

BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY
MINUTES
BENTON, LOUISIANA
May 19, 2004
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The Bossier Parish Police Jury met in regular and legal session on this 19th day of May, 2004, at 2:00 p.m., in the Police Jury Meeting Room, Bossier Parish Courthouse, Benton, Louisiana. The President, Mr. Rick Avery, called the meeting to order. The invocation was given by Mr. Wayne Hammack and the pledge of allegiance was led by Mr. Jimmy Cochran. The Secretary-Treasurer, Cheryl Martin, called the roll, with Mr. Shell absent and excused, 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, excused
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. Hammack, seconded by Mr. Cummings, to adopt the minutes of the April 7, 2004 regular meeting, as published. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Cummings, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to adopt the minutes of the April 21, 2004 regular meeting, as published. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Meachum, seconded by Mr. Darby, to amend the agenda to add Mr. Jim Pesnell, Entergy. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Cochran, to amend the agenda to add Coach Tim Cram, Benton High School golf team. Motion carried unanimously.

Coach Billy Don McHalfey, Bossier High School, expressed appreciation for the police jury's assistance to the athletic program at Bossier High School. Members of the Bossier High School football team were present. Coach McHalfey presented to the police jury, a football signed by the members of the Bossier High School football team and a track baton.

Mr. Cochran commended the coaches at Bossier High School for the tremendous success of a fund raising event held recently for the family of the late Coach Shannon Babineaux.

Members of the jury expressed their appreciation to the coaching staff for their dedication to the athletic program at Bossier High School.

Mr. Williams introduced Coach Tim Cram, coach of the Benton High School golf team, congratulating Coach Cram and the members of the golf team on winning the 2003-2004 Class 3A State Golf Championship. **Motion was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Cochran, to adopt a resolution proclaiming May 19, 2004, as Benton High School Tigers Golf Team Day in Bossier Parish. Motion carried unanimously.**

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the 2003-2004 Benton High School Golf Team won the Class 3A State Golf Championship at Olde Oaks Golf Course on May 4, 2004; and

WHEREAS, this is Benton High School's first team golf championship in the history of the school; and

WHEREAS, at the Regional Golf Tournament at Palmetto Country Club on April 26, 2004, the Benton Tigers shot the lowest score in school history.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Bossier Parish Police Jury on this 19th day of May, 2004, that it does hereby express its congratulations to Coach Tim Cram and members of the 2003-2004 Benton High School Golf Team, Brooks Davis, Aaron Thomas, Bobby Hartzog, Kevin Singletary, Chase Sawyer, Jared Provenza, Stephen Ell, Craig Byrd and Adam Nixon, on winning the 2003-2004 Class 3A State Golf Championship, and does hereby declare May 19, 2004, as

BENTON HIGH SCHOOL TIGERS
GOLF TEAM DAY

in Bossier Parish. The resolution was offered by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Cochran. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 19th day of May, 2004.

CHERYL G. MARTIN
SECRETARY-TREASURER

RICK AVERY, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Mr. Gary Kettinger advised of a problem with mosquitoes at Fish Bayou near Pecan Grove Subdivision. He advised that the water is standing and stated that the bayou should be dug out so the water will begin to flow. Mr. Altimus stated that the area is designated as wetlands and the Corps of Engineers has input as to any action taken. Mr. Ford, Parish Engineer, stated that residents along the bayou are required to obtain a permit from the Corps of Engineers before any digging work can be done. He stated that all residents should participate in the project, advising that it will not be beneficial if only certain areas are dug out. Mr. Ford is to work with Mr. Kettinger on this matter.

Mr. Floyd McLeod, 106 Ace Street, requested the jury's assistance in repairing the streets in King Country Subdivision. Mr. Ford advised that the streets in King Country Subdivision are private, gravel roads, owned by the developer. He recommended that the police jury notify the developer of the complaints received, and request that he repair these roads.

Mr. Meachum stated that if the developer will improve these roads to parish specifications for road acceptance, he will request next year that the roads be accepted into the parish road system in accordance with regulations pertaining to the acceptance of gravel roads.

Ms. Lillian Garrett spoke from the audience, advising that she has contacted Belle Cheri Land Company, developer, many times regarding the condition of the roads, but has gotten no response.

Mr. Rogers referred to Mr. Meachum's offer to accept the roads in King Country Subdivision into the parish road system, advising that current regulations apply only to those gravel roads which existed prior to May 12, 1999. He stated that an amendment to current regulations may be necessary. The Parish Attorney is to review current regulations for consideration at the June 2, 2004 regular meeting.

Mr. David Poston was not present.

Mr. Jim Pesnell, Entergy, requested a resolution of support for LIHEAP funding. He stated that these funds are used to provide assistance to low income families for utility bill payments and home weatherization. Mr. Pesnell stated that the majority of LIHEAP funds are distributed in the northern states and Entergy is trying to encourage more funding to the southern central United States. **Motion was made by Mr. Darby, seconded by Mr. Meachum, to adopt a resolution supporting Entergy in efforts to obtain LIHEAP Funding. Motion carried unanimously.**

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR LIHEAP FUNDING

WHEREAS, LIHEAP serves only 15 percent of those eligible in our states. In fact, since the program was instituted in 1981, LIHEAP's inflation-adjusted buying power has sagged to 48 percent of its original size; and

WHEREAS, LIHEAP is reauthorized this year, the ceiling on spending may be raised from \$2 billion to \$3.4 billion. Although increasing the reauthorization level is essential, the real battle will be increasing the base-level LIHEAP appropriations, which have rarely exceeded \$1.8 billion. In fact, the President recently announced his budget request for FY 2005, and included \$1.8 billion in base level funding for LIHEAP, plus \$200 million in emergency contingency funding. This amount remains vastly inadequate to meet the need, and there is no assurance that Congress will appropriate even this amount; and

WHEREAS, LIHEAP formula severely discriminates against people in our section of the country and is based on several outdated premises and ignores the fact that extreme heat is as detrimental to the health and lives of people as extreme cold. The basic formula favors northern states and is driven by decades-old population, income and energy price data; and

WHEREAS, the long term solution to poverty and energy affordability has to be in reducing energy consumption and expenditures. To do this, the Federal Weatherization Assistance Program needs to be more adequately funded in order to assist those living in substandard, leaky, inefficient housing to insulate their homes.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the entire Louisiana Congressional Delegation is urged to advocate federal legislation and appropriations bills that:

Increase national funding for LIHEAP to at least \$3.4 billion annually beginning in Fiscal year 2005.

Increase national funding for WAP to at least \$290 million annually beginning in Fiscal Year 2005; provide for advanced funding for both LIHEAP and WAP, so as to increase the ability of the states to plan more efficiently the distribution of funds for bill payment assistance and weatherization assistance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as an alternative to achieving success in increasing very substantial increases in total appropriations for LIHEAP and WAP, the delegation is urged to join with other members of the House and Senate from the South and West in support of legislation that would rectify the regional funding biases and inequities produced by the current LIHEAP distribution formula by removing the factor that squares the number of heating degree days and by inserting new factors that account more fairly for demographic, climate, economic and technological changes that have occurred since the distribution formula was last amended in 1985.

The resolution was offered by Mr. Darby, seconded by Mr. Meachum. Upon vote, it was duly adopted on this 19th day of May, 2004.

CHERYL G. MARTIN
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RICK AVERY, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Sealed bids were opened and read aloud for the sale of surplus property at 725 Butler Street, Bossier City, LA. Minimum bid acceptable is \$2,301.26, and includes taxes owed the City of Bossier City. Ms. Martin advised that the bid of Antioch Baptist Church in the amount of \$2,301.26, is the only bid received. **Motion was made by Mr. Cochran, seconded by Mr. Johnston, to accept the bid of Antioch Baptist Church in the amount of \$2,301.26, which includes taxes owed the City of Bossier City, for the purchase of surplus property at 725 Butler Street, Bossier City, LA. Motion carried unanimously.**

Motion was made by Mr. Cochran, seconded by Mr. Williams, to schedule a public hearing on June 2, 2004, to consider relocation of the precinct polling place for Precinct 2-10, from Plantation Park School, 2410 Plantation Drive, to Central Baptist Church, 2225 Airline Drive, Bossier City. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Darby, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to schedule a public hearing on June 2, 2004, to consider the consolidation and/or geographical split of certain voting precincts in Bossier Parish. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Johnston, to schedule a public hearing on June 16, 2004, to consider the application of Blackhawk Resources, Inc., to the Bossier City-Parish MPC for a zoning amendment to change the zoning classification of a 586.85 acre tract of land located in Sections 1, 2 and 12, Township 18 North, Range 13 West, and in Sections 35 and 36, Township 19 North, Range 13 West, Bossier Parish, LA, from R-A, Residence Agriculture District, to R-LD, Residential-Low Density District, for a single family residential subdivision. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Altimus, to schedule a public hearing on June 16, 2004, to consider the application of O. B. Pounders to the Bossier City-Parish MPC for a zoning amendment to

change the zoning classification of a 121.379 acre tract of land located in Sections 5, 33 and 32, Township 19 North, Range 13 West, Bossier Parish, LA, from I-1 and I-2, Light and Heavy Industry District, to R-LD, Residential-Low Density District, for a single family residences and town homes. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Johnston, to schedule a public hearing on June 16, 2004, to consider the application of Chris Clark/Bossier Federal Credit Union to the Bossier City-Parish MPC for a zoning amendment to change the zoning classification of a 2.528 acre tract of land located in Section 33, Township 19 North, Range 13 West, Bossier Parish, LA, from R-A, Residential-Agriculture District, to B-2, Limited Business District, for a credit union branch. Motion carried, with Mr. Williams and Mr. Cochran opposing.

Motion was made by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Johnston, to schedule a public hearing on June 16, 2004, to consider the application of Bruce Logan to the Bossier City-Parish MPC for a zoning amendment to change the zoning classification of a 13.60 acre tract of land located in Section 8, Township 18 North, Range 12 West, Bossier Parish, LA, from R-A, Residential-Agriculture District, to R-LD, Residential-Low Density District, for a single-family residential subdivision. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Irvin Grant, Supervisor at the Bossier Parish Juvenile Detention Center, presented statistics for the facility for the month of April, 2004. Mr. Altimus reported on a pre-construction meeting regarding the proposed expansion of the detention facility, advising that construction should begin within two weeks.

Motion was made by Mr. Meachum, seconded by Mr. Darby, to table the matter of an appointment to the Board of Commissioners for Bossier Parish Fire District No. 6. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Cochran, to table condemnation of the following properties, to allow further inspection. Motion carried unanimously.

- 1) 617 Princeton Road, Princeton, LA
- 2) 641 Chandler Road, Haughton, LA
- 3) 911 Villa Lane, Haughton, LA
- 4) 5212 Clover Lane, Bossier City, LA
- 5) 5216 Timothy, Bossier City, LA
- 6) 5213 John Wilson, Bossier City, LA
- 7) 5255 John Wilson, Bossier City, LA

Motion was made by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Cochran to ratify the President's signature on a Letter Agreement in connection with acquisition of Parcel P-39 owned by North Airline Self Storage, L.L.C., for the Airline Drive Expansion Project. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on this 19th day of May, 2004, that Rick Avery, President, be and is hereby authorized to execute on its behalf, a Letter Agreement in connection with the purchase of right-of-way (Parcel P-39) owned by North Airline Self Storage, L.L.C., for the Airline Drive Expansion Project.

The resolution was offered by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Cochran. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 19th day of May, 2004.

CHERYL G. MARTIN
SECRETARY-TREASURER

RICK AVERY, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Mr. Ford, Parish Engineer, stated that construction signs are in place on Airline Drive, and that utility relocation work began today. Mr. Ford stated that due to delays in completing a turn lane project on Benton Road, the LA Department of Transportation and Development has requested that the police jury delay for one week the closing of Airline Drive for the bridge replacement project. He stated that Airline Drive will be closed on Tuesday, June 1, 2004 and the project is scheduled to be completed on August 17, 2004. Mr. Ford stated that message boards will be put up on Airline Drive notifying the public of the proposed road closing date.

Mr. Altimus discussed the matter of right-of-way acquisition along Airline Drive on property owned by Dr. Keith Christy, advising that two appraisals of this property have been performed. He stated that Dr. Christy has made a counteroffer. Mr. Jackson, Parish Attorney, recommended that the jury move forward with expropriation of this property, **Motion was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Hammack, to proceed with the expropriation of Parcels 34 and 35 owned by Gilbert Keith Christy and Katherine Leslie Christy. Motion carried, with Mr. Avery opposing.**

Mr. Altimus advised that a topping off ceremony is planned at the maximum security jail construction site on May 21, 2004. An owners meeting is to be held at 1:30 p.m., followed by a tour of the jail at 2:00 p.m.

Mr. Altimus reported that to date, 10 roads in the 2004 Road Overlay Program have been completed.

Mr. Altimus presented a letter of appreciation from the Bossier Restoration Foundation for the police jury's assistance in donating a sign and in providing sand bags during its recent festival.

Mr. Altimus reviewed the Blue Cross/Blue Shield first quarter utilization report for 2004 for the police jury's group health insurance.

Mr. Ford reported on a meeting with FEMA representatives, advising that new flood maps are now complete and that they hope to have them published within six months.

Mr. Ford discussed the need for repair of concrete streets in several subdivisions, advising that road conditions in Cross Creek Subdivision should be addressed as soon as possible. He recommended that a concrete road repair program be considered up to an amount of approximately \$200,000 per year. Mr. Altimus recommended that this expenditure be taken from the Highway Fund Reserve. Mr. Avery stated that repairs in Cross Creek should be done immediately. Mr. Rogers suggested that repairs be made in Cross Creek Subdivision now, and that the matter of establishing a concrete road repair program be considered in the 2005 budget.

After discussion, motion was made by Mr. Cochran, seconded by Mr. Williams, to approve emergency funds for repair of concrete streets in Cross Creek Subdivision, subject to review of cost estimate for the project as prepared by Mr. Ford. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Cathcart, Public Works Director, reported that 279 areas have been treated for mosquitoes since May 1.

There was discussion of the Johnson-Koran Road which is scheduled for overlay in the 2004 Road Overlay Program. Mr. Cathcart stated that with the amount of oil trucks/equipment traveling this road, he does not feel the proposed two-inch overlay of the road will last. Mr. Cathcart is to prepare a cost estimate for 12-inch soil cement with chip seal of the Johnson-Koran Road.

Motion was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Cochran, to approve an expenditure of \$3,500 for purchase of the road right-of-way for Hickory Lane from Mr. Mark Montgomery. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Hammack, to amend the agenda to adjourn into executive session to discuss the matter of Bossier Parish Police Jury vs. the City of Shreveport and Harrah's and Hollywood Casinos. 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. Williams.

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Mr. Shell

The meeting was reconvened and called to order by the President. **Motion was made by Mr. Johnston, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to establish a 30 mile per hour speed limit on the Thornton Road. Motion carried unanimously.**

ORDINANCE NO. 3941

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE SPEED OF VEHICLES ON THORNTON ROAD, LOCATED OFF LOUISIANA HIGHWAY 3, IN SECTION 16, TOWNSHIP 21 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 19th day of May, 2004, that from and after the effective date of this ordinance, it shall be unlawful for any person to operate or drive a vehicle upon Thornton Road, located off Louisiana Highway 3, in Section 16, Township 21 North, Range 13 West, Bossier Parish, Louisiana, in excess of Thirty (30) miles per hour.

SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, etc., that all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

The ordinance was offered by Mr. Johnston, seconded by Mr. Mitchell. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 19th day of May, 2004.

CHERYL G. MARTIN
SECRETARY-TREASURER

RICK AVERY, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Mr. Johnston advised that Northeast Bossier Parish Fire District No. 5 has requested authority to obtain a loan from Citizens National Bank in the amount of \$284, 216 for the purchase of two new pumper trucks. He stated that the fire district plans to put \$50,000 down and borrow the balance from Citizens National Bank on a five-year note payable once annually. Citizens National Bank has approved the loan, and approval from the Louisiana Bond Commission and from the Bossier Parish Police Jury is needed. **Motion was made by Mr. Johnston, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to authorize Northeast Bossier Parish Fire District No. 5 to proceed with the borrowing of funds from Citizens National Bank for the purchase of two new pumper trucks for the fire district. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Johnston requested that Ms. Olga Cheliss be provided documentation of when an open well at her residence on Highway 2 west of Plain Dealing was closed due to a safety hazard.

Motion was made by Mr. Meachum, seconded by Mr. Cummings, to establish a 35 mile per hour speed limit on the Union Texas Road, and to place "No Littering" signs on the road. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 3942

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE SPEED OF VEHICLES ON UNION TEXAS ROAD, LOCATED OFF LOUISIANA HIGHWAY 157, IN SECTIONS 29 AND 32, TOWNSHIP 18 NORTH, RANGE 11 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 19th day of May, 2004, that from and after the effective date of this ordinance, it shall be unlawful for any person to

operate or drive a vehicle upon Union Texas Road, located off Louisiana Highway 157, in Sections 29 and 32, Township 18 North, Range 11 West, Bossier Parish, Louisiana, in excess of Thirty-Five (35) miles per hour.

SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, etc., that all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

The ordinance was offered by Mr. Meachum, seconded by Mr. Cummings. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 19th day of May, 2004.

CHERYL G. MARTIN
SECRETARY-TREASURER

RICK AVERY, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Mr. Cochran recommended that the purchase of a new vehicle for the Parish Administrator be considered. **Motion was made by Mr. Cochran, seconded by Mr. Rogers, to pursue the purchase of a new vehicle for the Parish Administrator. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Rogers reported that the Bossier Parish School Board has addressed a drainage problem at the Houghton High School softball field, and advised that he will contribute \$4,000 for repairs of the Houghton High School softball field. **Motion was made by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Meachum, that Mr. Rogers will contribute \$4,000 from his discretionary funds for repairs to the softball field at Houghton High School. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Rogers requested that Mr. Ford look at a ditch problem at 109 South Meadow.

There being no further business to come before the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on this 19th day of May, 2004, the meeting was adjourned by the President at 4:05 p.m.

CHERYL G. MARTIN
SECRETARY-TREASURER

RICK AVERY, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY