

**ROAD COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023  
4:00 P.M.**

Present: Ceis Nyegaard, Johnny Buckley, DeWayne Ramsey and Curtis Moses. Absent: None.  
Also present: Ben Bridges, Nathan Pilgreen, L.W. Nolan, Brenda Abercrombie, Danielle Harkins,  
Tommy Durrett, Tommy Bennett, Paul Riley and Johnny Creed.

Mr. Nyegaard called the meeting to order. Mr. Ramsey led the group in prayer.

**Motion Mr. Buckley, seconded by Mr. Moses and declared adopted by unanimous roll call vote to approve the agenda as written.**

**Motion Mr. Ramsey, seconded by Mr. Moses to approve the minutes of the April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion Mr. Buckley, seconded by Mr. Moses to enter into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation. Motion failed with the following Roll Call Vote:**

<b>Nyegaard</b>	<b>Yes to enter into Executive Session</b>
<b>Buckley</b>	<b>Yes to enter into Executive Session</b>
<b>Ramsey</b>	<b>No to enter into Executive Session</b>
<b>Moses</b>	<b>No to enter into Executive Session</b>

**Motion failed due to a tie vote.**

Steven Oxenhandler, Gold Weems Law Firm, addressed the Road Committee via phone. Mr. Oxenhandler questioned why the Road Committee did not wish to go into Executive Session regarding pending litigation.

The following items were discussed regarding Buffalo Landing Road:

- Does jury possess any maintenance record on any road before 1958
- Setting a precedence on closing roads
- Meeks Landing was won by the local District Attorney
- Land owner previously stated he would not block access to the water and now has put gate up
- Who will take the gate down
- Request that gate be opened and left open

**Motion Mr. Buckley, seconded by Mr. Nyegaard to take the gate down on Buffalo Landing Road that is blocking the access to the water. Motion failed with the following Roll Call Vote:**

<b>Nyegaard</b>	<b>Yes to take gate down</b>
<b>Buckley</b>	<b>Yes to take gate down</b>
<b>Ramsey</b>	<b>No to take gate down</b>
<b>Moses</b>	<b>No to take gate down</b>

**Motion failed.**

**Motion Mr. Moses, seconded by Mr. Ramsey to recommend to the full jury to assist the Town of Farmerville with repairs to the dirt part of West Green Street. The TOF will pay for any materials used in conjunction with the project. Work will be performed as time permits. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion Mr. Buckley, seconded by Mr. Ramsey to recommend to the full jury to hire Wade Sparks for full-time employment at the Road Department with his time being counted back to his original hire date of February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023. His full-time status is effective May 8<sup>th</sup>, and at that time he is eligible for all police jury benefits including retirement, insurance, vacation, sick leave and holiday pay. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion Mr. Buckley, seconded by Mr. Ramsey to recommend to the full jury to hire Wayne Oser for full-time employment at the Road Department with his time being counted back to his original hire date of February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023. His full-time status is effective May 22<sup>nd</sup>, and at that time he is eligible for all police jury benefits including retirement, insurance, vacation, sick leave and holiday pay. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion Mr. Buckley, seconded by Mr. Ramsey to recommend to the full jury to approve the Three-Year Road Program for years 2023, 2024 and 2025.**

**Year 1 – 2023**

<b>Patrick Church Road</b>	<b>2.9 miles</b>
<b>Chapman Road</b>	<b>4.1 miles</b>
<b>Garland Gin Road</b>	<b><u>0.4 miles</u></b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>7.4 miles</b>

**Year 2 – 2024**

<b>Concord Road</b>	<b>3.2 miles</b>
<b>Hamilton Road</b>	<b>1.9 miles</b>
<b>Downsville Road</b>	<b><u>2.7 miles</u></b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>7.80 miles</b>

**Year 3 – 2025**

<b>Downsville Road (remainder)</b>	<b>2.2 miles</b>
<b>Sardis Church Road</b>	<b>3.1 miles</b>
<b>Village Creek Road</b>	<b>0.6 miles</b>
<b>Dale Love Road</b>	<b>0.9 miles</b>
<b>Lolley Road</b>	<b>0.5 miles</b>
<b>Holland Road</b>	<b><u>0.9 miles</u></b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>8.20 miles</b>

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion Mr. Buckley, seconded by Mr. Ramsey to recommend to the full jury to adopt the following Annual Road Capital Improvement Policy for years 2023, 2024 and 2025.**

**UNION PARISH POLICE JURY  
ANNUAL ROAD CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS POLICY  
ADOPTED  
May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023  
FOR YEARS 2023, 2024, 2025**

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 capital improvements for existing gravel roads (non-paved roads). The other group will apply to capital improvements for existing asphalt or concrete roads (hard surfaced roads). The existing gravel group has one list. Existing Hard Surfaced roads are split up into two categories: Primary Blacktop list and Secondary Blacktop list. Primary Blacktop Roads consist of roads with an ADT greater than or equal to 150 vehicles per day and/or is over one mile long. If the road is over one mile long, it is automatically on the Primary list. If the road has under 150 vehicles a day and is under one mile long, then it will be on the Secondary list.
3. The Police Jury will, each year, based upon available funding and need, designate the division and amount of funds to be used for existing gravel roads and for existing hard surfaced roads. The Police Jury will, each year, determine the amount of funds to be used for each of the three lists. The Jury will create a three-year plan but will re-evaluate the plan after each year and revise the three-year plan each year as needed.
4. In order to equally distribute capital improvements projects throughout the Parish due to limited funds, no more than four miles of new hard surface will be constructed in any one year on any existing gravel road, and no more than four 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 or Road Superintendent recommendation.
5. 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. Such road with out of parish funds can skip roads above it in the priority list.

**Year 1 – 2023**

<b>Patrick Church Road</b>	<b>2.9 miles</b>
<b>Chapman Road</b>	<b>4.1 miles</b>
<b>Garland Gin Road</b>	<b><u>0.4 miles</u></b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>7.4 miles</b>

**Year 2 – 2024**

<b>Concord Road</b>	<b>3.2 miles</b>
<b>Hamilton Road</b>	<b>1.9 miles</b>
<b>Downsville Road</b>	<b><u>2.7 miles</u></b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>7.80 miles</b>

<b>Year 3 – 2025</b>	
<b>Downsville Road (remainder)</b>	<b>2.2 miles</b>
<b>Sardis Church Road</b>	<b>3.1 miles</b>
<b>Village Creek Road</b>	<b>0.6 miles</b>
<b>Dale Love Road</b>	<b>0.9 miles</b>
<b>Lolley Road</b>	<b>0.5 miles</b>
<b>Holland Road</b>	<b><u>0.9 miles</u></b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>8.20 miles</b>

**WHEREUPON**, the motion was declared duly adopted by unanimous vote of the Jury this the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May, 2023.

ATTEST:

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

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

**Motion Mr. Buckley, seconded by Mr. Ramsey to recommend to the full jury to authorize Riley & Company to advertise for the 2023 Union Parish Road Program. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion Mr. Buckley, seconded by Mr. Moses to recommend to the full jury to enter into an agreement with Weed Pro in an amount up to \$45,000 for weed and limb control. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion Mr. Buckley, seconded by Mr. Ramsey to table the discussion of the DOTD Road Transfer Program.**

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

Tommy Bennett spoke in opposition of the DOTD Road Transfer Program.

**There being no more business to come before the committee, Mr. Nyegaard declared the meeting adjourned upon motion by Mr. Buckley and duly seconded by Mr. Ramsey on this the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May, 2023.**

Ceis Nyegaard, Chairman  
 Paula Strickland, Secretary/Treasurer