

REGULAR MEETING UNION PARISH POLICE JURY

Farmerville, Louisiana
January 3rd, 2023

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 Andrew Ford, Jr. 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 and Mr. Ford led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mr. James Buckley conducted the election for the 2023 President of the Union Parish Police Jury. Ben Bridges was nominated by Mr. Pilgreen. Brenda Abercrombie was nominated by Mr. Ramsey. No other nominations were made and Mr. Buckley declared the nominations closed for president. Roll Call vote:

District 1	Abercrombie
District 2	Bridges
District 3	Abercrombie
District 4	Bridges
District 5	Bridges
District 6	Abercrombie
District 7	Bridges
District 8	Abercrombie
District 9	Abercrombie

The Secretary/Treasurer calculated the votes and concluded that Mrs. Abercrombie received 5 votes and Mr. Bridges received 4 votes. Mr. Buckley declared Mrs. Abercrombie as President of the Union Parish Police Jury for the year 2023.

Mr. James Buckley asked for nominations for Vice-President. DeWayne Ramsey was nominated by Mr. Moses. Andrew Ford, Jr. was nominated by Mr. Bridges.

No other nominations were made and Mr. Buckley declared the nominations closed for vice-president. Roll Call vote:

District 1	Ramsey
District 2	Ramsey
District 3	Ramsey
District 4	Ford
District 5	Ford
District 6	Ramsey
District 7	Ford
District 8	Ramsey
District 9	Ramsey

The Secretary/Treasurer calculated the votes and concluded that Mr. Ramsey received 6 votes and Mr. Ford received 3 votes. Mr. Buckley declared Mr. Ramsey as Vice-President of the Union Parish Police Jury for the year 2023.

President Abercrombie welcomed everyone to the meeting. President Abercrombie 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.

President Abercrombie thanked those involved with the recent cleanup from the tornado. President Abercrombie specifically mentioned Enviro Services (Trey Towns and Jared Ramsey), Karl Malone, Red Plunks, Shannon Futch (Homeland Security), Paula Strickland (UPPJ Secretary/Treasurer) and Audrey Ewing (Section 8 Director).

Mr. Ford stated that on the night of January 1st, he and a couple of other individuals raised between \$8,000 and \$10,000 for the tornado victims. Mr. Ford thanked everyone for their support.

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

Motion Mr. Nolan, seconded by Mr. Ramsey to adopt the minutes of the December 6th, 2022 regular meeting and December 29th, 2022 special meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

The Secretary/Treasurer presented the Budget to Actual Revenue and Expense report for the month of December 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 highlighted the Sales Tax Collection and Detention Center Fund. The Secretary/Treasurer also reported that the 2023 Budget Message, 2023 Consolidated Budget and the 2022 Amended Consolidated Budget are available online.

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

A brief discussion was held concerning a representative to the Union Parish Detention Center. **Mr. Moses nominated Andrew Ford, Jr. to the Union Parish Detention Center Commission. Mr. Bridges nominated Nathan Pilgreen to finish serving out his four (4) year term.**

No other nominations were made and President Abercrombie declared the nominations closed for the Union Parish Detention Center Commission board appointment. Roll Call vote:

District 1	Ford
District 2	Pilgreen
District 3	Ford
District 4	Pilgreen
District 5	Pilgreen
District 6	Ford
District 7	Pilgreen
District 8	Ford
District 9	Ford

President Abercrombie calculated the votes and concluded that Mr. Ford received 5 votes and Mr. Pilgreen received 4 votes. Mr. Ford will serve on the Union Parish Detention Center Commission as the Union Parish Police Jury representative for the year 2023.

Motion Mr. Ramsey, seconded by Mr. Ford setting the regular monthly meetings of the Union Parish Police Jury to be held at the Courthouse Annex on the first (1st) Tuesday of every month at 6:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion Mr. Nyegaard, seconded by Mr. Ford authorizing the removal of Ben Bridges from the bank signature cards; adding DeWayne Ramsey, Brenda Abercrombie and Paula Strickland to the bank signature cards and the execution of all necessary documents for this purpose. Motion carried unanimously.

Northeast Louisiana Economic Alliance - Tana Trichel, President/CEO of Northeast Alliance briefly talked to the jury regarding a regional update. Ms. Trichel is requesting that the Union Parish Police Jury support NELA Alliance. Union Parish would be part of a ten (10) parish region. The other participating parishes include Richland, Franklin, Tensas, East Carroll, Madison, West Carroll, Ouachita, Morehouse and Caldwell. Ms. Trichel provided a resolution that she would like for the jury to adopt. The Secretary/Treasurer stated that the resolution would be considered at the February meeting.

Boys and Girls Club – President Abercrombie announced that due to an illness Mary Barrios will not be able to attend the meeting.

The following ordinance was introduced by Mr. Moses and seconded by Mr. Ford:

ORDINANCE NO. 944

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE AN ACT OF SALE BY THE PARISH OF UNION TO SELL ADJUDICATED PROPERTY DESCRIBED AS: PARCEL NO. 3010166250 IN ACCORDANCE WITH LA R.S. 47: 2202 T SEQ. AND TO AUTHORIZE THE UNION PARISH POLICE JURY PRESIDENT TO SIGN ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS AND TO ADDRESS THE MATTERS RELATIVE THERETO

WHEREAS, the immovable property described below was adjudicated to the Parish of Union on June 24, 2019 for nonpayment of taxes; and

WHEREAS, the three (3) year period for redemption provided by Art. 7, §25 of the Louisiana Constitution has elapsed and established by Parish Ordinance No: 908 and the owner of record has failed to redeem the adjudicated property; and

WHEREAS, LA R.S. 47: 2202 *et seq.* provides that the Parish may sell adjudicated property in accordance with law after the expiration of the period for redemption; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Union has declared the property described below surplus and not needed for a public purpose and to dispose of said property in accordance with LA R.S. 47:2202, *et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with L.A. R.S. 47:2202 the Parish of Union has set a minimum purchase price in the amount of \$2,268.30 and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Union has received a written offer to purchase said property from Harold James Blessit for the consideration of \$2,268.30, at the time of sale and has been accepted by the Union Parish Police Jury; and

WHEREAS, the property described herein below will be purchased through the Parish “Lot Next Door” program and is therefore exempt from the public bidding requirement.

NOW BE IT ORDAINED by the Union Parish Police Jury, that any Act of Sale of the below described property shall contain the following conditions and requirements:

This property is described as Parcel# 3010166250, having municipal address of 114 Colvin Lane, Farmerville, LA: Located in Union Parish, LA, being more fully described as follows:

Parcel# 3010166250

Legal Description: Certain tract of land located in the NW ¼ of the NE ¼ of S3, T20N, R1E more particularly described as follows: Begin at a point 210 Feet W of the NE corner of the NW ¼ of the NE ¼ of said S3, T20N, R1E, run thence W along the N section line 224 feet, thence S 21 degrees 00 minutes W 112 feet, Then S 59 degrees, 25 minutes, E 220.4 feet, then N 17 degrees 25 minutes E 230 feet to the POB, containing .63 acres, more or less, together with all the improvements situated thereon and thereto belonging.

Municipal Address: 114 Colvin Lane, Union Parish, LA

- 1) This property shall be sold in accordance with LS-R.S. 47:2201 *et seq.*, without any warranty, from either the Parish or Management Company, whatsoever, even as to the return of the purchase price.
- 2) The sale shall be on a form approved by the Parish Attorney and that the sales price is paid by certified funds at the time of the sale.
- 3) The sale shall include a reservation of all mineral rights to the Parish, but shall convey all surface rights.
- 4) The following shall be completed prior to closing of sale:
 - a. E&P Consulting Services, LLC shall certify in writing to the Parish Attorney that they have examined the mortgage records, conveyance records, probate and civil suit records of the Parish of Union and that attached to this certification will be a

written list of names and last known addresses of all owners, mortgagees, and any other person who may have a vested or contingent interest in the property, or who has filed a request for notice as provided in the former provisions LS-R.S. 33:4720.17(B), as indicated in those records.

- b. E&P Consulting Services, LLC will provide notice to those persons identified in accordance with LS-R.S. 47:2201 *et. seq.* Proof of said notice will be filed in the conveyance records of Union Parish immediately after the Act of Sale.
- c. At the time of closing, E&P Consulting Services, LLC will certify in writing to Parish Attorney and Clerk of Court that the number of days mandated by LS-R.S. 47:2201 *et. seq.* has elapsed since the above required notice was made or attempted and that the property has not been redeemed by the payment of the taxes owed.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, by the Union Parish Policy Jury, that the Police Jury President is hereby authorized to execute a Cash Sale of the above described adjudicated property to the highest acceptable bidder. The Cash Sale shall contain all of the above conditions and requirements and shall be executed within the timelines specified.

The foregoing ordinance was introduced by **Mr. Moses**, who moved for its adoption and duly seconded by **Mr. Ford** and was then adopted by the following YEA and NAY vote:

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			
AJ Ford	x			

WHEREUPON, the Ordinance was declared duly adopted this 3rd day of January, 2023.

s/ Paula Strickland
PAULA STRICKLAND
SECRETARY-TREASURER
UNION PARISH POLICE JURY

s/ Brenda Abercrombie
BRENDA ABERCROMBIE
PRESIDENT
UNION PARISH POLICE JURY

STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH OF UNION

I, the undersigned Secretary-Treasurer of the Police Jury of the Parish of Union, State of Louisiana, do hereby certify that the foregoing pages constitute a true and correct copy of an ordinance adopted by said Police Jury on January 3rd, 2023.

IN FAITH WHEREOF, witness my official signature at Farmerville, Louisiana, on this, the ____ day of January, 2023.

s/ Paula H. Strickland
Paula H. Strickland
Secretary/Treasurer

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Bridges and seconded by Mr. Buckley:

UP RESOLUTION 2023-01

A resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the special election held in the Parish of Union, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, December 10, 2022, to authorize the levy of a special tax therein.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Police Jury of the Parish of Union, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the Parish of Union, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), that:

SECTION 1. Canvass. This Governing Authority does now proceed in open and public session to examine the official tabulations of votes cast at the special election held in the Parish of Union, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, December 10, 2022, to authorize the levy of a special tax therein, and said Governing Authority does further proceed to examine and canvass the returns and declare the result of the special election.

SECTION 2. Election Results. According to the official certified tabulation of votes cast at said Election, there was a total of **828** votes cast **IN FAVOR OF** Proposition and a total of **1,401** votes cast **AGAINST** Proposition, resulting in a majority of **573** votes cast **AGAINST** Proposition. The Proposition was therefore duly **DEFEATED** by a majority of the votes cast by the qualified electors voting at the Election.

SECTION 3. Promulgation of Election Result. The results of said election shall be promulgated by publication in the manner provided by law, after receipt from the Secretary of State's office of the actual costs of the election, as required by Act 205 of the Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana for the year 2019.

SECTION 4. Declaration. The foregoing results of the Election are hereby declared by this Governing Authority and shall be published as required by law.

SECTION 5. Procès Verbal. A *Procès Verbal* of the canvass of the returns of said election shall be made and a certified copy thereof shall be forwarded to the Secretary of State, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, who shall record the same in his office; another certified copy thereof shall be forwarded to the Clerk of Court and *Ex-Officio* Recorder of Mortgages in and for the Parish of Union, who shall record the same in the Mortgage Records of said Parish; and another copy thereof shall be retained in the archives of this Governing Authority.

This 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			
AJ Ford	x			

WHEREUPON, the Resolution was declared adopted on this, the 3rd day of January, 2023.

s/ Paula Strickland
PAULA STRICKLAND
SECRETARY-TREASURER
UNION PARISH POLICE JURY

s/ Brenda Abercrombie
BRENDA ABERCROMBIE
PRESIDENT
UNION PARISH POLICE JURY

PROCÈS VERBAL OF THE CANVASS OF THE VOTES CAST AT THE SPECIAL ELECTION HELD IN THE PARISH OF UNION, STATE OF LOUISIANA, ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2022.

BE IT KNOWN AND REMEMBERED that on Tuesday, January 3, 2023, at 6:00 p.m., at its regular meeting place, the Police Jury Meeting Room of the Courthouse Annex, 303 E. Water Street, Farmerville, Louisiana, the Police Jury of the Parish of Union, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the Parish of Union, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), and being the authority ordering the special election held therein on Saturday, December 10, 2022, with a quorum being present, did examine the official certified tabulations of votes cast at the said election, and did examine and canvass the returns of said election, there having been submitted at said election the following proposition to wit:

**MILLAGE PROPOSITION
(PARISH HEALTH FACILITIES)**

Shall the Parish of Union, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), levy a special tax of one (1) mill on all property subject to taxation in the Parish (an estimated \$151,000 expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for a period of ten (10) years, beginning with the year 2023 and ending with the year 2032, for the purpose of paying for the operation, maintenance and support of public health facilities in the Parish?

There was found by said count and canvass that there was a total of **828** votes cast **IN FAVOR OF** Proposition and a total of **1,401** votes cast **AGAINST** Proposition, as hereinabove set forth, and it was further found and determined that there was a majority of **573** votes cast **AGAINST** Proposition as hereinabove set forth.

Therefore, the Governing Authority did declare and proclaim and does hereby declare and proclaim in open and public session that the Proposition as hereinabove set forth was duly **DEFEATED** by a majority of the votes cast by the qualified electors voting at the said special election.

Results by precinct are available from the Secretary-Treasurer of this Governing Authority during regular business hours or via the Louisiana Secretary of State's website (voterportal.sos.la.gov).

THUS DONE AND SIGNED at Farmerville, Louisiana, on this, the 3rd day of January, 2023.

ATTEST:

s/ Brenda Abercrombie
Brenda Abercrombie, President
Union Parish Police Jury

s/ Paula H. Strickland
Paula H. Strickland, Secretary-Treasurer
Secretary/Treasurer

Recommendations from the Landfill Committee:

The Landfill Committee met at 3:30 PM and have the following recommendations:

Motion Mr. Bridges, seconded by Mr. Pilgreen to increase the tipping fees by 4.7% per the Consumer Price Index for in parish and out of parish commercial or residential dumping effective January 4th, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bridges also reported that the new front load garbage trucks have a tentative delivery date of June or July. The front load dumpsters will be delivered in late January.

Recommendations from the Road Committee:

The Road Committee met at 4:30 PM and have the following recommendations:

Motion Mr. Ramsey, seconded by Mr. Pilgreen to move forward with the MOA for the Alabama Landing Project and authorize the President to execute any necessary documents. Motion carried unanimously.

The following ordinance was introduced by Mr. Ramsey and duly seconded by Mr. Pilgreen:

ORDINANCE # 945

AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE SPEED LIMIT OF 30 MILES PER HOUR ON ALABAMA ROAD FROM THE INTERSECTION OF HONEYSUCKLE ROAD AND BOOTHVILLE ROAD 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 **Alabama Road from the intersection of Honeysuckle Road and Boothville Road**, shall not exceed **30** 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. Ramsey**, who moved its adoption and duly seconded by **Mr. Pilgreen** and was then adopted by the following YEA and NAY vote:

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			
Andrew Ford, Jr.	x			

WHEREUPON, the Ordinance was declared duly adopted this 3rd day of January, 2023.

s/ Paula H. Strickland
PAULA STRICKLAND
SECRETARY-TREASURER
UNION PARISH POLICE JURY

s/ Brenda Abercrombie
BRENDA ABERCROMBIE
PRESIDENT
UNION PARISH POLICE JURY

Motion Mr. Ramsey, seconded by Mr. Pilgreen to place signs on Concord Road that say, “No Thru Trucks”. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion Mr. Ramsey, seconded by Mr. Bridges to authorize the Secretary/Treasurer to advertise for an Excavator. Motion carried unanimously.

In accordance with Ordinance 549, time for public comment was given. Jon McKinnie, Union Parish Chamber of Commerce, addressed the jury concerning Christmas in the Park.

Lynn Ramsey addressed the jury concerning a recent police jury hire.

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 3rd day of January, 2023.

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

s/ Brenda Abercrombie
Brenda Abercrombie, President
Union Parish Police Jury