

REGULAR MEETING UNION PARISH POLICE JURY

Farmerville, Louisiana

March 5th, 2024

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, Michael Holley, Glenn Hutto, Ben Bridges, Russell Wade, Jeremy Hobbs, Brenda Abercrombie and A.J. Ford, Jr. Absent: None. Also present was James Buckley, Assistant District Attorney. The President called the session to order and welcomed all guests. Mr. Ford offered the invocation and Mrs. Abercrombie led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

President Hutto welcomed everyone to the meeting. President Hutto 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 Hutto recognized Bruce Dismuke for his thirty years of service to the jury. Mr. Dismuke recently retired from the Landfill. Mr. Dismuke was presented with a plaque from the jury. Mr. Hutto also announced that a retirement reception would be held in the conference room after the meeting.

Mr. Bridges announced that Paula Strickland was recently sworn in as Vice-President of the Organization of Parish Administrative Officials (OPAO). The swearing-in was held at the Police Jury Conference in Lake Charles. The Organization of Parish Administrative Officials is a statewide organization made up of Secretary/Treasurers, Parish Administrators, Public Works Directors as well as clerical staff. Paula represents Region 5 which is made up of Caldwell, East Carroll, Franklin, Jackson, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Richland, Tensas, Union and West Carroll Parishes.

The Secretary/Treasurer made the following announcement: Notice is hereby given that at its meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 16th, 2024 @ 6:30 p.m., at its regular meeting place, the North Union Fire Station, 2700 Highway 549, Marion, Louisiana, the Board of Commissioners of North Union Fire Protection District, State of Louisiana, plans to consider adopting a resolution ordering and calling an election to be held in North Union Fire Protection District, State of Louisiana, to authorize the renewal of an ad valorem tax therein.

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

Motion Mr. Holley, seconded by Mr. Ford to adopt the minutes of the February 6th, 2024 regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

The Secretary/Treasurer announced that the Budget to Actual Revenue and Expense report for the month of February was presented to the Finance Committee earlier.

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

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Holley and seconded by Mr. Ford:

RESOLUTION NO. 2024 - 02

WHEREAS, UNION PARISH is a grant recipient of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funding through the Louisiana Governor’s Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the purpose of reviewing and updating the Union Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan.

WHEREAS, the Plan will enable the Parish to better prepare for and reduce the effects of disasters and;

WHEREAS, UNION PARISH formed a Steering Committee consisting of state and local governments and agencies, local organizations, businesses and private citizens and;

WHEREAS, this Steering Committee has prepared and reviewed the Union Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan and updated it accordingly, now titled “the Union Parish – Multi Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2024” that will guide the Parish and;

WHEREAS, the 2024 Union Parish Multi Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan identifies mitigation goals and actions to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property in the unincorporated portion of Union Parish from the impacts of future hazards and disasters and;

WHEREAS, adoption by the Union Parish Police Jury demonstrates their commitment to hazard mitigation and achieving the goals outlined in the 2024 Union Parish Multi Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE POLICE JURY OF UNION PARISH, LOUISIANA, in Regular Session convened on the 5th day of March 2024, that it does hereby formally adopt the Union Parish – Multi Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2024.

This resolution was declared adopted on March 5th, 2024 at its regular meeting where a Quorum was present. The vote was as follows:

YEAS: Moses, Pilgreen, Holley, Hutto, Bridges, Wade, Hobbs, Abercrombie and Ford
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

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

s/ Glenn W. Hutto
GLENN W. HUTTO
PRESIDENT
UNION PARISH POLICE JURY

Motion Mrs. Abercrombie, seconded by Mr. Hobbs to appoint Kenneth Beal to replace J.D. Ainsworth on the Rocky Branch Waterworks Board of Commissioners. Motion carried unanimously.

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



UNION PARISH ORDINANCE NO. 961

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE AN ACT OF SALE BY THE PARISH OF UNION TO SELL ADJUDICATED PROPERTY DESCRIBED AS: PARCEL NO. 3010261882 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 May 28, 2017 for nonpayment of taxes; and

WHEREAS, the three (3) year period for redemption, as well of the five (5) year redemptive period 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 \$2,007.84 and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Union has received a written offer to purchase said property from Cleothus Gatson for the consideration of \$2,007.84, 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# 3010261882 bearing municipal address of 116 Thornton Evans Road, Farmerville, LA, being more fully described as follows:

Parcel# 3010261882 /116 Thornton Evans Road, Farmerville, LA 71241

Legal Description: A certain tract of land situated in the SE ¼ of Sec. 16, T21N, R1E, Union Parish, Louisiana, more particularly described as for the Point of Beginning, from the intersection of the North Boundary of said SE ¼ of Sec. 16, and the South ROW of La. State Hwy No. 33, run along said highway South 49 degrees 10' W 225 ft; thence for the Point of Beginning Proper; run further along said highway South 49 degrees 10' West 105.8 ft; thence South 33 degrees 36' East 406.7; thence North 56 degrees 14' East 105 ft; thence North 33 degrees 36' West 420 ft to the Point of Beginning, containing 1 acre, more or less.

