ROAD COMMITTEE MINUTES OF MEETING July 15th, 2025 4:30 P.M.

Present: Mike Holley, Russell Wade, Curtis Moses and Nathan Pilgreen. Absent: None. Also present: Glenn Hutto, Ben Bridges, Brenda Abercrombie and Andrew Ford, Jr., Alan Ates, Danielle Harkins and Linda Hammett.

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

Public Comment on agenda items – Mrs. Abercrombie requested permission to speak regarding Rocky Branch Road.

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

Motion Mr. Pilgreen, seconded by Mr. Wade to approve the minutes of the March 4th, 2025 meeting (July 1st meeting cancelled due to lack of a quorum). Motion carried unanimously.

The Union Parish Fleet Safety Policy was briefly discussed. The jury was given this policy to review approximately three (3) months ago. Travelers Insurance Company is making the policy mandatory for each of the parishes in the LRPIC group. Each employee will be given a copy of the policy to read and keep. Each employee will turn in the acknowledgment page which will go into the insurance file at the Annex. Motion Mr. Wade, seconded by Mr. Pilgreen to recommend to the full jury to adopt the Union Parish Fleet Safety Policy. Motion carried unanimously.

A brief discussion was held regarding the Participation Agreement for the Delta Regional Authority funding. The Participation Agreement pertains to Camp Road and Dozier Road. A discussion was also held regarding the match the parish will be responsible for. Motion Mr. Pilgreen, seconded by Mr. Wade to recommend to the full jury to enter into a Participation Agreement for Camp Road and Dozier Road for the Delta Regional Authority application (DRA) and provide a 25% match for each road. Motion carried unanimously.

A discussion was held regarding the Union Parish Police Jury Road Maintenance/Road Construction Policy. The jury has been discussing what constitutes Road Maintenance versus Road Construction. The proposed policy clearly defines that now. The policy is intended for the Road Superintendent to comply with certain Parish Transportation Act Requirements for road maintenance. Trevor Fry with the Gold Weems law firm has reviewed the policy and made a couple of changes to ensure that the requirements of the PTA are met. Motion Mr. Wade, seconded by Mr. Pilgreen to recommend to the full jury to adopt the Union Parish Police Jury Road Maintenance/Road Construction Policy as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

A discussion was held regarding the lease agreement for the three (3) Caterpillar Graders. The lease agreement expires on January 5th, 2026. The current lease agreement was signed on January 5th, 2021 by Johnny Buckley. The lease price on each grader is \$2,296.87 per month. Mr. Ates has been researching Caterpillar versus John Deere equipment. Mr. Ates provided a purchase price for a new 2026 John Deere Motor Grader as well as a lease amount. Motion Mr. Pilgreen, seconded by Mr. Wade to recommend to the full jury to test drive a John Deere motor grader and contact Caterpillar regarding the rental graders at the end of the lease. Motion carried unanimously.

A brief discussion was held regarding contracting the spraying of weeds around bridges and roadways. There are twenty-five (25) parish bridges. Three (3) of those bridges are wooden. Mr. Ates stated that the last time the bridges had been sprayed was two (2) years ago. The main concern is spraying around the bridges, but a quote can also be obtained for roadways. Mr. Wade stated that a long-term goal for the jury could be investing in an actual spray truck with licensed operators. Motion Mr. Wade, seconded by Mr. Moses to recommend to the full jury to authorize the Secretary/Treasurer to solicit bids for the spraying of weeds around bridges and roadways. Motion carried unanimously.

A brief discussion was held regarding contract hauling for any road department material. Motion Mr. Wade, seconded by Mr. Pilgreen to recommend to the full jury to authorize the Secretary/Treasurer to solicit bids for contract hauling for any road department material. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no more business to come before the committee, Mr. Holley declared the meeting adjourned upon motion by Mr. Pilgreen and duly seconded by Mr. Moses on this the 15th day of July, 2025.

Mike Holley, Chairman Paula Strickland, Secretary/Treasurer