

BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY
BENTON, LOUISIANA
MINUTES
January 21, 2009
www.bossierparishla.gov

The Bossier Parish Police Jury met in regular and legal session on the 21st day of January, 2009, 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. Wayne Hammack and the pledge of allegiance was led by Ms. Wanda Bennett. The Parish Secretary, Ms. Cindy Dodson, called the roll, with all members present, as follows:

Mr. William Altimus	Mr. Brad Cummings
Mr. Rick Avery	Mr. Jerome Darby
Ms. Wanda Bennett	Mr. Wayne Hammack
Mr. Glenn Benton	Mr. Winfred Johnston
Mr. Barry Butler	Mr. Hank Meachum
Mr. Jimmy Cochran	Mr. Mac Plummer

Others present were Mr. Bill Altimus, Parish Administrator; Mr. Patrick Jackson, Parish Attorney, Mr. Joe E. "Butch" Ford, Jr., Parish Engineer; Ms. Cindy Dodson, Parish Secretary.

Motion was made by Mr. Darby, seconded by Mr. Johnston, to adopt the minutes of the December 3, 2008 and the December 17, 2008 regular meetings, as published. Motion carried unanimously.

The President called for the election of officers for the Bossier Parish Police Jury for the year 2009. **Motion was made by Mr. Hammack, seconded by Mr. Meachum, to nominate Mr. Glenn Benton for election as President of the Bossier Parish Police Jury for the year 2009. There being no further nominations, motion carried unanimously.**

Motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Hammack, to nominate Ms. Wanda Bennett for election as Vice President of the Bossier Parish Police Jury for the year 2009. There being no further nominations, motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Hammack, seconded by Mr. Darby, to adjourn for a brief recess to allow the staff to make the necessary changes to the voting board to reflect the new officer positions. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was reconvened and called to order by the President. Mr. Benton presented Mr. Cochran with a plaque of appreciation for his service as President for 2008.

Motion was made by Mr. Meachum, seconded by Mr. Johnston, to amend the agenda to add Mr. Paul Rossini, NTB Associates, Inc., regarding the Bellevue Road Improvements Project. Motion carried unanimously, with the following vote recorded:

AYES: Mr. Altimus, Mr. Avery, Ms. Bennett, Mr. Benton, Mr. Butler, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Cummings, Mr. Darby, Mr. Hammack, Mr. Johnston, Mr. Meachum, Mr. Plummer.

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion was made by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Avery, to amend the agenda to allow representatives of Congressman John Fleming's office to address the jury. Motion carried unanimously, with the following vote recorded:

AYES: Mr. Altimus, Mr. Avery, Ms. Bennett, Mr. Benton, Mr. Butler, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Cummings, Mr. Darby, Mr. Hammack, Mr. Johnston, Mr. Meachum, Mr. Plummer.

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Mr. Martin Grau, Ms. Becky Turner-Wilson, and Ms. Emily McPeters, representing Congressman John Fleming's office, reported that local offices for Congressman Fleming are now operational. Mr. Grau stated that Congressman Fleming has an office located in Shreveport and in Leesville, and stated that the opening of an office in Bossier is being considered. In response to question by Mr. Meachum, Mr. Grau reported that Congressman Fleming and his staff will be reviewing the matter of problems with the new FEMA maps for Bossier Parish.

Motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Meachum, to appoint Mr. Bill Altimus as Parish Administrator for a one-year term. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Meachum, to appoint Ms. Cindy Dodson as Parish Secretary for a two-year term. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Cummings, seconded by Mr. Butler, to appoint Ms. Sheryl Thomas as Parish Treasurer for a two-year term. Motion carried unanimously.

Sealed bids were opened and read aloud by Mr. Eric Hudson, Alliance, Inc., for the installation of traffic signals at the intersection of Airline Drive and LeOaks Drive, as follows:

Bidder:

Bid Amount:

Wilhite Electric Company, Inc. \$119,520.00

This is the only bid received and Mr. Hudson stated that the required bid bond has been provided, and Bid Addendum No. 1 is acknowledged. **Motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Hammack, to take the bid under advisement, to be reviewed and awarded at the February 4, 2009 regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.**

Ms. Dodson announced the public hearing to consider approval of the site plan/plat for the proposed Barksdale Federal Credit Union located at the northwest corner of Airline Drive and Linton Road, in Section 16, Township 19 North, Range 13 West, Bossier Parish, LA. Mr. Eric Hudson, Alliance, Inc., was present. There being no opposition, **motion was made by Ms. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Avery, to approve the site plan/plat for the proposed Barksdale Federal Credit Union, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Stacy Pourteau, Bossier Parish Property Standards Officer, presented current photographs of property at 326 Teague Drive, Elm Grove, LA, and reported that the property is not in compliance with property standards regulations. In response to questions by the Parish Attorney, Mr. Pourteau stated that the property is in violation of health and safety regulations and there are areas where water can collect and vermin can breed.

Mr. Altimus reported that he has been advised that Preferred Materials, Inc., located in Minden, LA, has been hired by the property owner to demolish the structure. **Motion was made by Mr. Meachum, seconded by Mr. Avery, to allow the owner of property at 326 Teague Drive, 20 days in which to bring his property into compliance with property standards regulations and if he does not, to proceed with condemnation of the property. Motion carried unanimously.**

Motion was made by Mr. Meachum, seconded by Mr. Plummer, to approve the request of the Krewe of Horseshoe to hold its annual Mardi Gras parade on Barron Road, off Sligo Road, at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 28, 2009. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Altimus reported that a letter has been sent to FEMA and to Congressman John Fleming regarding problems with the new FEMA flood maps for Bossier Parish. He further stated that Senators Vitter and Landrieu will also be contacted. Mr. Altimus stated that Mr. Ford is in Baton Rouge today to attend a meeting of the Louisiana Oil and Gas Association with representatives of FEMA, to discuss floodplain issues affecting the oil and gas industry.

Ms. Bennett advised that she has spoken with the owners of Vexcon regarding the use of property owned by Vexcon at 1201 Linton Road, Benton, LA. She stated that the filming of a television series is being done at this location and the owners of Vexcon have a seven-year contract with the filming company. Ms. Bennett requested that the owners of Vexcon be granted a limited conditional use at this location to continue the current filming operation. The Parish Attorney has prepared a letter agreement to be signed by the owners of Vexcon which provides the following:

The business shall remain the same size as it currently operates

No chemicals shall be stored on sight

No chemicals shall be disposed of on sight

Filming on location at the business shall be permitted, subject to the production trailer being located elsewhere, and

If at any time the business is closed or sold, the property shall remain R-A unless other arrangements are made.

Motion was made by Ms. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Cochran, to allow a limited conditional use on Vexcon property at 1201 Linton Road to allow filming at this location. Motion carried, with Mr. Butler opposing.

Mr. Butler discussed funding for the GED program at parish correctional facilities, advising that the program gives inmates the opportunity to obtain their GED but the inmates must pay \$50 to take the test. He stated that he will use his discretionary funds to pay this cost when an inmate is unable to pay. Mr. Altimus stated that because the course instructor is not allowed to give the test, an outside testing service must also be paid to administer the test.

Mr. Jackson advised Mr. Butler that this is allowable only if the inmate is not a Department of Corrections prisoner housed for another parish.

Mr. Darby stated that Bossier Parish Community College and Louisiana Technical College each have GED programs and may be willing to provide assistance.

Motion was made by Mr. Butler, seconded by Mr. Darby, that Mr. Butler will contribute up to \$3,000 in discretionary funds to pay GED testing costs for parish prisoners, Bossier Parish resident prisoners, and for prisoners convicted of a crime in Bossier Parish, subject to legal review. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Billy Montgomery discussed efforts of the State to control the growth of salvinia on Lake Bistineau, advising that the spraying of chemicals and drawdown of the lake seem to be effective to some degree. He reported that the State currently has five boats to cover the entire region, and it has been suggested that each parish consider contracting a boat for use only on Lake Bistineau. Mr. Montgomery stated that other methods of eradication are also being considered.

Mr. Avery requested that Mr. Montgomery contact the Cypress-Black Bayou Recreation and Water Conservation District regarding problems with vegetation on Cypress Lake. Mr. Bruce Easterly reported that the Cypress-Black Bayou Recreation and Water Conservation District has requested Capital Outlay funds to assist in vegetation control.

Mr. Montgomery stated that the creation of a Lake Commission is being considered for Lake Bistineau.

Motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Butler, to approve the application of Dana Stinson for a 2009 liquor license at Cash Point Landing, 215 Cash Point Road. Motion carried unanimously. The application has been approved by the Sheriff's Department and the Health Department.

Motion was made by Ms. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Hammack, to approve the application of Joe Webb and Nathan Razer for a 2009 liquor license at Perky's Pizza, 4723 Palmetto Road, Benton, LA. Motion carried unanimously. The application has been approved by the Sheriff's Department and the Health Department.

Motion was made by Mr. Johnston, seconded by Mr. Hammack, to table the matter of an appointment to the Board of Directors for Bossier Parish Communications District No. 1 to fill the vacancy created due to the resignation of Mr. William Fowler, to be considered at the February 4, 2009 regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Cochran, seconded by Mr. Johnston, to approve the reappointment of Mr. Jimmy Hall to the Caddo-Bossier Port Commission for a six (6) year term, term to expire February 15, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Ms. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Hammack, to accept the proposal of Cook & Morehart, Certified Public Accountants, for audit of Bossier Parish Police Jury financial records for the year 2008. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Cochran, seconded by Mr. Darby, to approve a contribution from discretionary funds in the amount of \$1,062.00 to the softball program at Bossier High School, as follows:

Mr. Cummings	\$265.50
Mr. Altimus	\$265.50
Mr. Darby	\$265.50
Mr. Cochran	\$265.50

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Cummings, to approve a contribution from discretionary funds in the amount of \$1,000 to the Airline High School baseball program and \$1,000 to the Airline High School softball program, for a total of \$2,000 to be split as follows:

Mr. Avery	\$666.67
Mr. Butler	\$666.67
Mr. Cummings	\$666.67

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Darby, seconded by Mr. Cochran, to approve a contribution from discretionary funds in the amount of \$841.60 to Bossier High School for uniforms for the bowling team, as follows:

Mr. Darby	\$210.40
Mr. Altimus	\$210.40
Mr. Cummings	\$210.40
Mr. Cochran	\$210.40

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Ms. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Avery, to approve a contribution from discretionary funds in the amount of \$2,362.85 to Benton High School for new equipment for the soccer team, as follows:

Ms. Bennett	\$1,362.85
Mr. Avery	\$ 500.00
Mr. Johnston	\$ 500.00

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Hammack, seconded by Mr. Johnston, to approve Plan Change No. 1 on the Cyber Innovation Center Central Plant in the amount of -\$1,724.00 subject to concurrence with the Louisiana Economic Development Department, and to authorize the Parish Administrator to execute. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on this 21st day of January, 2009, that it does hereby approve Plan Change No. 1 on the Cyber Innovation Center Central Plant, subject to concurrence with Louisiana Economic Development.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that William R. Altimus, Parish Administrator, be and is hereby authorized to execute said Plan Change No. 1.

The resolution was offered by Mr. Hammack, seconded by Mr. Johnston. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 21st day of January, 2009.

CINDY A. DODSON
PARISH SECRETARY

GLENN BENTON, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Cochran, to approve Plan Change No. 3 on the Cyber Innovation Center Building, and to authorize the Parish Administrator to execute. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Bruce Easterly reported that the Plan Change provides that the entry concrete will be changed to a color in lieu of stained concrete, which results in a cost savings, and the provision of an underground rough-in for an auditorium on the first floor to provide additional bathroom spaces. He stated that with both contract deductions and additions, the costs associated with this plan change should be minimal.

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on this 21st day of January, 2009, that it does hereby approve Plan Change No. 3 on the Cyber Innovation Center Building.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that William R. Altimus, Parish Administrator, be and is hereby authorized to execute said Plan Change No. 3.

The resolution was offered by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Cochran. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 21st day of January, 2009.

CINDY A. DODSON
PARISH SECRETARY

GLENN BENTON, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Motion was made by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Meachum, to adopt an ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 4262 of December 3, 2008, which abandoned 700 feet of the J. T. White Road, to stipulate that the Bossier Parish Police Jury reserves all oil, gas and mineral rights. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 4267

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 4262 OF DECEMBER 3, 2008, WHICH ABANDONED 700 FEET OF THE J. T. WHITE ROAD, LOCATED IN SECTION 7, TOWNSHIP 15 NORTH, RANGE 11 WEST, BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on this 21st day of January, 2009, that Ordinance No. 4262 of December 3, 2008, be and is hereby amended to read as follows:

The Bossier Parish Police Jury does hereby abandon 700 feet of the J. T. White Road, being described as the 60-foot dedicated right-of-way as established by that certain dedication in Conveyance Book 1214, Page 542, Registry Number 705148, of the records of Bossier Parish, Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the Bossier Parish Police Jury does hereby reserve all oil, gas and mineral rights.

The ordinance was offered by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Meachum. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 21st day of January, 2009.

CINDY A. DODSON
PARISH SECRETARY

GLENN BENTON, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Motion was made by Mr. Hammack, seconded by Mr. Cochran, to approve Change Order No. 2 on the emergency chiller at the Bossier Parish Courthouse, and to authorize the President to execute documents. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on this 21st day of January, 2009, that it does hereby approve Change Order No. 2 on the emergency chiller at the Bossier Parish Courthouse.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Glenn Benton, President, be and is hereby authorized to execute said Change Order No. 2.

The resolution was offered by Mr. Hammack, seconded by Mr. Cochran. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 21st day of January, 2009.

CINDY A. DODSON
PARISH SECRETARY

GLENN BENTON, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Motion was made by Mr. Darby, seconded by Mr. Hammack, to table approval of Plan Change No. 2 on the Arthur Ray Teague Parkway Construction Project No. 2008-133, to be considered at the February 4, 2009 regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Ms. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Cochran, to table approval of Amendment No. 2 to the contract with Aillet, Fenner, Jolly & McClelland, Inc., in the amount of \$33,085 for the Linton Road Improvements Project, to be considered at a later date. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Avery, to lift the current ban and allow the issuance of building permits on lots located in Forest Hills Subdivision, Unit No. 5. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Paul Rossini, NTB Associates, Inc., discussed the Bellevue Road Improvements Project, and presented a preliminary design for improvements at the railroad crossing near Fire Station Road. He stated that the approval of Kansas City Southern Railroad is required for crossing improvements and they have approved the proposed design. Mr. Rossini stated that the proposed design is within the amount budgeted for the project. **Motion was made by Mr. Butler, seconded by Mr. Plummer, to approve the proposed design for railroad crossing improvements near Fire Station Road on the Bellevue Road Improvements Project. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Altimus reported that the Levee Board has advised that the Corps of Engineers needs no additional information to certify the levees in Bossier Parish. He stated that the levee certification process should be finalized by June 18, 2009.

Mr. Altimus advised that he has received a proposal from Wilbur Smith Associates regarding the study of proposed parishwide zoning, and stated that he will provide a copy to jurors for review at the February 4, 2009 regular meeting.

Mr. Altimus urged jurors to let the staff know if they plan to attend the upcoming annual Police Jury Association Convention in New Orleans on March 19-21, 2009.

Mr. Altimus advised of request that the police jury consider placing an ad in Business Images Magazine, advising that a 1/2 page ad cost \$2,400. It was agreed that the jury will not participate at this time.

Mr. Jackson advised that he has just been notified via e-mail that Barksdale Air Force Base is one of six bases being considered for location of the restart command for the nuclear mission of the Air Force and for the Numbered Air Force for Cyber Command.

Mr. Bruce Easterly advised that he and Mr. Ford will attend a meeting with DOTD officials in Baton Rouge on Friday to discuss the North/South Corridor project.

Mr. Ronnie Andrews, Public Works Director, reported on various road projects in the parish.

Mr. Avery reported that the sidewalk is broken at 600 Fall Winds Circle. Mr. Andrews stated that he will inspect the site.

Jurors expressed congratulations to Mr. Benton and to Ms. Bennett on their election as President and Vice President.

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

AYES: Mr. Altimus, Mr. Avery, Ms. Bennett, Mr. Benton, Mr. Butler, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Cummings, Mr. Darby, Mr. Hammack, Mr. Johnston, Mr. Meachum, Mr. Plummer.

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

The regular meeting was reconvened from executive session and called to order by the President. No action was taken in executive session. There being no further business to come before the Bossier Parish Police Jury on this 21st day of January, 2009, the meeting was adjourned by the President at 4:35 p.m.

CINDY A. DODSON
PARISH SECRETARY

GLENN BENTON, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY