

BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY
MINUTES
BENTON, LOUISIANA
November 19, 2003
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The Bossier Parish Police Jury met in regular and legal session on this 19th day of November, 2003, at 2:00 p.m., in the Police Jury Meeting Room, Bossier Parish Courthouse, Benton, Louisiana. The President, Mr. Jimmy Cochran, called the meeting to order. The invocation was given by Mr. Eddy Shell and the pledge of allegiance was led by Mr. Jeff Rogers. The Secretary-Treasurer, Cheryl Martin, called the roll, with all members present, as follows:

Mr. William Altimus	Mr. Winfred Johnston
Mr. Rick Avery	Mr. Hank Meachum
Mr. Jimmy Cochran	Mr. Henry Mitchell
Mr. Brad Cummings	Mr. Jeff Rogers
Mr. Jerome Darby	Mr. Eddy Shell
Mr. Wayne Hammack	Mr. Jesse Williams

Others present were Mr. Bill Altimus, Parish Administrator; Mr. Patrick Jackson, Parish Attorney; Mr. Joe E. "Butch" Ford, Jr., Parish Engineer; Cheryl Martin, Secretary-Treasurer.

Motion was made by Mr. Shell, seconded by Mr. Rogers, to adopt the minutes of the October 1, 2003 regular meeting, as published. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Shell, seconded by Mr. Altimus, to adopt the minutes of the October 15, 2003 regular meeting, as published. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Rogers, to amend the agenda to add Ms. Laura Goodwin, Volunteers for Youth Justice, and Ms. Michelle Rodgers, Bossier Parish Tax Assessor's office. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Stacy Brown, President of the Shreveport-Bossier Convention and Tourist Bureau, discussed the preliminary 2004 budget of the Shreveport-Bossier Convention and Tourist Bureau. Ms. Brown reported that overall tourism revenue has increased, and that the Shreveport-Bossier area is the second most visited area in Louisiana. **Motion was made by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Cummings, to approve the proposed 2004 budget of the Shreveport-Bossier Convention and Tourist Bureau, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on this 19th day of November, 2003, that it does hereby ratify and approve the proposed 2004 budget of the Shreveport-Bossier Convention and Tourist Bureau, the same having been furnished to the Police Jury by said Bureau and being on file in the office of the Police Jury.

The resolution was offered by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Cummings. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 19th day of November, 2003.

CHERYL G. MARTIN
SECRETARY-TREASURER

JIMMY COCHRAN, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Mr. Louis Covington, Bossier Parish Library Director, requested approval of the 2004 Bossier Parish Library Budget. He expressed his appreciation to the jury for their continued support. **Motion was made by Mr. Shell, seconded by Mr. Cummings, to approve the 2004 Bossier Parish Library Budget, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Edward Thompson and Ms. Cyndi Keeter addressed the jury regarding building set-back regulations in Horseshoe Creek Estates. Ms. Keeter stated that she has allowed Mr. Thompson, her father, to place a doublewide mobile home on her property at Lot 9, Horseshoe Creek Estates. She stated that they have been advised that there is a fifty-foot (50') minimum building setback requirement at Horseshoe Creek Estates and that the mobile home is in violation of the setback requirement. Mr. Ford stated that the mobile home is approximately twenty-two feet (22') from the road right-of-way line. Ms. Keeter stated that they were unaware of the setback requirement, and that it will be very costly to move the mobile home.

Mr. Ford stated that there are no covenants for Horseshoe Creek Estates, but stated that the 50' setback requirement is noted on the plat for the development. Mr. Thompson stated that it is not structurally feasible to move the mobile home further back, as the back of the property is in a flood zone. Mr. Jackson, Parish Attorney, requested that he be allowed to research this matter further prior to the jury taking any action. Mr. Meachum, Mr. Ford, and Mr. Jackson are to review this matter for consideration at the December 3, 2003 regular meeting.

Ms. Laura Goodwin, Volunteers for Youth Justice, addressed the jury regarding their request for a 2004 budget appropriation of \$35,000. She stated that they hope to expand the juvenile diversion program in Bossier Parish.

Ms. Susie Stinson commended such diversion programs, advising that they offer alternatives to incarceration for non-violent offenders.

Mr. Darby stated that he would like to further review the program and requested that the matter be taken under advisement for consideration at the December 3, 2003 regular meeting. The jury concurred.

Mr. Bobby Edmiston, Bossier Parish Tax Assessor, and Ms. Michelle Rodgers, Deputy Assessor, discussed a request of the Tax Assessor's office for a budget appropriation of \$45,895 for the purchase of GIS computer equipment and software. Mr. Altimus explained that a portion of this expense can be used as matching funds for a \$37,500 grant which has been approved for the police jury for hazard mitigation. The Tax Assessor's office will then provide the police jury office with GIS information. **Motion was made by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Shell, to approve the request of the Bossier Parish Tax Assessor's office for a 2004 budget appropriation of \$45,895 for the purchase of**

computer equipment and software. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Rogers questioned recurring maintenance and support expenses. Mr. Edmiston stated that he will address these costs on an annual basis and request the jury's assistance if needed.

