

BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY  
MINUTES  
BENTON, LOUISIANA  
July 2, 2003  
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The Bossier Parish Police Jury met in regular and legal session on this 2nd day of July, 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. Winfred Johnston. 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

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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.

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**Motion was made by Mr. Meachum, seconded by Mr. Avery, to amend the agenda to add Mr. Mark Smith. Motion carried unanimously.**

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Mr. Williams presented a resolution adopted by the police jury on June 18, 2003, to Mr. Rick Christian, expressing the jury's appreciation to Mr. Christian for his service on the Cypress-Black Bayou Recreation and Water Conservation District Board of Commissioners, and for his service on the Board of Commissioners for Benton Fire District No. 4. Mr. Williams stated that Mr. Christian has been an asset to the community, and expressed his sincere appreciation to Mr. Christian for his service to the citizens of Bossier Parish. Mr. Christian thanked jurors for allowing him the opportunity to serve on these boards.

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Mr. Mark Smith, 57 Southgate, Bossier City, LA, stated that he recently purchased property on Richwood Drive in Fernwood Estates. He stated that there are drainage problems in this area and that standing water is causing mosquito problems. Mr. Smith stated that when the police jury accepts Franwood Road and Silverwood Trail in Fernwood Estates, he is concerned that this will worsen the problem. Mr. Cathcart, Mr. Ford and Mr. Meachum are to meet with Mr. Smith at his property and make a determination on what needs to be done to correct the possible drainage problems in the area.

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Sealed bids were opened and read aloud for Overlay Project No. 03-01; the hot-mix asphaltic concrete overlay of approximately 3.60 miles of the Parks Road 1.5" thick, including related construction items, as follows:

Bidder:	Total Bid Amount:
Benton and Brown, LLC.	\$182,460.00
Martin Marietta Materials of LA, Inc.	\$192,740.00

Ms. Martin advised that each bidder has provided the required bid bond.

**Motion was made by Mr. Hammack, seconded by Mr. Cummings, to take the bids under advisement, to be tabulated and awarded at the July 16, 2003 regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.**

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Sealed bids were opened and read aloud for Overlay Project No. 03-02; the hot-mix asphaltic concrete overlay of approximately 2.00 miles of the Carterville Road 1.5" thick, and approximately 2.00 miles of the Dutch John Road, 1.5" thick, including related construction items, as follows:

Bidder:	Total Bid Amount:
Benton and Brown, LLC.	\$184,300.00
Martin Marietta Materials of LA, Inc.	\$194,000.00

Ms. Martin advised that each bidder has provided the required bid bond.

**Motion was made by Mr. Shell, seconded by Mr. Rogers, to take the bids under advisement, to be tabulated and awarded at the July 16, 2003 regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.**

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Ms. Martin announced the public hearing to consider approval of the application of Tri-State Sand & Gravel, Inc., to the Bossier City-Parish MPC for a zoning amendment to change the zoning classification of a tract of land located in Section 14, Township 18 North, Range 12 West, Bossier Parish, LA, from R-A, Residence-Agriculture District, to R-1, One-Family Residence District, for an extension to Forest Hills Subdivision. The application received a favorable recommendation by the Bossier City-Parish MPC.

Mr. Ed Kennon, Tri-State Sand & Gravel, Inc., stated that the proposed development consists of 44 lots and will include the extension of four existing streets and the addition of one new street. Mr. Rogers stated that he is in favor of the requested zoning, but advised that he has received complaints regarding the enforcement of protective covenants in Forest Hills Subdivision. There being no opposition, **motion was made by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Altimus, to approve the application of Tri-State Sand & Gravel, Inc., for a zoning amendment as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

ORDINANCE NO. 3883

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 TRACT OF LAND LOCATED IN SECTION 14, TOWNSHIP 18 NORTH, RANGE 12 WEST, BOSSIER PARISH, LA, FROM R-A, RESIDENTIAL AGRICULTURAL 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 2nd day of July, 2003, that Ordinance No. 783 of 1978 of the Police Jury of Bossier Parish, is hereby amended to change the zoning classification of a tract of land located in Section 14, Township 18 North, Range 12 West, Bossier Parish, LA, from R-A, Residence Agricultural District, to R-1, On-Family Residence District, more particularly described as follows:

A tract of land located in Section 14, Township 18 North, Range 12 West, Bossier Parish, Louisiana, being more fully described as follows: Beginning at the northeast corner of Lot 89 Forest Hills, Subdivision, Unit No. 1, as recorded in Conveyance Volume 808, Pages 713 and 714 of the records of Bossier Parish, Louisiana; Run thence South 89° 20' 38" East a distance of 479.99 feet; Run thence South a distance of 674.00 feet; Run thence North 89° 16' 50" West a distance of 59.97 feet; Run thence South a distance of 454.90 feet; Run thence South 36° 54' 26" West a distance of 1,234.82 feet; Run thence South 53° 05' 34" East a distance of 60.00 feet; Run thence South 36° 54' 26" West a distance of 235.84 feet; Run thence North 53° 05' 34" West a distance of 480.00 feet to the southeast corner of Lot 74 of said Forest Hills Subdivision, Unit No. 1; Run thence along the easterly boundary line of said Forest Hills Subdivision, Unit No. 1, North 36° 54' 26" East a distance of 1,330.51 feet and North a distance of 993.49 feet to the point of beginning of tract, containing 24.988 acres, more or less.

Applicant: Tri-State Sand & Gravel, LLC

Purpose: Addition to Forest Hills Subdivision

The ordinance was offered by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Altimus. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 2nd day of July, 2003.

CHERYL G. MARTIN

SECRETARY-TREASURER

JIMMY COCHRAN, PRESIDENT

BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Mr. Gene Couvillion, 2324 Hidden Cove, and Mr. Lonnie Shaw, 2401 Clearbrook Way, advised that as residents of Forest Hills Subdivision, they are concerned that protective covenants for the subdivision are not being followed. Mr. Couvillion discussed several locations where residents are in violation of the covenants.

Mr. Shaw agreed, stating that he feels the protective covenants should be enforced. He expressed concern as to whether the covenants will be enforced in the proposed subdivision expansion.

Mr. Rogers stated that he lives in Forest Hills Subdivision, and stated that protective covenants are designed to protect the property owner and to ensure that property values will be maintained.

Mr. Jackson, Parish Attorney, stated that the police jury does not have the authority to enforce restrictive covenants. He stated that the homeowners association is usually responsible for addressing such issues. Mr. Jackson stated that the police jury could consider adoption of regulations in which the developer would give the police jury authority to enforce protective covenants on specifically named subdivisions. Mr. Jackson is to research this matter.

Mr. Cochran requested that the developer notify homeowners who are currently in violation of the protective covenants for Forest Hills Subdivision.

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Ms. Martin announced the public hearing to consider approval of the plat of the proposed replat of Lot 1, Woodlake South, Unit No. 4, located in Section 7, Township 18 North, Range 13 West, Bossier Parish, LA. Russell and Monica Gibson, property owners, were present. Mr. Williams stated that he is in favor of the proposal, and advised that there has been no opposition. The proposal has been approved by the Benton-Parish MPC.

Ms. Gibson stated that there is also a strip of land which was platted as a part of Lot 1, which they now want to sell to the adjoining property owner. Mr. Ford, Parish Engineer, stated that this strip provides access to Lot 1, and is not a dedicated public right-of-way or easement. Mr. Gibson stated that the Woodlake South Homeowners Association has approved the proposal. There being no opposition, **motion was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Avery, to approve the proposed replat of Lot 1, Woodlake South, Unit No. 4, as presented, and to approve the selling of an additional strip of land which was platted as a part of Lot 1, to the adjoining lot owner. Motion carried unanimously.**

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Ms. Martin announced the public hearing to consider approval of the plat of the proposed subdivision of Lot 1, Forest Lake Subdivision, located in the Southeast 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 10, Township 19 North, Range 13 West, Bossier Parish, LA. Mr. Williams stated that the property owner wants to subdivide the lot and build a house there. He stated that he and Mr. Ford looked at the property, and he sees no problems. The proposal has been approved by the Benton-Parish MPC. There being no opposition, **motion was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Hammack, to approve the plat of the proposed subdivision of Lot 1, Forest Lake Subdivision, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

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**Motion was made by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Hammack, to amend the agenda to add Mr. Don Rittenberry, Bossier Sheriff's Department. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Rittenberry stated that the police jury donated a used tractor to the Sheriff's Department for use at the penal farm some time ago which no longer works properly. He stated that the Sheriff's Department has since purchased a new tractor, but stated that another larger tractor is badly needed and asked that the police jury consider this purchase. Mr. Altimus stated that a great deal of maintenance work is required at the penal farm and recommended that a tractor be purchased. He stated that the estimated cost through State contract is \$20,166. **Motion was made by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Shell, to approve the purchase of a tractor for use at the penal farm at an estimated cost of \$20,166.00. Motion carried unanimously.**

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**Motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Darby, to schedule a public hearing on August 6, 2003, to consider the application of D & R Properties of LA, LLC, to the Bossier City-Parish MPC, for a zoning amendment to change the zoning classification of a tract of land located in the southwest quarter of Section 21, Township 19 North, Range 13 West, Bossier Parish, LA, from R-A, Residence-Agriculture District, to R-1, One-Family Residence District, for an extension to an existing subdivision and a request for an amended Master Plan approval. Motion carried unanimously.**

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Mr. Ford, Parish Engineer, discussed proposed revisions to Bossier Parish subdivision regulations. He provided jurors a diagram of a lot with the proposed 120' lot frontage, advising that revisions provide that open ditch drainage will be allowed in a development consisting of lots this size provided the subdivision is supported by community water and sewer services.

There was discussion of sidewalks in a subdivision with open ditch drainage and 120' lots. Mr. Avery stated that the sidewalks would have to be located in the front yard of the residences. Mr. Rogers stated that sidewalks may not be suitable in developments with open ditch drainage. Mr. Jackson referred to developments where lots have already been sold, advising that any revisions should be made prior to the selling of lots. Mr. Rogers stated that developers should be allowed to maintain continuity in the expansion of existing developments.

Mr. Rogers stated that sidewalks are needed in larger subdivisions due to safety concerns. He stated that a waiver of this requirement could be considered in developments with open ditch drainage. Mr. Hammack agreed, stating that sidewalks are needed for safety.

After discussion, **motion was made by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Hammack, to refer this matter to the Subdivision Regulations Committee for further review of unresolved issues. Motion carried unanimously.**

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Mr. Altimus provided jurors with statistics on the number of residential building permits issued in the month of June.

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Jurors were provided a report on activities of the police jury's Human Resources employee. He requested that the Insurance Committee review the matter of health insurance coverage for employees of the Registrar of Voters office, and provide a recommendation as to whether new Registrar of Voters employees should be given the option of enrolling in the police jury or the State of Louisiana insurance plan.

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Mr. Altimus reported that the Burt family is not willing to sell the property across the street from the courthouse for use a parking lot during courthouse construction. He stated that they have offered to lease the property to the police jury for \$750 - \$1,000 per month, and stated that the jury would then spend approximately \$50,000 to construct the parking lot. Mr. Cummings asked if lots on the east end of Burt Boulevard are for sale. Mr. Cochran requested that Mr. Altimus check on lots on the east end of Burt Boulevard, and asked that he check with the Town of Benton regarding the use of Burt Boulevard for parking during construction. Mr. Avery requested that Mr. Altimus check on the availability of property just north of the courthouse also.

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**Motion was made by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Hammack, to authorize the President to execute a contract with GNF Management Company, Inc., to provide the development of a Hazard Mitigation Plan for Bossier Parish.** Mr. Shell requested that GNF Management Co., Inc., be asked to research grants which may be available for recreational development in the parish. **Mr. Rogers amended his motion to include Mr. Shell's request that GNF Management be asked to research possible grant funding for recreational sites in the parish. Motion, as amended, carried unanimously.**

#### RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on this 2nd day of July, 2003, that it does hereby authorize Mr. Jimmy Cochran, President, to execute on its behalf, the contract with GNF Management Company, Inc., to provide the development of a Hazard Mitigation Plan for Bossier Parish.

The resolution was offered by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Hammack. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 2nd day of July, 2003.

CHERYL G. MARTIN  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

JIMMY COCHRAN, PRESIDENT  
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

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**Motion was made by Mr. Meachum, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to authorize the purchase of a new truck for Mr. Cathcart, Public Works Director. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Altimus stated that revenues from timber sales on military installations, which are placed in the highway fund, will be used to purchase the truck.

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Mr. Altimus presented photos of the work being done at the site of the maximum security jail.

Mr. Altimus provided jurors a breakdown of the distribution of riverboat gaming revenues.

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Mr. Ford, Parish Engineer, stated that work is progressing on the installation of traffic signals on Airline Drive at Linton Road, advising that he signals should be installed within the next two or three weeks. He reported on a pre-bid conference regarding the Airline Drive utility relocation project. Mr. Ford stated front-end documents on the courthouse renovation/addition project are complete, and that bids for the project should be received in approximately 45 days.

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**Motion was made by Mr. Hammack, seconded by Mr. Altimus, to adopt an ordinance providing for the levy and collection of a tax of 1.97% of the weekly taxable net slot machine proceeds at Harrah's Louisiana Downs. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### ORDINANCE NO. 3884

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE LEVY AND COLLECTION OF A TAX OF ONE AND NINETY-SEVEN HUNDREDTHS PERCENT (1.97%) OF THE WEEKLY TAXABLE NET SLOT MACHINE PROCEEDS AT HARRAH'S LOUISIANA DOWNS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH LA. R.S. 27:391; AND PROVIDING FOR RELATED MATTERS.

SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED by the Bossier Parish Police Jury that it does hereby authorize the levy of a tax of 1.97% of the weekly taxable net slot machine proceeds at Harrah's Louisiana Downs, in accordance with LA. R.S. 27:391.

SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that one-half of the avails of the tax levied pursuant to this ordinance shall be remitted monthly to the Bossier Parish Police Jury.

SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that one-half of the avails of the tax levied pursuant to this ordinance shall be distributed monthly as follows:

One-third to the Town of Benton  
 One-third to the Town of Haughton  
 One-third to the Town of Plain Dealing

SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the tax herein imposed shall be effective upon commencement of slot machine operations at Harrah's Louisiana Downs.

The ordinance was offered by Mr. Hammack, seconded by Mr. Altimus. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 2nd day of July, 2003.

CHERYL G. MARTIN  
 SECRETARY-TREASURER

JIMMY COCHRAN, PRESIDENT  
 BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

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Mr. Cathcart, Public Works Director, reported on mosquito control in the parish. He stated that the overlay of 21 roads are complete, and advised that the Ivan Lake dam has been repaired.

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**Motion was made by Mr. Hammack, seconded by Mr. Rogers, to adjourn into executive session to discuss the following:**

1. Bossier Parish Police Jury vs. Larry Taylor
2. Billy Brooks Hudson vs. the City of Bossier City

**Motion carried with the following vote recorded:**

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

**Nays: None**

**Absent: None**

**Abstain: None**

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The meeting was reconvened and called to order by the President. **Motion was made by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Hammack, to authorize payment to Mr. Mark Montgomery for an appraisal in connection with the expropriation of property owned by Mr. Larry Taylor for the Airline Drive expansion project. Motion carried unanimously.**

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**Motion was made by Mr. Hammack, seconded by Mr. Rogers, to authorize Mr. Altimus to send a letter to Brown Builders, Inc., authorizing them to proceed with Alternate No. 2 on the maximum security jail project, which provides for the installation of exterior metal wall panels. Motion carried unanimously.**

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**Motion was made by Mr. Johnston, seconded by Mr. Shell, to amend the agenda to add representatives of Bossier Parish Fire District No. 7. Motion carried unanimously.** Mr. Johnston, speaking on behalf of the representatives present, advised that due to a wetlands issue it is requested that the proposed fire station at the penal farm/jail site be relocated across the road. **Motion was made by Mr. Johnston, seconded by Mr. Altimus, to authorize the relocation of the proposed fire station to police jury property at the maximum security jail site due to a wetlands issue. Motion carried unanimously.** Mr. Johnston reported that the fire district is ready to advertise for bids for construction of Fire Station No. 1, which is to be constructed on Millers Bluff Road with funds from the Louisiana Community Development Block Grant program.

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Mr. Shell presented jurors with a map of property owned by the police jury off Old Brownlee Road, and advised that the City of Bossier City may consider this property for location of a park.

Mr. Shell stated that Mr. Cathcart has provided estimated maintenance costs for recreational sites in the parish, and recommended that the Parks and Recreation Committee review this matter. Mr. Altimus recommended that this be considered during budget hearings. The jury concurred.

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**Motion was made by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Hammack, to schedule a public hearing on Thursday, August 14, 2003, to consider the creation of a sewage district in Mr. Rogers' district. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Rogers stated that he wants to hold the hearing in the proposed district and a time and location will be determined at a later date.

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Mr. Hammack reported that he has received a request for assistance from the owner of recently purchased property in the Ranchtown Subdivision regarding tires on the property. He stated that there are approximately 200 large truck tires on the property, and that he understands from the previous owner of the property, that the Levee Board placed the tires there. **Motion was made by Mr. Hammack, seconded by Mr. Meachum, to request an affidavit from the previous owner of property in Ranchtown Subdivision, stating that the Levee Board placed old tires on the property, and to request that the Levee Board move the tires to the Bossier Parish highway barn for pick up by the State. Motion carried unanimously.**

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**Motion was made by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Johnston, to establish a 15 mile per hour speed limit on a portion of Wemple Road beginning at the curve. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### ORDINANCE NO. 3885

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE SPEED OF VEHICLES ON THE LAST 1,000 FEET AT THE NORTH END OF WEMPLE ROAD, LOCATED IN SECTION 34, TOWNSHIP 19 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST, BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA, AND PROVIDING THE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF.

SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED by the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session convened on this 2nd day of July, 2003, that from and after the effective date of this ordinance, it shall be unlawful for any person to operate or drive a vehicle upon the last 1,000 feet at the north end of Wemple Road in Section 34, Township 19 North, Range 13 West, Bossier Parish, Louisiana, in excess of Fifteen (15) miles per hour.

SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, etc., that any person found guilty of violating the provisions of this ordinance, shall be fined a sum not to exceed One Hundred and no/100 Dollars (\$100.00), or imprisoned for not more than thirty (30) days, or both.

SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, etc., that all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

The ordinance was offered by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Johnston. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 2nd day of July, 2003.

CHERYL G. MARTIN  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

JIMMY COCHRAN, PRESIDENT  
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

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Mr. Mitchell reported that the abandoned bridge off Wemple Road over Willow Chute Bayou has been removed, and that barricades are in place.

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Mr. Ford recommended that the speed limit on a portion of Airline Drive be reduced from 50 miles per hour to 45 miles per hour during the utility relocation project. Mr. Rogers asked if signs could be placed on the road which state that fines will be doubled in work zones. Mr. Jackson is to research this. **Motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Altimus, to temporarily reduce the speed limit on Airline Drive from the Bossier City limits to just north of LeOaks Drive, from 50 miles per hour to 45 miles per hour during the utility relocation project. Motion carried unanimously.**

ORDINANCE NO. 3886

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE SPEED OF VEHICLES ON AIRLINE DRIVE FROM THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF BOSSIER CITY NORTH TO LEOAKS DRIVE, LOCATED IN SECTIONS 28 AND 33, TOWNSHIP 19 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST, AND IN SECTION 4, TOWNSHIP 18 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST, BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA, AND PROVIDING THE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF.

SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED by the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session convened on this 2nd day of July, 2003, that from and after the effective date of this ordinance, it shall be unlawful for any person to operate or drive a vehicle upon Airline Drive for a distance of 1.7 miles from the corporate limits of the City of Bossier City to just north of LeOaks Drive, in Sections 28 and 33, Township 19 North, Range 13 West, and in Section 4, Township 18 North, Range 13 West, Bossier Parish, Louisiana, in excess of forty-five (45) miles per hour.

SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, etc., that any person found guilty of violating the provisions of this ordinance, shall be fined a sum not to exceed One Hundred and no/100 Dollars (\$100.00), or imprisoned for not more than thirty (30) days, or both.

SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, etc., that all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

The ordinance was offered by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Altimus. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 2nd day of July, 2003.

CHERYL G. MARTIN  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

JIMMY COCHRAN, PRESIDENT  
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

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There being no further business to come before the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on this 2nd day of July, 2003, the meeting was adjourned by the President at 4.30 p.m.

CHERYL G. MARTIN  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

JIMMY COCHRAN, PRESIDENT  
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY