

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
December 30th, 2024
8:30 A.M.**

Present: Russell Wade, Ben Bridges, Curtis Moses and Mike Holley. Absent: None. Also present: Glenn Hutto, Nathan Pilgreen, Andrew Ford, Jr., Jeremy Hobbs, Chris Strickland, Aleta Hutto, Colton Jennings, Alan Ates, Johnny Creed and Lynn Ramsey.

Mr. Wade called the meeting to order. Mr. Holley led the group in prayer.

Public Comments were held on agenda items. Johnny Creed inquired about the proposed budget. Mr. Creed asked if a copy was available. The Secretary/Treasurer stated that a copy has been available on the website for the month of December. The budget has also been available for public inspection at the Annex for the whole month of December.

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

Motion Mr. Bridges, seconded by Mr. Holley to approve the minutes of the December 3rd, 2024 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

A discussion was held regarding the miles of roads in each district and setting aside tipping fees for each district. Mr. Bridges presented a map that he would like the Finance Committee to review. **Motion Mr. Bridges, seconded by Mr. Moses to table the discussion of the miles of roads in each district until a later date.**

A brief discussion was held regarding the setting aside of funds for bridge replacement. The funds would be kept in a separate account and used only for bridges. **Motion Mr. Bridges, seconded by Mr. Moses to recommend to the full jury to set aside \$25,000 quarterly for bridge repairs. The amount shall not exceed \$100,000 annually and this amount will be kept in a separate account. Motion carried unanimously.**

A brief discussion was held regarding the interest rates on all Police Jury accounts. **Motion Mr. Holley, seconded by Mr. Bridges to recommend to the full jury to authorize the Secretary/Treasurer to solicit proposals from local banks and LAMP regarding interest rates. Banks will be asked to provide a fixed and a variable rate. Motion carried unanimously.**

A discussion was held regarding the 2025 Proposed Operating Budget for the Union Parish Police Jury. The Secretary/Treasurer asked if anyone had any changes to the budget that was presented earlier. Mr. Ates had submitted an equipment wish list for the Road Department and Mr. Davidson submitted an equipment wish list for the Landfill. Mr. Bridges questioned the need for a new oil spray truck.

Mr. Hobbs inquired about why some employees were receiving raises and some were not. Mr. Hutto explained how the Road Superintendent and Landfill Superintendent had always made the same pay. When the previous jury hired a Public Works Director those two positions were no longer making the same amount. The Landfill Superintendent received a bump in pay for 2025 to make his pay equal with the Road Superintendent.

There was a brief discussion about the Landfill. There are still some issues with the operation of the Landfill. Mr. Bridges brought up the following:

- Garbage trucks are still coming in early
- Routes are not being looked at on the computer
- Machines are not being greased
- Issue with clocking out early so employees can walk out the gate at 4:00 PM
- Dumpsters are not being dumped and garbage is all over the ground
- Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent do not have a CDL license after they have been requested to get one
- Dumpsters were overflowing before Christmas
- Overtime for office personnel

Mr. Ford stated that he has not received any new front-load dumpsters in his area. Mr. Ford stated that he has been promised the new dumpsters but has not received any.

There being no more business to come before the committee, Mr. Wade declared the meeting adjourned upon motion by Mr. Bridges and duly seconded by Mr. Moses on this the 30th day of December, 2024.

Russell Wade, Chairman
Paula Strickland, Secretary/Treasurer