Ms. Martin announced the public hearing to consider approval of the application of Joe Fowler to the Bossier City-Parish MPC for a zoning amendment to change the zoning classification of a 25-acre tract located in the southeast 1/4 of Section 2, and the northeast 1/4 of Section 11, Township 18 North, Range 13 West, Bossier Parish, LA, from R-A, Residence Agriculture District, to R-1, One-Family Residence District, for a 15-lot subdivision. The application received a favorable recommendation by the Bossier City-Parish MPC.

Ms. Francis Harris, 2194 Swan Lake Road, was present, advising that she owns the property. Mr. Mitchell stated that the MPC has requested that the plat of the proposed subdivision development be amended to reduce the number of lots on Swan Lake Road.

There being no opposition, **motion was made by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Cummings, to approve the application of Joe Fowler for a zoning amendment, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

ORDINANCE NO. 3906

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 783 OF 1978, THE BOSSIER CITY-PARISH METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION ZONING REGULATIONS, BY CHANGING THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF A 25-ACRE TRACT LOCATED IN THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 2 AND THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 11, TOWNSHIP 18 NORTH, RANGE 11 WEST, BOSSIER PARISH, LA, FROM R-A, RESIDENCE AGRICULTURE DISTRICT, TO R-1, ONE-FAMILY RESIDENCE DISTRICT.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Bossier Parish Police Jury, meeting in regular and legal session on this 19th day of November, 2003, that Ordinance No. 783 of 1978 of the Police Jury of Bossier Parish, is hereby amended to change the zoning classification of a 25-acre tract located one mile North of Interstate-220 on Swan Lake Road, in the Southeast 1/4 of Section 2 and the Northeast 1/4 of Section 11, Township 18 North, Range 11 West, Bossier Parish, La, from R-A, Residence Agriculture District, to R-1, One-Family Residence District.

Applicant: Joe Fowler

Purpose: Residential Subdivision (Trail Ridge)

The ordinance was offered by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Cummings. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 19th day of November, 2003.

CHERYL G. MARTIN
SECRETARY-TREASURER

JIMMY COCHRAN, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Ms. Martin advised that Mr. Sam Marsiglia, Bossier City-Parish MPC, has requested that the police jury table its public hearing to consider an ordinance adopting and enacting a Unified Development Code for Bossier Parish. **Motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Darby, to reschedule the public hearing to consider an ordinance adopting and enacting a Unified Development Code for Bossier Parish, to be held December 3, 2003. Motion carried unanimously.**

Motion was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Avery, to schedule a public hearing on December 17, 2003, to consider a request of the Benton-Parish MPC for an amendment to its zoning ordinance to increase the penalties for violation of zoning regulations. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Irvin Grant, Bossier Parish Juvenile Detention Center, presented statistics for the facility for the month of October. Mr. Hammack stated that the inmate population at the facility has declined. Mr. Grant stated that diversion programs for first-time offenders appear to be effective .

Motion was made by Mr. Shell, seconded by Mr. Rogers, to table the adoption of an amended noise ordinance, to be considered at the December 3, 2003 regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kevin Schmidt addressed the jury regarding Magnolia Chase Drive, formerly R. C. Atkins Road. Mr. Cathcart stated that the cost to overlay the parish portion of the parish road is approximately \$59,000. Mr. Avery stated that with the development of Magnolia Chase Subdivision, the requested repairs need to be done. Approximately 2400 homes are planned in Magnolia Chase Subdivision and Magnolia Chase Drive will serve as the main entrance to the development. Mr. Rogers stated that he feels the police jury is charged with enhancing development in Bossier Parish and as this is a parish road, is responsible for the repairs. **Motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Meachum, to approve an expenditure of up to \$59,000 to bring the parish portion of Magnolia Chase Drive up to parish road specifications, with the parish attorney working out any legal issues involved with the project. Motion carried, with the following vote recorded:**

AYES: Mr. Avery, Mr. Cummings, Mr. Darby, Mr. Hammack, Mr. Johnston, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Meachum, Mr. Rogers, Mr. Shell, Mr. Williams.

NAYS: Mr. Altimus

ABSTAIN: Mr. Cochran

ABSENT: None

Motion was made by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Rogers, to table adoption of the Three-Year Road Overlay Program, to be considered at the December 3, 2003 regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Jackson, Parish Attorney, reported that he has spoken to Judge Campbell regarding the police jury's purchase of property he owns just north of the courthouse. He stated that 26 acres are available, and that two acres could be purchased for approximately \$65,000. Mr. Ford stated the additional parking area must be completed as soon as possible, and asked if the property is zoned for a parking lot. Mr. Williams stated that he will address this issue with the Benton-Parish MPC. Mr. Ford

recommended that the Campbell property be purchased.

After discussion, **motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Shell, to authorize Mr. Altimus to negotiate for the purchase of Campbell property located on the north side of the courthouse, up to \$100,000. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Rogers reported on a meeting of the Policy and Procedures Committee regarding the salary schedule for police jury employees. He stated that some adjustments were made and stated that the committee will meet again to further review the proposal. **Motion was made by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Avery, to refer this matter to the Policy and Procedures Committee for further review. Motion carried unanimously.** A meeting of the Policy and Procedures Committee is scheduled at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 25, 2003, at the Bossier Central Library.

Mr. Hammack reported on a meeting of the Building and Grounds Committee regarding possible transportation for visitors/employees from the parking lot to the building during the courthouse construction project, advising that the committee recommends that no action be taken at this time.

Motion was made by Mr. Johnston, seconded by Mr. Avery, to approve renewal applications for 2004 Bossier Parish beer/liquor licenses at the following businesses. Motion carried unanimously. Each application has been approved by the Bossier Parish Sheriff's Department and the Bossier Parish Health Department.

(Beer Only)

Boomtown Grocery
Lakeview Lounge
Green Park Industries
Topwater's
Clark's Red River Marina
Spillway Landing
Eastland Country Club
Shooter's
Pepe's Mexican Restaurant
Country Corner
Haughton Food Mart
American Legion Post 388
Fillmore Pub & Grub

Motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Hammack, to amend the agenda to adjourn into executive session to discuss riverboat litigation. Motion carried, with the following vote recorded:

AYES: Mr. Altimus, Mr. Avery, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Cummings, Mr. Darby, Mr. Hammack, Mr. Johnston, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Meachum, Mr. Rogers, Mr. Shell, Mr. Williams.

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

The meeting was reconvened and called to order by the President. Mr. Ford reported that the proposal of PSI is the only proposal he has received for testing services for the courthouse renovation/addition project. **Motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Rogers, to accept the proposal of PSI to provide testing services for the courthouse renovation/addition project. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Don Rittenberry, Bossier Parish Sheriff's Department, addressed the jury regarding bid Alternate No. 3 on the maximum security jail construction project, which provides for the construction of a brick security fence across the front of the facility. Mr. Rittenberry stated that due to security issues, the Sheriff's Department feels the brick fence is needed in an effort to reduce the risk of contraband being smuggled into the facility. He stated that a brick fence will also provide a sight barrier between inmates and the public. Mr. Avery stated that he has been opposed to the brick fence, but that after speaking with Mr. Rittenberry, he agrees that a brick fence is needed. He stated that it will block the parking area from inmate trustees working outside the facility.

After discussion, **motion was made by Mr. Johnston, seconded by Mr. Williams, to approve Additive Alternate No. 3, the provision of a brick fence across the front of the maximum security jail facility, at an additional cost of \$374,900. Motion carried, with the following vote recorded:**

AYES: Mr. Avery, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Darby, Mr. Hammack, Mr. Johnston, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Meachum, Mr. Shell, Mr. Williams.

NAYS: Mr. Altimus, Mr. Cummings, Mr. Rogers

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion was made by Mr. Cummings, seconded by Mr. Williams, to authorize payment of accounts payable invoices for the month of October, 2003. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Altimus presented pictures of the maximum security jail construction site, advising that 50% of the slabs are poured. He stated that an owner's meeting is scheduled at 1:30 tomorrow.

Mr. Altimus presented information on the number of residential building permits obtained during the past month.

Motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to declare December 26, 2003, as an additional Christmas holiday for police jury employees. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ford reported that the pre-construction conference on the courthouse project went well, advising that a groundbreaking ceremony for the project is planned for Tuesday, November 25, 2003, at 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Ford reported that the water line relocation project on Airline Drive is complete. He stated that water lines at the second Willow Chute bridge must also be relocated, and that the remainder of the water lines from Bayou Bend Subdivision to Swan Lake Road are located under Airline Drive. Mr. Ford recommended the relocation of water lines north to Swan Lake Road on the next project. The jury concurred.

Motion was made by Mr. Cummings, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to approve the Amended 2003 Annual Budget and the 2004 Annual Budget for the North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on the 19th day of November, 2003, that it does hereby ratify and approve the Amended 2003 Annual Budget and the 2004 Annual Budget of the North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory, the same having been furnished to the Policy Jury and being on file in the office of the Police Jury.

The resolution was offered by Mr. Cummings, seconded by Mr. Mitchell. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 19th day of November, 2003.

CHERYL G. MARTIN
SECRETARY-TREASURER

JIMMY COCHRAN, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Motion was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to reappoint Mr. Cochran and Mr. Darby to the Coordinating and Development Corporation Board of Directors for 2004. Motion carried unanimously.

The request from Volunteers for Youth Justice and the request from Sci-Port Discovery Center for a 2004 budget appropriation will be considered during the 2004 budget hearing scheduled on December 3, 2003.

Mr. Cathcart advised of a request from Haughton Middle School for assistance in the construction of a gravel emergency access road behind the school. He stated that the school board will contribute \$30,000 to the project, and he feels this amount is adequate. **Motion was made by Mr. Meachum, seconded by Mr. Rogers, to approve the construction of a gated gravel emergency access road behind Haughton Middle School, with the school board contributing \$30,000 to the project. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Cathcart reported that all obstructions have been removed from the parish right-of-way along McKee Road with the exception of one vehicle.

Mr. Cathcart advised that parish work crews will begin clearing work on condemned property at 1260 Lars Road.

Mr. Johnston asked the status of the requested acceptance of the Lodge Hall Road into the parish road system. Mr. Ford is to check into this matter.

Mr. Williams requested that Ordinance No. 3903 of October 1, 2003, which accepted Beaver Lane and Buck Ridge into the parish road system, be amended to delete Buck Ridge. These are the only roads located in the Cypress Border Subdivision, and the E911 system has assigned all residential addresses to Beaver Lane. Buck Ridge is a small section of roadway that runs off the end of Beaver Lane and is not recognized by the E911 system. As a result of this change, Buck Ridge will no longer exist. **Motion was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Shell, to amend Ordinance No. 3903 to delete Buck Ridge, as requested. Motion carried unanimously.**

ORDINANCE NO. 3907

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 3903 OF OCTOBER 1, 2003, WHICH OFFICIALLY ACCEPTED BEAVER LANE AND BUCK RIDGE IN THE CYPRESS BORDER SUBDIVISION, BOSSIER PARISH, LA, INTO THE BOSSIER PARISH ROAD SYSTEM FOR PERMANENT MAINTENANCE, TO DELETE BUCK RIDGE.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on this 19th day of November, 2003, that it does hereby amend Ordinance No. 3903 of October 1, 2003, to rescind and delete the acceptance of Buck Ridge in the Cypress Border Subdivision into the parish road system for permanent maintenance.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, etc., that the acceptance of Beaver Lane in the Cypress Border Subdivision, Section 27, Township 20 North, Range 13 West, Bossier Parish, LA, into the Bossier Parish Road System, as requested by the District 3 Representative, shall remain in effect.

BEAVER LANE - 0.20 MILE

The ordinance was offered by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Shell. Upon the following vote, it was duly adopted on this 19th day of November, 2003.

Yeas: Mr. Altimus, Mr. Avery, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Cummings, Mr. Darby, Mr. Hammack, Mr. Johnston, Mr. Meachum, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Rogers, Mr. Shell, Mr. Williams.

Abstain: None

Nays: None

Absent: None

CHERYL G. MARTIN
SECRETARY-TREASURER

JIMMY COCHRAN, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Mr. Williams advised of a request for installation of a culvert in a steep ditch at a residence on Park Ridge in Palmetto Park. He stated that the property owner is unable to maintain the ditch. Mr. Cathcart has advised that the total cost for the project is \$3,882.52. **Motion was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to authorize the installation of a culvert in a steep ditch at a residence on Park Ridge in Palmetto Park Subdivision. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Rogers requested that the road sign on Princeton Lane in Princeton Estates Subdivision be changed from blue to green to signify that Princeton Lane is a parish road.

There was discussion of the acquisition of right-of-way on Hickory Lane as required in the acceptance of Hickory Lane into the parish road system for permanent maintenance. The road is owned entirely by Mr. Mark Montgomery, and it is requested that the police jury purchase the road right-of-way from Mr. Montgomery. **Motion was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Hammack, to authorize the purchase of all road right-of-way along Hickory Lane. Motion carried, with Mr. Rogers opposing.**

Mr. Johnston advised of a request from the Town of Plain Dealing that the police jury donate the old health unit property in Plain Dealing to the town. He stated that the building is in poor condition, and the Town of Plain Dealing has advised that they are willing to accept the building as is. **Motion was made by Mr. Johnston, seconded by Mr. Hammack, to approve the request of the Town of Plain Dealing, with Mr. Jackson, Parish Attorney, handling the transaction. Motion carried, with Mr. Avery opposing.**

Mr. Avery advised of a complaint regarding the condition of property on the Linton Cut-Off Road. The property is to be inspected for further review at the December 3, 2003 regular meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on this 19th day of November, 2003, the meeting was adjourned by the President at 4:40 p.m.

CHERYL G. MARTIN
SECRETARY-TREASURER

JIMMY COCHRAN, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY