

BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY
MINUTES
BENTON, LOUISIANA
January 22, 2003
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The Bossier Parish Police Jury met in regular and legal session on this 22nd day of January, 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. Henry Mitchell. 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; Cheryl Martin, Secretary-Treasurer.

Motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Altimus, to adopt the minutes of the December 4, 2002 regular meeting, as published. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Shell, seconded by Mr. Meachum, to adopt the minutes of the December 18, 2002 regular meeting, as published. Motion carried unanimously.

The President called for the election of officers for the Bossier Parish Police Jury for the year 2003, asking for nominations for President. **Motion was made by Mr. Hammack, seconded by Mr. Rogers, to nominate Mr. Jimmy Cochran as President of the Bossier Parish Police Jury for the year 2003. Motion carried unanimously.**

Motion was made by Mr. Hammack, seconded by Mr. Cummings, to nominate Mr. Rick Avery as Vice President of the Bossier Parish Police Jury for the year 2003. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Cochran presented Mr. Altimus with an out-going president's plaque for his service as President of the Bossier Parish Police Jury during a portion of 2002.

Motion was made by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Shell, to appoint Mr. Bill Altimus as Bossier Parish Administrator for a one year term. Motion carried, with Mr. Altimus abstaining from vote.

Ms. Anne Tubbs reported on the current status of the drug court program, advising that both the adult and juvenile drug court programs are financially stable and fully equipped. She stated that both programs are at full capacity. Ms. Tubbs stated that clients in the drug court program receive family counseling and undergo rehabilitation and recovery assistance. She stated that juveniles in the program attend school, and that a majority of the adults are employed. Ms. Tubbs expressed appreciation to the police jury for their assistance and support.

Motion was made by Mr. Meachum, seconded by Mr. Hammack, to deviate from the agenda to add Mr. Steve Murphy. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Steve Murphy, 70 Evangeline Drive, Elm Grove, LA, discussed personnel problems at South Bossier Parish Fire District No. 2. He presented a list of grievances, advising that additional experienced firefighters have resigned. Mr. Murphy stated that grievance procedures are not being followed and that no complaints have been resolved.

Mr. Meachum recommended that the police jury send a letter to the Board of Commissioners to make them aware of the complaints. Mr. Rogers stated that he feels Mr. Murphy should advise the Board of the problems, and allow the Board of Commissioners to resolve this issue. Mr. Meachum requested that the police jury send a letter to the Board of Commissioners for South Bossier Parish Fire District No. 2, and urged Mr. Murphy to attend a meeting of that board.

Mr. Rogers recommended that the police jury be provided a copy of the minutes of the meetings of all fire district boards in the parish. **Motion was made by Mr. Meachum, seconded by Mr. Hammack, to request the Board of Commissioners for all fire districts in the parish to provide the police jury with a copy of the minutes and tapes of all board meetings, with a copy to the juror in whose district the fire district is located. Mr. Meachum further requested that he be provided with a copy of the minutes and the tapes of the last three meetings of the Board of Commissioners for South Bossier Parish Fire District No. 2. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Irvin Grant, Supervisor at the Bossier Parish Juvenile Detention Center, presented statistics for the facility for the month of December, 2002.

Motion was made by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Shell, to table the public hearing to consider approval of the plat of the proposed development of Dogwood South Subdivision, Unit No. 3, located in the west 1/2 of the northeast 1/4 of Section 8, Township 18 North, Range 12 West, Bossier Parish, LA, pending approval of the plat by the Bossier City-Parish MPC. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Altimus, to schedule a public hearing on February 19, 2003, to consider adoption of an ordinance establishing regulations pertaining to criminal trespass of property without the consent of the owner, legal agent or legal leasee. Motion carried unanimously. It was requested that a copy of the notice of public hearing be sent to the Bossier Sheriff's Department and the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

Mr. Shell reported that he has received calls regarding the installation of street lights along the Jimmie Davis bridge. He stated that he understands that funds are available for the lights, provided a governmental entity would assume maintenance and operational costs. **Motion was made by Mr. Shell, seconded by Mr. Hammack, to send a**

letter to the Bossier City Council asking them to request the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development to look into the matter of street lights on the Jimmie Davis bridge, and to ask that the City of Bossier City consider maintenance of the lights.

There was discussion on the motion. Mr. Cochran stated that he understands that a new bridge is to be built in the future to replace the existing bridge on Jimmie Davis Highway. Mr. Ford, Parish Engineer, stated that the City of Bossier City needs to request that the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development look into this matter.

Votes were cast on Mr. Shell's motion to ask that the City of Bossier City look into the matter of installing street lights on the Jimmie Davis bridge. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Cummings, seconded by Mr. Meachum, to authorize payment of accounts payable invoices for the month of December, 2002. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Darby, to declare adjudicated property at 2020 Nina Street (Lots 31, 32, 33, 34, 35 and 36 McCall Subdivision, Unit No. A), as surplus property, and to authorize the advertising for bids for the sale of this property, bids to be received February 19, 2003. Motion carried unanimously. Minimum acceptable bid for purchase of this property is \$3,936.16.

Mr. Altimus reported on a meeting regarding the proposed Unified Development Code for Bossier City/Bossier Parish, advising that there are several unresolved issues in subdivision regulations.

Mr. Altimus advised that an employee of the highway department has expressed her desire to attend a supervisory class at Bossier Parish Community College, and has requested the jury to pay the \$250 fee for the class. **Motion was made by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Avery, to authorize payment of \$250 for an employee of the highway department to attend a supervisory class at Bossier Parish Community College.**

There was discussion on the motion. Ms. Martin stated that there may be other employees who wish to continue their education, and asked how such requests are to be handled in the future. Mr. Rogers recommended that the Policy and Procedures Committee review this matter.

Mr. Mitchell amended his motion to approve the requested \$250 at this time, and to refer this matter to the Policy and Procedures Committee for study. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Altimus reported on the status of pending property standards issues, advising that he has notified the owner of the following properties that if the property is not brought into compliance with property standards regulations within 10 days, parish work crews will perform the work at the property owner's expense.

1837 Caplis Sligo Road, Bossier Parish, LA
 584 Millers Bluff Road, Bossier Parish, LA
 1260 Lars Road, Bossier Parish, LA

Ms. Martin advised that the District Attorney's office has advised that they will sell certain vehicles used by the District Attorney's office. She stated that some of these vehicles are in the police jury's name and it is requested that the police jury declare them as surplus to they can be sold. **Motion was made by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Rogers, to declare vehicles used by the District Attorney's office as surplus, to be advertised for sale.**

There was discussion on the motion. Mr. Rogers asked if the police jury could use any of these vehicles. **Mr. Altimus amended his motion to declare the vehicles as surplus, but that he will first determine if there are any vehicles the police jury could use. Motion, as amended, carried unanimously.**

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on this 22nd day of January, 2003, that it does hereby declare as surplus the following vehicles, and does authorize the sale of such vehicles:

1. 1998 Chevrolet Black Malibu #1G1ND52M8WY163487
2. 2000 Ford Crown Victoria #2FAFP71W4YX179745
3. 2001 Dodge Van #2B4GP44321R233307
4. 1998 GMC Extended Cab Pickup #2GTEC19R8W1538110

The resolution was offered by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Rogers. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 22nd day of January, 2003.

CHERYL G. MARTIN
 SECRETARY-TREASURER

JIMMY COCHRAN, PRESIDENT
 BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Motion was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Darby, to authorize Mr. Bill Altimus to sign Requests for Payment for LCDBG funds, and to appoint Mr. Altimus as (1) Handicapped/Section 504 Compliance/Coordinator, (2) Antidisplacement Coordinator, (3) Equal Opportunity Officer, and (4) Citizen Complaint Officer, in connection with the Louisiana Community Development Block Grant Program. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on this 22nd day of January, 2003, that it does hereby authorize Mr. Bill Altimus to sign Requests for Payment for LCDBG funds, and does appoint Mr. Altimus as (1) Handicapped/Section 504 Compliance/Coordinator, (2) Antidisplacement Coordinator, (3) Equal Opportunity Officer, and (4) Citizen Complaint Officer, in connection with the Louisiana Community Development Block Grant Program.

The resolution was offered by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Darby. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 22nd day of January, 2003.

CHERYL G. MARTIN
 SECRETARY-TREASURER

JIMMY COCHRAN, PRESIDENT
 BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Mr. Gary Cathcart, Road Superintendent, presented cost estimates for projects requested at various schools in the parish, for a total cost of \$312,000. Mr. Rogers stated that police jurors should correspond with schools within their district to see what needs to be done. He stated that police jury assistance is not intended for capital improvements. Mr. Rowe, Public Works Director, stated that parish work crews do not have time to complete the requested improvements.

Ms. Martin presented members of the Policy and Procedures Committee with a salary schedule, as previously authorized.

Ms. Martin advised that Ms. Carolyn Vishnefski, payroll specialist, will be out for two months due to surgery. After discussion, **motion was made by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Cummings, to approve the hiring of a temporary employee for approximately two months to assist in payroll, to be paid an amount not to exceed the current payroll clerk's hourly rate. Motion carried unanimously.**

There was discussion of the policies regarding extended sick leave. It was the consensus of the jury members that Ms. Vishnefski be instructed to use all her vacation and sick leave. The Policy and Procedures Committee will make a recommendation on extended sick leave.

Ms. Martin discussed the need for a Human Resources Manager for the police jury office. **Motion was made by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Hammack, to schedule a meeting of the Policy and Procedures Committee to discuss the hiring of a human resources employee in the police jury office, and to discuss any other procedures that need to be considered. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Jackson requested that the President be authorized to execute the lease agreement with Horseshoe Entertainment for the leasing of police jury property on Coleman Street, Bossier City, LA. He stated that for the first twelve months of the lease agreement Horseshoe will pay \$5,500 per month in rent, and the monthly payment will increase to \$6,000 per month for the next twelve months. **Motion was made by Mr. Meachum, seconded by Mr. Hammack, to approve the lease agreement with Horseshoe for the leasing of police jury property on Coleman Street, Bossier City, LA, and to authorize the president to execute said lease. Motion carried unanimously.**

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on this 22nd day of January, 2003, that Jimmy Cochran, President, be and is hereby authorized to execute on behalf of the Bossier Parish Police Jury, a lease agreement with Horseshoe Entertainment for the leasing of police jury property on Coleman Street, Bossier City, LA.

The resolution was offered by Mr. Meachum, seconded by Mr. Hammack. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 22nd day of January, 2003.

CHERYL G. MARTIN
SECRETARY-TREASURER

JIMMY COCHRAN, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Mr. Jackson reported that court proceedings in the Larry Taylor matter are postponed until February.

Mr. Jackson reported that in the matter of Steve's Motors on Sligo Road, some efforts have been made to comply with regulations. He stated that legal proceedings in this matter will be scheduled for a later date.

Mr. Shell reported that members of the Parks and Recreation Committee toured various recreation sites on Sunday, January 19. He stated that Mr. Ford, Parish Engineer, has been asked to review proposed improvements with the committee for discussion at the February 19 regular meeting.

Motion was made by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Johnston, to deviate from the agenda to add Mr. Joel Haston, Connection Technologies. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Joel Haston, Connection Technologies, and Mr. Jim Firth, Purchasing Manager, discussed telecommunications for the proposed courthouse renovation/jail construction projects.

Mr. Haston presented a comparative analysis of T1 circuits vs. wireless communications, advising that both are very reliable and secure. Mr. Rogers asked if jurors could view tapes, if recorded, to see the actual video. Mr. Haston stated that he hopes to take interested parties to visit a facility that has such a system in place.

Mr. Jackson asked if the system can be repaired locally in the event of damage by lightning, etc. Mr. Haston stated that the system can be repaired by a local firm, and that most damages are covered by insurance.

Mr. Kenneth Weaver, warden at the penal farm, urged the jury to look at wireless closely, stating that a T1 system is currently used in Caddo Parish and they experience minimal video delay. Jurors thanked Mr. Haston for his report.

Motion was made by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Altimus, to deviate from the agenda to add Mr. Johnny Lars, 1260 Lars Road. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Johnny Lars addressed the jury, referring to the letter he received from Mr. Altimus regarding the condition of his property. Mr. Lars stated that he has made some effort to bring his property in compliance with property standards regulations. He stated that he has moved some items, but that he intends to use some of the materials on the property to remodel his mobile home.

On October 16, 2002, Mr. Lars was granted a 60-day extension in which to clean up his property. The property was condemned at a condemnation hearing on December 18, 2002, and parish crews were authorized to clean up the property at Mr. Lars' expense. Mr. Jackson, Parish Attorney, stated that the police jury can either rescind the condemnation or ask the highway department to delay work crews for 30 days to allow Mr. Lars time to clean up his property.

Mr. Rogers requested that Mr. Rowe, Public Works Director, delay work crews for 30 days. He requested that a

video of the condition of Mr. Lars' property be provided for review at the February 19 regular meeting, advising that a final decision on this matter will be made at that time.

Mr. Johnston asked the status of obtaining a grant writer for the police jury. Mr. Cochran and Mr. Altimus will look into this.

There was discussion of the \$5,000 allocated each year to jurors for use at their discretion at parish schools. Mr. Meachum stated that he was unaware that any unused funds did not carryover to the next year. **Motion was made by Mr. Meachum, seconded by Mr. Rogers, to allow each juror to carryover the unused portion of the \$5,000 allocated each year for school improvements for one year from the prior year's budget, and any remaining balance expires with the juror's term. Motion carried unanimously.**

Motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Meachum, to send a letter to the Bossier Parish Levee District to ask that they consider construction of a fence as close as possible around the ditch located in the 4300 Block of Benton Road, north of Brownlee Road, in an effort to prevent four-wheelers from riding in the ditch. Motion carried, with Mr. Cochran opposed.

Motion was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Rogers, to schedule a public hearing on February 5, 2003, to consider approval of the plat of the resubdivision of Lot 14, Voss Road Estates, located in Section 24, Township 20 North, Range 13 West, Bossier Parish, LA. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Avery asked the status of streets in River Ridge Subdivision, and requested that core samples be sent directly to Mr. Ford for review. Mr. Altimus stated that he will look into this matter.

Mr. Shell discussed the matter of urging the State to disburse to parishes throughout the state their share of out-of-state sales tax collected on out-of-state purchases by Louisiana residents, and asked that this be brought up at the Police Jury Association Convention in New Orleans.

Mr. Shell requested that the police jury's internet web site address be included at the top of police jury minutes to be published in the Bossier Press Tribune.

Mr. Rogers stated that he has \$4,000 remaining in his 2002 allocation for school improvement projects, and stated that he has received a cost estimate of \$10,640 for construction of a walking track at Rodes Elementary and Platt Elementary. Mr. Rogers stated that he will contribute his \$4,000 toward the project, and that the principal at each school has agreed to provide \$1,000 each from their budget. Mr. Meachum agreed to contribute \$2,500 and Mr. Altimus agreed to contribute \$1,500.

Mr. Hammack referred to subdivision regulations which provide for an inspection fee of three percent of the estimated cost of construction to be charged the developer to cover costs of inspection. Mr. Altimus stated that he and Mr. Ford will review this matter and report their findings at a later date.

Mr. Avery discussed his contribution toward construction of a fence at Airline High School. Mr. Jackson advised that an invoice for the fence materials is needed. Mr. Avery agreed to contribute \$4,000.

Mr. Avery stated that the Bossier Parish School Board is proposing to install security cameras for the parking lot at Airline High School. Mr. Avery and Mr. Cochran offered \$1,000 each.

Mr. Hammack requested that Ms. Kimberly Childs be appointed to replace him on the Bossier Office of Community Services Board of Directors.

There being no further business to come before the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on this 22nd day of January, 2003, the meeting was adjourned by the President at 4:35 p.m.

CHERYL G. MARTIN
SECRETARY-TREASURER

JIMMY COCHRAN, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY