

BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY  
BENTON, LOUISIANA  
MINUTES  
November 1, 2006  
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The Bossier Parish Police Jury met in regular and legal session on the 1st day of November, 2006, at 2:00 p.m., in the Police Jury Meeting Room, Bossier Parish Courthouse, Benton, Louisiana. The President, Mr. Jerome Darby, called the meeting to order. The invocation was given by Mr. Eddy Shell and the pledge of allegiance was led by Mr. Rick Avery. The Secretary-Treasurer, Ms. Cheryl Martin, called the roll, with Mr. Cummings and Mr. Williams absent, as follows:

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

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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; Ms. Cheryl Martin, Secretary-Treasurer.

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**Motion was made by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Hammack, to amend the agenda to add Ms. Suzie Stinson. Motion carried unanimously.**

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Mr. Kenneth Starnes, Section 8 Housing Director, requested approval of the Annual Agency Plan for Section 8 Housing, advising that there are no changes. **Motion was made by Mr. Meachum, seconded by Mr. Avery, to adopt the Annual Agency Plan for the Bossier Parish Section 8 Housing Program. Motion carried unanimously.**

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Mr. David Rockett of the Greater Bossier Economic Development Foundation has advised that he is unable to attend the meeting, but has requested that Mr. Altimus speak on his behalf. Mr. Altimus stated that the Greater Bossier Economic Development Foundation has reduced its 2007 budget request from \$8,000 to \$2,000. **Motion was made by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Johnston, to approve a 2007 budget appropriation of \$2,000 to the Greater Bossier Economic Development Foundation. Motion carried unanimously.**

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Ms. Jerre Perry, Department of Health and Hospitals, discussed the 2007 budget request that the police jury fund the salaries for two additional employees at the health unit. She stated that state funding to local health units has been reduced, and advised that two additional employees at the Bossier Parish Health Unit are badly needed. Ms. Perry stated that it is requested that one clerical employee and one nurse's aid be hired at entry level positions. She recommended that the nurse's aid position start at \$7.00 per hour and the clerical position start at \$8.00 per hour. Ms. Perry stated that if approved, these employees would be on the police jury payroll and eligible for employee benefits through the police jury.

There was discussion of salaries. Mr. Altimus suggested that the recommended salary for each position be incorporated into the police jury's current salary scale. Mr. Rogers expressed concern regarding the police jury's liability, as they would have no direct supervision over these employees. The matter is to be further reviewed during budget proceedings.

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Mr. Richey Jackson discussed activities of the Children and Youth Planning Board, advising that a lot of work has been done. He recognized several members of the board for their hard work, and advised that a summary of their accomplishments has been forwarded to the Governor's office. Mr. Jackson advised that their Technology Committee is working to establish a pilot program for utilizing technology to enhance communication and information sharing among all agencies that deal with juveniles in the 26<sup>th</sup> Judicial District.

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Ms. Suzie Stinson, Court Administrator, discussed the 2007 budget request from the judges' office that \$9,000 be added to each court reporter's salary in exchange for transcript fees being turned over to the police jury. Ms. Stinson stated court reporters will be responsible for billing the attorneys and turning the money over to the police jury. She stated that due to the growth in Bossier Parish, there are more transcript funds. The matter is to be discussed during budget hearings.

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**Motion was made by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Rogers, to authorize the advertising for bids for annual supplies and tires for the Bossier Parish Highway Department; bids to be received December 6, 2006. Motion carried unanimously.**

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**Motion was made by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to schedule a public hearing on December 6, 2006, to consider approval of the application of Craig Ball to the Bossier City-Parish MPC for a zoning amendment to change the zoning classification of a 4.5 acre tract located in Section 9, Township 18 North, Range 13 West, Bossier Parish, LA, from R-A, Residential-Agriculture District, R-LD, Residential Low Density District, for a subdivision. (east side of Bellevue Road, north of Highway 80) Motion carried unanimously.**

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**Motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Meachum, to schedule a public hearing on December 6, 2006, to consider approval of the application of Hamlin Electric to the Bossier City-Parish MPC for a zoning amendment to change the zoning classification of Lot 1, Willow Chute Commercial Subdivision, Unit 2, Bossier Parish, LA, from R-A, Residential-Agriculture District, to B-3, General Business District, for retail/office/warehouse use. (east side of Airline Drive, south of North Willow Drive) Motion carried unanimously.**

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**Motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Johnston, to schedule a public hearing on December 6, 2006, to consider approval of the application of Benton Road Properties, LLC, to the Bossier City-Parish MPC,**

for a zoning amendment to change the zoning classification of a tract of land located in Section 29, Township 19 North, Range 13 West, Bossier Parish, LA, from R-A, Residential-Agriculture District, to B-3, General Business District, for a convenience store. (southeast corner of Lafitte Lane and Benton Road) Motion carried unanimously.

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Motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to schedule a public hearing on December 6, 2006, to consider approval of the application of Benton Road Properties, LLC, to the Bossier City-Parish MPC, for a Conditional Use Approval on a B-3 tract of land at 5050 Benton Road, Bossier Parish, LA, for the retail sale of packaged low-content alcohol at a convenience store. (southeast corner of Lafitte Lane and Benton Road) Motion carried unanimously.

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Mr. Johnston reported that the owner of property at 10505 Highway 3, Plain Dealing, LA, is making an effort to bring the property into compliance with property standards regulations and requested that no action be taken at this time. The jury concurred.

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Motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Meachum, to table the condemnation hearing to consider condemnation of property at 5212 Clover Lane, Bossier City, LA. Motion carried unanimously.

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Mr. Ford, Parish Engineer, discussed the request for acceptance of Eighty Acres Drive into the parish road maintenance system, advising that in order to clarify the road right-of-way, the entire plat of Eighty Acres Subdivision must be re-platted. He stated that he has obtained a cost of \$3,000 to survey and replat the property.

Mr. Jackson, Parish Attorney, stated that every homeowner must agree to donate the needed right-of-way. Mr. Andrew Jeanise, 8030 Eighty Acres Drive, stated that every homeowner along the road has signed the petition requesting that the road be accepted.

Mr. Altimus stated that funding may be available from the State that could be used to improve the road. Mr. Cochran stated that residents should pay the costs for surveying and replatting the subdivision.

Ms. Elaine Chreene, 8050 Eighty Acres Drive, stated that residents are only asking for a road that's passable. She stated that there are times when residents have to walk to their homes.

Mr. Johnston stated that he will accept the road into the parish road system in accordance with regulations which provide that jurors are allowed to take in three gravel roads or a total of three miles of gravel roads into the parish road system per year. Mr. Ford, Parish Engineer, stated that he will work with the residents regarding surveying and replatting requirements and payment of these costs.

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Mr. Altimus advised of correspondence from Timberland Services regarding the requested abandonment of an undeveloped subdivision at the end of Mayfield Road, advising that they are working with the remaining lot owners in an effort to secure ownership of this property.

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Mr. Altimus reported that a letter has been received from the United States Department of the Interior offering the former beacon site at Barksdale Air Force Base to the police jury at no charge for use as a public park or recreational area. He stated that the property is a vacant site located off Sligo Road. **Motion was made by Mr. Shell, seconded by Mr. Cochran, to accept the offer for this property to be used for public recreational purposes. Motion carried unanimously.**

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Mr. Altimus advised of an offer from Global Signal to purchase easement rights owned by the police jury on two water towers in the industrial park. It was the consensus of the jury to refuse this offer.

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Mr. Ford, Parish Engineer, reported that the new Benton Library is now substantially complete, and that final touch-ups are being made.

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Mr. Ford stated that he has inspected the sites of the proposed W. T. Lewis and Legacy schools, advising that he is reviewing traffic, drainage, water and sewer.

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Mr. Ford advised that residents have expressed traffic concerns regarding a proposed apartment complex to be located behind LeOaks.

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Mr. Ford presented Plan Change No. 20 on the courthouse renovation/addition project. He stated that a new door must be cut in at the snack shop area and stated that a new door will be installed in the unfinished area. He further stated that substrate repair to toilet floors is needed.

Mr. Ford stated that the need for fire caulking in an area on the outside wall of the old building may result in additional costs and advised that this matter will be addressed with the Fire Marshal later this week. **Motion was made by Mr. Cochran, seconded by Mr. Shell, to approve Plan Change No. 20 on the courthouse renovation/addition project, up to \$47,000 and no change in contract days. Motion carried unanimously.**

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of November, 2006, that Jerome Darby, President, be and is hereby authorized to execute on behalf of the Bossier Parish Police Jury, Plan Change No. 20 on the courthouse renovation/addition project in an amount of up to \$47,000.

The resolution was offered by Mr. Cochran, seconded by Mr. Shell. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of November, 2006.

CHERYL G. MARTIN  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

JEROME DARBY, PRESIDENT  
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

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Mr. Cathcart, Public Works Director, reported that parish crews are working on the Parish Camp Road and

performing general ditch and drainage maintenance. He referred to the proposed relocation of fuel tanks at the old highway barn in Haughton, advising of an offer for the sale of approximately 26 acres located in south Bossier for \$180,000.

Mr. Avery requested that Mr. Cathcart check into the matter of grading work on the Cotton Valley Road, advising that he has received a complaint from property owners at the end of the road that parish crews did not grade this portion of the road.

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Mr. Cochran commended State Trooper Doug Pierrelee and Mr. Kim Gaspard, Principal at Airline High School, for their help to students in handling the death of three Airline High School students in an automobile accident.

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**Motion was made by Mr. Shell, seconded by Mr. Johnston, to schedule a public hearing on December 6, 2006, to adopt the 2007 Bossier Parish Police Jury budget. Motion carried unanimously.**

There was discussion of requests for 2007 budget appropriations. Mr. Rogers stated that the Board of Directors for Haughton Dixie Baseball will meet and discuss donating to the police jury, the Haughton athletic complex property off Little League Drive.

Mr. Jackson, Parish Attorney, advised that Ms. Susie Morgan, police jury lobbyist, has requested a salary increase and recommended an increase of \$12,000 for 2007.

**Motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to approve requests for 2007 budget appropriations, as follows. Motion carried unanimously.**

	Approved 2007 Request
<b>GENERAL FUND:</b>	
Coroner's Office	\$281,250.00
Registrar of Voters	\$ 35,000.00
Bossier City-Parish MPC	\$101,887.00
Benton-Parish MPC	\$ 14,000.00
Office of Emergency Preparedness	\$ 22,985.00
Veterans Affairs	\$ 16,836.00
Bossier Council on Aging	\$ 65,000.00
Coordinating and Development Corporation	\$ 14,820.00
Greater Bossier Economic Development	\$ 2,000.00
Cooperative Extension Service	\$ 29,800.00
<b>CRIMINAL COURT FUND:</b>	
Judges' Office (court reporter salaries)	\$330,000.00
The jury agreed to a one-year trial period for this request.	
District Attorney's Office (3.3% COLA increase)	\$292,000.00
(\$5,000 for investigator, \$15,000 for equipment lease)	+\$20,000.00

**CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES FUND:**

Minimum security facility – (request increase for equipment, lease of copier/fax, HVAC upgrade)

Maximum security facility – (maintenance agreements for HVAC and fire protection)

These costs are included in the regular maintenance budget for these facilities.

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS**

Courthouse Security \$200,700.00

**Motion was made by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Avery, to approve a \$12,000 salary increase for 2007 for Ms. Susie Morgan, police jury Federal lobbyist. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion was made by Mr. Johnston, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to approve a 3.3% COLA increase for 2007 for police jury employees. Motion carried unanimously.**

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**Motion was made by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to amend the agenda to adjourn into executive session to discuss the matter of Jamie Williams vs. Bossier Parish Police Jury. Motion carried, with the following vote recorded:**

**AYES: Mr. Altimus, Mr. Avery, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Darby, Mr. Johnston, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Meachum, Mr. Rogers, Mr. Shell.**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSTAIN: None**

**ABSENT: Mr. Cummings, Mr. Williams**

**ABSENT FROM VOTING: Mr. Hammack**

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The meeting was reconvened and called to order by the President. There being no further business to come before the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of November, 2006, the meeting was adjourned by the President at 4:45 p.m.

CHERYL G. MARTIN  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

JEROME DARBY, PRESIDENT  
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY