Gravel Major or Gravel Minor) has a high enough priority for funding and does not have sufficient width for hard surfacing, then such road will be skipped on the priority list to the next road of sufficient width for two-laning unless the road is to be done by Parish personnel using the cracked fuel oil process or by placing rock. A road on the existing oil road list can be treated like an existing hard surfaced road or a gravel road. If Right of Way is required in order to construct the road with a 60' wide Right of Way, the Parish can spend the first year acquiring Right of Ways, clearing and grubbing, and having utilities moved and then perform the actual construction of the road the following year.
6. The Parish recognizes that there is also a priority list for bridges to be replaced with state funding under the Federal Off-System Bridge and Rehabilitation Program or under other state or federal funding. Furthermore, it is recognized that during construction of such bridges, parish roads are closed until completion of construction. Accordingly, existing gravel roads on which bridges are to be replaced can be skipped for hard surfacing in any year for which a bridge is scheduled for replacement.

7. Because of the number of parish roads, it is recognized that many roads will have the same engineering priority number. In such case, all roads having the same priority rating number will be prioritized by the Police Jury on the basis of geographical fairness, funding availability and benefit to the public.
8. For any existing gravel road which connects to an existing asphalt or concrete road, new asphalt surfacing will begin at the existing asphalt connection. In the event other requirements of this policy prohibit this procedure, such as insufficient right-of-way for a two lane road, then the road will be skipped on the priority list until all requirements of this policy allow the new asphalt surfacing or unless the road is scheduled to be constructed by Parish personnel using the cracked fuel oil process.
9. This policy applies only to self-generated parish funds and to the State Road Fund funds. Any special project for which State, Federal or outside funding is earmarked will not be a part of this procedure, and any such road can be skipped on the priority list pending construction by such designated funding.

Year 1 – 2021

North Spillway Road (parts 1 and 2)
Love Road
Union Cemetary Road (portion)
Burford Road
Jesse Guinn Road

Year 2 – 2022

Littleton Loop Road
Wes Wilhite Road
Hudson Road
Scotts Hideaway Road

Year 3 – 2023

To Be Determined by Next Priority List

WHEREUPON, the motion was declared duly adopted by unanimous vote of the Jury this the 2nd day of February, 2021.

ATTEST:

s/ Paula Strickland
Paula Strickland, Secretary-Treasurer
Union Parish Police Jury

s/ Johnny Buckley
Johnny Buckley, President
Union Parish Police Jury

CERTIFICATE

**STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH OF UNION**

I, **Paula 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 February 2nd, 2021 at which meeting a quorum was present. Given under my Official Signature and Seal of Office on this the _____ day of February, 2021.

s/ Paula Strickland

Paula Strickland
Secretary/Treasurer
Police Jury of Union Parish, Louisiana

Recommendations from the Landfill Committee:

Mr. Pilgreen reported that the Landfill Committee met earlier this evening and have the following recommendations:

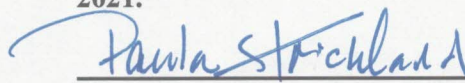
Motion Mr. Pilgreen, seconded by Mr. Bridges to authorize the Secretary/Treasurer to bid out for a D6T Waste Handler Package and authorize the President to execute any necessary documents. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion Mr. Pilgreen, seconded by Mr. Ramsey to repair the current D6T Waste Handler. Motion carried unanimously.

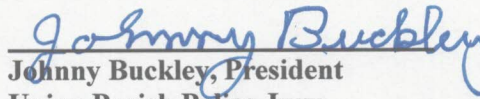
Motion Mr. Pilgreen, seconded by Mr. Bridges to hire David Smith to chip wood debris at the rate of \$2,800 per day not to exceed a five (5) day period. Motion carried unanimously.

In accordance with Ordinance 549, time for public comment was given. There were no public comments.

There being no further business to come before the Jury, the President declared the meeting adjourned upon motion by Mr. Ramsey, seconded by Mr. Nolan on this the 2nd day of February, 2021.



Paula Strickland, Secretary/Treasurer
Union Parish Police Jury



Johnny Buckley, President
Union Parish Police Jury