

BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY  
BENTON, LOUISIANA  
MINUTES  
March 17, 2010  
www.bossierparishla.gov

The Bossier Parish Police Jury met in regular and legal session on the 17th day of March, 2010, at 2:00 p.m., in the Police Jury Meeting Room, Bossier Parish Courthouse, Benton, Louisiana. The Vice 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. Glenn Benton. The Parish Secretary, Ms. Cindy Dodson, called the roll, with the following members present:

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

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

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**Motion was made by Mr. Cummings, seconded by Mr. Johnston, to adopt the minutes of the February 3, 2010, and February 17, 2010, regular meetings, and the February 17, 2010, Finance Committee meeting, as published. Motion carried unanimously.**

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**Motion was made by Mr. Johnston, seconded by Mr. Meachum, to amend the agenda to add Mr. Morgan Johnson. Motion carried, with the following vote recorded:**

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

**NAYS: None**

**ABSTAIN: None**

**ABSENT: Ms. Bennett**

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Mr. Kent Rogers, Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments, discussed the proposed I-69 project. He stated that environmental documents for the project have been submitted and are currently under review. Mr. Rogers provided information on proposed routes for the I-69 corridor through Bossier Parish and discussed various interchange concepts. He stated that there are several projects that are currently on hold pending final selection of the I-69 corridor. Jurors thanked Mr. Kent for his report.

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Mr. Morgan Johnson, 109 Boyce Circle, Benton, LA, expressed his appreciation to Mr. Andrews and highway department crews for recent road work on Boyce Circle. He stated that the highway department did an excellent job and the residents of Boyce Circle are very grateful.

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Discussion of bids received on March 15, 2010, for the purchase of office furniture for the Cyber Innovation Center was delayed until later in the meeting. (See page 15.)

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Ms. Dodson announced the public hearing to consider the application of the Bossier City-Parish MPC, for an amendment to the Unified Development Code to amend Article 9, Off-Premise Sign Ordinance, by establishing new regulations governing alterations of existing off-premise signs and the placement of new off-premise signs. The application received an unfavorable recommendation from the Bossier City-Parish MPC.

Mr. Sam Marsiglia, Bossier City-Parish MPC, stated that the proposed ordinance provides that there will be no new locations permitted for an off-premise sign unless located adjacent to an interstate highway. He stated that there has been much local opposition and the MPC is concerned that to limit new signs to interstates only, will hamper the ability of businesses to advertise. Mr. Marsiglia clarified that the ordinance proposed today applies only to areas located within the five-mile jurisdiction of the Bossier City-Parish MPC. Mr. Hammack reminded jurors that a 2/3 majority vote is required to overturn the MPC's decision.

Mr. Joe Kane, Lamar Advertising, stated that there are currently only six billboards located outside the five-mile jurisdiction of the Bossier City-Parish MPC, and billboards are not allowed on Benton Road. He stated that approval of the proposed ordinance will adversely affect local businesses. Mr. Kane presented jurors with a copy of a Bossier Parish Public Opinion Survey performed by Southern University and Louisiana State University Shreveport, which indicates no public opposition to billboards. He stated that he has attended all hearings regarding the proposed sign regulations, and not one citizen has expressed opposition to billboards.

Ms. Suzanne Upchurch, Director of Marketing for Lifeshare Blood Centers, stated that the space Lamar Advertising has provided them has helped them tremendously. She stated that Lifeshare Blood Centers could lose as much as 20% of blood donations without advertising.