Brief Legal: BEGIN AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE NORTH BOUNDARY OF SAID SE/QUARTER OF SEC 16 AND SOUTH ROW OF LA STATE HWY #33, RUN S 49 DEG 10 MIN W 225 FT FOR P.O.B., S 49 DEG 10 MIN W 105.8 FT, S 33 DEG 36 MIN E 406.7 FT, N 56 DEG 14 MIN E 105 FT, N 33 DEG 36 MIN W 420 FT TO P.O.B., CONTAINING ONE ACRE AND BEING LOCATED IN SE/4 SEC 16 T21N R1E.

- 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 above ordinance having been submitted to a vote.

The foregoing ordinance was introduced by **Mr. Bridges**, 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			
Mike Holley	x			
Glenn Hutto	x			
Ben Bridges	x			
Russell Wade	x			
Jeremy Hobbs	x			
Brenda Abercrombie	x			
AJ Ford	x			

WHEREUPON, the Ordinance was declared duly adopted this 5th day of March, 2024.

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

s/ Glenn W. Hutto
GLENN W. HUTTO
PRESIDENT
UNION PARISH POLICE JURY

CERTIFICATE

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 March 5th, 2024.

IN FAITH WHEREOF, witness my official signature at Farmerville, Louisiana, on this, the 5th day of March, 2024.

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

Recommendations from the Personnel Committee.
Mr. Pilgreen reported that the Personnel Committee met on Thursday, February 8th, 2024.

Motion Mr. Pilgreen, seconded by Mr. Wade to hire Alan Ates as the Interim Road Superintendent effective immediately. Motion carried unanimously.

Recommendations from the Finance Committee.

Mr. Wade reported that the Finance Committee met today at 2:00 P.M.

Motion Mr. Wade, seconded by Mr. Pilgreen to adopt the Union Parish Police Jury 2024 Wage Increase effective March 11th, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion Mr. Wade, seconded by Mr. Pilgreen to amend the Purchase Order process as presented to the Finance Committee. Motion carried with Abercrombie opposing.

Motion Mr. Wade, seconded by Mr. Pilgreen to amend the equipment bidding process as presented to the Finance Committee. Motion carried with Abercrombie opposing.

Motion Mr. Wade, seconded by Mr. Pilgreen to amend the goods and services bidding process as presented to the Finance Committee. Motion carried with Abercrombie opposing.

Recommendations from the Landfill Committee.

Mr. Bridges reported that the Landfill Committee met today at 3:00 P.M. and took no action on the items discussed. Mr. Bridges presented a brief update regarding the Force Main Project with the Town of Farmerville.

Recommendations from the Equipment Committee.

Mr. Ford reported that the Equipment Committee met earlier and took no action on the items discussed.

Recommendations from the Road Committee.

Mr. Holley reported that the Road Committee met earlier and have several recommendations.

Motion Mr. Holley, seconded by Mr. Bridges for permits to be issued for each parish road EPC is laying fiber on, a \$10,000 bond per mile where the fiber is being laid in the parish right-of-way, any lines laid prior must be removed by August 31st, 2025 if they don't meet the requirements of the parish permit and a one-year warranty period before bond can be released. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion Mr. Holley, seconded by Mr. Wade to assist with the repairs to Cole Street as time permits and with the Village of Spearsville paying for the materials. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion Mr. Holley, seconded by Mr. Pilgreen to spend up to \$275,000 to purchase rock for the 2024 Road Program. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion Mr. Holley, seconded by Mr. Pilgreen to accept the engineering proposal from Huval and Associates for the Linville Fire Tower Bridge. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion Mr. Holley, seconded by Mr. Bridges to rent an iron wheel roller for the 2024 Union Parish Police Jury Road Program. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion Mr. Holley, seconded by Mr. Pilgreen to take the gate down on Buffalo Landing Road. Motion carried with the following Roll Call Vote:

MEMBERS:	YES REMOVE GATE	NO DO NOT REMOVE
Curtis Moses		x
Nathan Pilgreen	x	
Michael Holley	x	
Glenn Hutto	x	
Ben Bridges	x	
Russell Wade	x	
Jeremy Hobbs	x	
Brenda Abercrombie		x
Andrew Ford, Jr.		x

Motion carried with a 6 to 3 vote.

Motion Mr. Holley, seconded by Mr. Pilgreen to solicit bids/quotes for contract hauling to assist with the 2024 Union Parish Police Jury Road Program. The contract will pertain to the rock being hauled from the respective yard to the job site. Motion carried unanimously.

Recommendations from the Airport Committee.

Mr. Hobbs reported that the Airport Committee met earlier and no action was taken during committee.

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

Tim Hicks, 326 Canbeal Road, thanked the jury for the vote on Buffalo Landing Road.

Michelle Bryan, 308 Wildwood Drive, Farmerville, thanked the jury regarding the trash which was recently picked up on the highways.

Johnny Creed, 2354 Highway 550, Spearsville, addressed the jury regarding Buffalo Landing Road.

There being no further business to come before the Jury, the President declared the meeting adjourned upon motion by Mr. Bridges, seconded by Mr. Wade on this the 5th day of March, 2024.

s/ Paula H. Strickland

Paula H. Strickland
Secretary/Treasurer
Union Parish Police Jury

s/ Glenn Hutto

Glenn Hutto
President
Union Parish Police Jury