**Motion was made by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Johnston, to overturn the unfavorable ruling of the Bossier City-Parish MPC, and approve the application of the Bossier City-Parish MPC for an amendment to the Unified Development Code to amend Article 9, Off-Premise Sign Ordinance, by establishing new regulations governing alterations of existing off-premise signs and the placement of new off-premise signs. Motion carried, with the following vote recorded:**

**AYES: Mr. Altimus, Mr. Avery, Mr. Benton, Mr. Butler, Mr. Cummings, Mr. Darby, Mr. Hammack, Mr. Johnston, Mr. Meachum, Mr. Plummer.**

**NAYS: Mr. Cochran**

**ABSTAIN: None**

**ABSENT: Ms. Bennett**

## ORDINANCE NO. 4328

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 3908 OF 2003, THE BOSSIER PARISH UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT CODE, TO REFLECT CHANGES TO THE OFF-PREMISE SIGN ORDINANCE BY ESTABLISHING NEW REGULATIONS GOVERNING ALTERATIONS OF EXISTING OFF-PREMISE SIGNS AND THE PLACEMENT OF NEW OFF-PREMISE SIGNS.

WHEREAS, it is the finding of the Bossier Parish Police Jury, Bossier Parish, Louisiana, that reasonable regulation of Off-Premise advertising, as set forth herein, will advance the parish's interest in reducing visual clutter, improving the overall aesthetic appearance of Bossier Parish, and enhancing traffic safety:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, that Sections 3.4.2, 7.6 and Article 9 of the Unified Development Code are amended to read as follows: (new language is underlined)

**3.4.2 Off-Premise Signs****A. Sign Location Permits****1. Purpose**

The purpose of the Sign Location Permit is to assure compliance, through review of plans and inspection during construction, with all of the requirements established by this Ordinance and related provisions of the Building Code.

**2. Applicability or Activities Subject to Review**

- a. No off-premise sign shall hereafter be demolished, erected, moved, added to, or structurally altered without a Sign Location Permit issued by the Planning Commission in conformity with the provisions of this Section. No Sign Location Permit or Building Permit issued under the provisions of this Chapter shall be considered valid unless signed by the Building Official and the Executive Director or their designees.
- b. Normal maintenance of a sign shall not require a Sign Location Permit.

**B. Application**

1. An application for an off-premise Sign Location Permit shall be filed with the Executive Director and shall include the following:
  - a. A completed application on the form provided by the Executive Director.
  - b. A minimum of 8 copies of a site plan showing data about the site and distances to all existing signs and the location, design, materials, colors, height, width, depth, and square footage of the sign;
    - (1) The site plan shall also show all clear visibility triangles, proximity to interstate or arterial that it is directed to and all required setbacks from adjoining properties;
    - (2) If not shown on the site plan, a separate drawing shall show the distance from the nearest residential property and from all off-premise signs larger than 72 square feet and located within 1,000 feet of the proposed sign.
  - c. The name, address and telephone number of the sign owner and of the sign contractor.
  - d. Information on the zoning of the site, surrounding zoning and site access; and
  - e. Any other pertinent data as may be required to ensure compliance with this Article.
  - f. A copy of a recorded lease or memorandum of understanding between the sign company and the property owner.
2. **Approval Criteria**  
The sign must comply with the requirements of Article 9 and all other applicable requirements of this Code.
3. **Review**  
If the application is complete, the Executive Director shall schedule the application for the next meeting of the Metropolitan Planning Commission occurring at least 30 days after receipt of the complete application. At that meeting, the MPC shall consider the application and take testimony from the applicant and other interested persons.
4. **Action**  
The Metropolitan Planning Commission may approve the application, disapprove the application or approve the application with conditions.
5. **Permit**  
If the Metropolitan Planning Commission approves the application or approves it with conditions, the Executive Director shall issue a Sign Location Permit upon receipt of a site plan making the site plan a condition of the permit and including in the permit any non-message oriented conditions imposed by the MPC. If the application is disapproved, the Executive Director shall notify the applicant in writing of the disapproval.
6. **Duration, Effect**  
The permit shall contain an expiration date, which shall be 180 days after the date of approval or approval with conditions by the Metropolitan Planning Commission. From the date of issuance until the expiration date, the Sign Location Permit shall entitle the holder to apply for a Building Permit for the sign subject to the sign location permit. A sign location permit may be extended once by the MPC for a period of not more than 180 days. After the expiration of a sign location permit or any extension thereof, no application for a sign from the same sign vendor on the same lot of record or the same tax parcel may be accepted or considered for a period of at least 1 year from the date of expiration.

**C. Enforcement**

1. The Director of Permits and Inspections and the Executive Director or their designees are hereby authorized and directed to enforce all the provisions of this code. Upon presentation of proper credentials, the Director of Permits and Inspections and the Executive Director or their designees, may enter any building, structure or premises in the Bossier City-Parish MPC planning limits to perform any duty imposed by this Code.
2. The Director of Permits and Inspections or the Executive Director may order the removal of any sign erected or maintained in violation of the ordinance. The Director of Permits and Inspections or the MPC Executive Director or their designee shall give 10 days notice in writing to the owner of such sign or of the building’s structure or premises on which such sign is located, to remove the sign or bring it into compliance. If the sign owner fails to comply with that order, the Director of Permits and Inspection or the MPC Executive Director may:
  - a. Seek prosecution of the sign owner;
  - b. Request that the attorney for the Parish or the City, as applicable, seek a court order of abatement or seek appropriate injunctive relief; or

Authorize the removal of the sign after a temporary restraining order is obtained with the costs to be assessed against the property if the MPC Executive Director or Director of Permits and Inspections finds that the sign presents an immediate threat of danger to the safety of the public.

**7.6 Nonconforming Off-Premise Signs**

All off-premise signs legally in existence on January 1, 1987 (the effective date of the original off-premise sign ordinance) and not meeting the requirements of this code, shall be classified as “nonconforming” and permitted to remain with reasonable repair and maintenance but may not otherwise be altered. Prohibited alterations to nonconforming signs may include, but are not necessarily limited to, replacement of the pole, such as conversion from wood to metal or changing from multi-pole to single pole or changes to the type of sign face (such as from single face to trivision or electronic technology). Any nonconforming sign damaged, by weather or other natural occurrence, beyond 60 percent of replacement cost of an identical new structure may be repaired or rebuilt, but only in compliance with the requirements of this Code.

**7.6.1 Repair of “Nonconforming” signs**

Sign owners shall supply the MPC office with a repair cost estimate of the damaged sign and an estimate of the cost of a new identical sign. The MPC office shall review the repair permit application and either approve or disapprove the request within 10 working days of application submittal.

**7.6.2 Burden of Proof**

In any matter in which a property owner, sign owner, sign user or other person seeks the protection provided to lawful, nonconforming signs under this section, the burden of proof shall be on the person seeking such protection to prove:

- A. The date of erection or installation of the sign;
- B. The substance of the sign ordinance then in effect;
- C. That the sign fully conformed to the sign ordinance then in effect, as to height, size, location on the property, sign design and lighting;
- D. That the person erecting the sign obtained all necessary permits for the erection of the sign; and
- E. That any changes to the sign have been made in accordance with the requirements of Article 9 and all other parts of this Code and in compliance with all applicable permit requirements.

**Article 9. Off-Premise Advertising Signs**

**9.1 Intent**

**9.1.1** The purpose of this Article is to establish standards and regulations to ensure the orderly and effective display of off-premise advertising and to define those structures that are not in compliance. This will effectuate the intent of the U. S. Congress and the Louisiana State Legislature in adopting the Highway Beautification Act and the state version of that law, who, in so acting, have declared that it is in the public interest to regulate and restrict the erection and maintenance of outdoor advertising devices along the Interstate and Primary Highway Systems, to promote the safety of public travel, and to enhance the beauty and attractiveness of the city to its residents and visitors for residential and commercial growth in an orderly plan.

**9.1.2** These regulations, when properly enforced, will control the locations, size, spacing, illumination and maintenance of all off-premise advertising devices thereby resulting in the overall enhancement of the safety, health and welfare of the citizens residing in the planning limits of the Bossier City-Parish Metropolitan Planning Commission.

**9.2 Applicability**

This Article shall apply to “off-premise advertising devices,” as herein defined in Section 18.2.64. Signs with subject matter relating to the premises (business signs) or signs of a non-commercial nature placed on the premises by the owner or, occupant thereof, are subject to regulation under Article 8 of this Code. All signs located in the public right-of-way are expressly prohibited.

**9.3 Permits required**

**9.3.1** No off-premise sign shall be erected, altered, or relocated without first securing a Sign Location Permit from the Metropolitan Planning Commission and a Building Permit from the Permits and Inspections Department. The sign location permit shall contain the location of the sign structure, the name and address of the sign owner, the sign erector, a drawing showing the type, size, location and zoning and such other pertinent information as the MPC may require to ensure compliance with this Code and all ordinances affecting the subject property.

**9.3.2** Application and approval procedures for construction or modification of an off-premise sign are specified in Subsection 3.4.2 of this Code.

**9.4 Off-Premise Signs Allowed Without a Permit**

The following off-premise signs shall be allowed and shall not require a permit, although they may otherwise be subject to this ordinance:

- 9.4.1 A traffic control sign on private property, such as “Stop,” “Yield” and similar signs, the face of which meet Traffic Engineering standards and which contain no commercial message of any sort;
- 9.4.2 Flags of the United States, state flags, municipal flags, flags of foreign nations and any other flag representing a governmental agency. These flags shall not be associated with any commercial message whatsoever.

**9.5 Location of Off-Premise Signs**

9.5.1 No new off-premise outdoor advertising device shall be permitted unless it is located adjacent to and oriented toward an Interstate Highway.

9.5.2 Approved off-premise outdoor advertising displays, signs or billboards may be constructed, erected and maintained in the commercial and industrial zoned areas listed in this sub-section and as further defined by the Zoning Ordinances of the City and Parish and the respective official zoning maps. Off-premise signs shall be permitted only in the following zoning districts and not in any others: B-1, B-2, B-3, B-4, RT, I-1, I-2, A-1.

9.5.3 No property shall be rezoned to one of the specified zoning districts for the sole purpose of allowing the erection of an off-premise advertising device unless the property proposed for rezoning:

- A. Is designated on the adopted Comprehensive Plan for future industrial or business use or at least 25 percent of the perimeter of the property proposed for rezoning abuts land zoned for industrial or business use and has actually been developed for one or more industrial or business uses other than outdoor advertising devices; and
- B. Has contiguous access to a major arterial or Interstate Highway frontage road and is otherwise suitable for industrial or business use, although it is not essential that sewer and water service be immediately available.

9.5.4 Off-premise advertising devices shall be separated from one another and from other specified uses as set forth in Table 9.5.6. Measurements between off-premise signs shall be performed without regard to which side of the street or highway the sign is on, except the Interstate.

9.5.5 For the purpose of these regulations, each side of the interstate system shall be considered separately.

9.5.6 V-type or back-to-back sign surfaces on the same device shall be considered one sign.

<b>Table 9.5.6 Separation Requirements for Off-Premise Advertising Devices (feet)</b>			
<b>OAD Size</b>	<b>&lt; 72 sq.ft.</b>	<b>72-390 sq.ft.</b>	<b>390-672 sq.ft.</b>
<b>Separation from OAD facing same flow of traffic, along major arterials</b>			
OAD <72 sq.ft.,	200	300	500
OAD 72-390 sq.ft.	300	500	720
OAD 390-672 sq.ft.	500	720	1000
<b>Separation from OAD not facing same flow of traffic, along major arterials</b>			
OAD <72 sq.ft.,	100	150	250
OAD 72-390 sq.ft.	150	300	500
OAD 390-672 sq.ft.	250	500	600
<b>Separation of OAD within 660 feet of Interstate Highway from other OAD within 660 feet of same Interstate Highway</b>			
OAD <72 sq.ft.,	1000	1000	1000
OAD 72-390 sq.ft.	1000	1000	1000
OAD 390-672 sq.ft.	1000	1000	1000
<b><u>Separation of OAD from property zoned R-A , if developed or used for residential, R-LD, R-E or R-MD if vacant or developed for single family residences, or from property used for school or park purposes as measured from the nearest property line of residential to the sign base.</u></b>			
Residential Property Line	100	200	400

9.5.7 Off-premise advertising devices shall be setback from the front property lines on the properties on which they are located by the distances set forth in this paragraph. Set-backs shall be measured from the sign surface. Minimum front yard set-backs shall comply with the requirements of Table 9.5.7.

<b>Table 9.5.7 Required Setbacks for Off-Premise Advertising Devices from Front Property Lines (in feet)</b>			
<b>District</b>	<b>Sign Size</b>		
	<b>&lt;72 sq.ft.</b>	<b>72-390 sq.ft.</b>	<b>390-672 sq.ft.</b>
Any B District and RT	30	30	30
Industrial District and A-1	10	15	15

9.5.8 Side and rear minimum setbacks shall be 5 feet.

- 9.5.9 Where Table 9.5.6 requires a separation from another sign or another use and that separation requirement is greater than the setback requirement under this paragraph, the greater separation requirement shall apply.
- 9.5.10 No off-premise sign shall be located on or project over a building.
- 9.5.11 No off-premise sign shall be located in such a manner as to obscure, obstruct, or otherwise physically interfere with the clear or unobstructed view of an official traffic sign, signal, or device, or obstruct or physically interfere with the driver’s view of approaching merging or intersecting traffic.
- 9.5.12 No off-premise outdoor advertising device shall be located within 1,000 feet of the Arthur Ray Teague Parkway,
- 9.5.13 No off-premise advertising sign larger than 72 square feet, except temporary signs may be built on wooden poles; all other off-premise signs must be constructed on steel beams, metal pipes, or similar material and painted with a neutral or subdued color.
- 9.5.14 Public transportation benches and transit shelters or similar structures are permitted within the public right of way only and must have approval of the Bossier City Council or Bossier Parish Police Jury. Off-Premise Advertising on the bench or shelter shall not exceed 50% of the surface area.

**9.6 Off-Premise Sign Height Limitations**

No off-premise advertising device shall exceed the most restrictive height applicable to it under Table 9.6, subject to the further specific conditions set forth in this section:

<b>Table 9.6 Height Limits for Off-Premise Advertising Devices (in feet)</b>			
<b>OAD Size</b>	<b>&lt; 72 sq.ft.</b>	<b>72 – 390 sq.ft.</b>	<b>390-672 sq.ft.</b>
B-1 District	15	Not Permitted	Not Permitted
B-2 District	15	50 (Up to 300 sq.ft.)	Not Permitted
B-3, B-4, & Industrial Districts	15	60	60
A-1 District	45		
Within 199 feet of residential property	15	Not Permitted	Not Permitted
200 feet or more from residential property	20	60	60
Oriented toward raised expressway and at least 600 feet from residential	Height allowed by other cells on table or 25 feet above centerline of expressway, whichever is taller		
Note: The maximum height of any signs shall be measured as the vertical distance between the highest part of the sign and either the ground level at its supports or the nearest shoulder of the adjacent Interstate highway right-of-way or public street right-of-way, whichever is higher in elevation.			

**9.7 Off-Premise Sign Size Limitations**

9.7.1 Table 9.7.1 below specifies the maximum permitted sizes for off-premise advertising devices by zoning district.

<b>Table 9.7.1 Size Limits on Off-Premise Advertising Devices, by Zoning District (sizes in square feet)</b>			
	<b>Zoning District</b>		
	<b>Industrial, RT, A-1, B-3 &amp; B-4</b>	<b>B-2</b>	<b>B-1</b>
<b>Maximum area of total sign surface per side (sq. ft.)</b>			
I-20 and I-220 oriented	672	300	72
Major Streets	390	300	72

- 9.7.2 The maximum area, heights of surface, and length of surface dimensions in the above table are exclusive of any border or trim, the base or supports, and other structural members. For signs in I-1, I-2, A-1, RT, B-3 and B-4 Districts, cut-outs or extensions up to 50 square feet of additional area may be allowed without MPC approval and cut-out from 51 to 150 square feet may be permitted with MPC approval.
- 9.7.3 When 2 off-premise sign surfaces are placed back-to-back or V-type on the same device with an angle between them of not more than 60 degrees, each side shall conform to the maximum size limitations. No more than 2 sign surfaces are allowed on one device. Two-sided signs must have the same surface area one each side.
- 9.7.4 Signs and sign faces shall not be stacked; only one sign face is allowed on each side.
- 9.7.5 The maximum area, heights of surface, and length of surface dimensions in the above table are exclusive of any border or trim, the base or supports, and other structural members.
- 9.7.6 For purposes of measurement, Trivision technology, LED, or comparable electronic video or animation technology, faces shall be considered to be one face.

**9.9 Lighting of Off-Premise Signs**

Signs may be illuminated, subject to the following restrictions:

- 9.9.1 A sign location permit for a new sign or changing a legally existing sign to include LED or similar electronic technology, shall only be issued if the applicant agrees in writing to remove one or more existing off-premise signs, including the poles, with a total area of two (2) times the square footage of the sign face or faces to be approved, altered or upgraded. For example: An off-premise sign with a sign face area of 300 square feet may be upgraded if one or more signs, including the sign poles, that have a sign face area of at least 600 square feet, are removed from the MPC jurisdiction. For the purpose of upgrading to LED or other electronic technology, each sign face shall be treated separately. Any additional square footage, greater than the required amount that is removed, may be credited toward future sign face conversions. Approval shall follow the same process as a new sign location and the location and square footage of signs to be removed shall be included in the application package.
- 9.9.2 No revolving or rotating beam or beacon of light that simulates any emergency light or device shall be permitted as part of any sign. Flashing devices shall not be permitted upon a sign except illuminated signs which indicate such customary public service information such as time, date, temperature or other similar information. No flashing sign shall be allowed within 1,000 feet of residential property.
- 9.9.3 No animated signs, including message center or video boards, shall be allowed within 720 feet of property zoned for residential use from which the sign face can be seen; no animated signs, including message center or video boards, shall be allowed under any circumstances within 500 feet of property zoned for residential use. LED or similar electronic static face signs shall not be closer than 200' from residential property as defined in table 9.5.6.
- 9.9.4 No Neon, LED or similar electronic technology signs shall be allowed within the Air Base Buffer-North (A-1) District or within the area designated by Barksdale Air Force Base as the North Approach Zone. (Site map and legal description available in MPC office)
- 9.9.5 External lighting, such as flood lights, thin line and goose neck reflectors are permitted provided the light source is directed on the face of the sign and is effectively shielded so as to prevent beams or rays of light from being directed or reflected onto any portion of the interstate highway or public street. All lighting shall be located below the sign face and directed upward at the sign. Within the A-1 District and the North Approach Zone any legal alterations to existing signs shall include conversion of external lighting so that the lights will be located above the sign and directed downward at the sign face. Any new sign location within the A-1 District and North Approach Zone shall have all external lighting located above the sign and directed downward at the sign face.
- 9.9.6 Neon signage and back-lit signage is permitted subject to the same guidelines as external lighting.
- 9.10 **Temporary Off-Premise Signs without Commercial Message**  
Temporary signs containing no commercial message and related to an election or other event or matter of public interest may be erected in any zoning district of the City or Parish but not within the public right-of-way. Such signs shall not exceed 9 square feet in residential districts. For the purposes of this paragraph, "temporary signs" shall refer to those described in Subsection 18.2.94.
- 9.11 **Off-Premise Signs Not Allowed**  
The following signs or sign components shall not be permitted to remain or be erected as a part of an off-premise sign:
  - 9.11.1 Any sign that copies or imitates an official sign or purports to have official status;
  - 9.11.2 Beacons;
  - 9.11.3 Windblown devices;
  - 9.11.4 Pennants;
  - 9.11.5 Portable signs, including any sign that is not securely fixed on a substantial structure, securely connected to the ground in such a way that it cannot easily be moved from one location to another, including skid mounted or trailer mounted signs;
  - 9.11.6 Any sign attached to an accessory structure, except an incidental sign, if such sign is legible from the public right-of-way or from other property;
  - 9.11.7 Any other attention-attracting device, except for those conforming to the dimensional, design, lighting and other standards applicable to a sign in the same location;
  - 9.11.8 Any sign which is obsolete or abandoned, including any sign which does not have 100 percent of the sign surface fully covered with a promotional panel for a continuous period of 6 months;
  - 9.11.9 Any sign which is illegal under State laws or regulations;
  - 9.11.10 Signs which are erected or maintained upon trees or painted or drawn upon rocks or other natural features;
  - 9.11.11 Signs located on public property, unless placed thereon under lease arrangements or otherwise permitted by legal authority;
  - 9.11.12 Signs which contain statements, words, or pictures of an obscene nature as defined by law;
  - 9.11.13 Signs which contain as part of the message mirror-like surfaces; (Note: One-inch reflective discs that do not cover more than 5 percent of the sign surface and produce no traffic impeding glare will be permitted.)
  - 9.11.14 Signs which are constructed so as to periodically change the direction toward which any place containing the sign surface area is oriented; and
  - 9.11.15 Signs which emit smoke, vapor, particles, or odor.
- 9.12 **Design, Construction and Maintenance Standards for Off-Premise Signs**
  - 9.12.1 **Construction Standards**  
All off-premise signs shall be designed, constructed and maintained in accordance with the following standards:
    - A. All signs shall comply with applicable provisions of the City or Parish building code.

- B. All wiring to new signs and existing signs that are being upgraded shall be placed underground. Electric signs that have internal wiring or lighting equipment, and external lighting equipment that directs light on signs, shall not be erected or installed until an electrical permit has been obtained from the building official. Signs and their installation shall conform to applicable construction and electrical codes. All electric signs shall have a power disconnect switch located either on the exterior of the sign or accessible through an operable cover, and shall be labeled with a sticker or other notice on the exterior of the sign to indicate the voltage and amperage of electrical circuits connected to the sign.
- C. Except for permitted banners, flags, temporary signs and window signs conforming in all respects with the requirements of this Article, all signs shall be constructed of permanent materials and shall be attached to the ground, a building or another structure by direct attachment to a wall, frame or structure.

**9.12.2 Backs of Signs**

Visible backs of signs shall be suitably painted or otherwise covered to present a neat and clean appearance.

**9.12.3 Maintenance Standards**

All signs shall be maintained in good structural condition, in compliance with all building and electrical codes, and in conformance with this Code. Specifically:

- A. A sign shall have no more than 20 percent of its surface area covered with disfigured, cracked, ripped or peeling paint, poster paper or other material for a period of more than 30 successive days.
- B. A sign shall not stand with bent or broken sign facing, with broken supports, with loose appendages or struts, or more than 15 degrees from vertical for a period of more than ten successive days.
- C. A sign shall not have weeds, trees, vines, or other vegetation growing upon it, or obscuring the view of the sign from the public right-of-way from which it is to be viewed, for a period of more than 30 successive days.
- D. An internally illuminated sign shall be allowed to stand with only partial illumination for a period of no more than 30 successive days.
- E. Electronic signs, such as LED illuminated, with a static face shall have a minimum display time of 8 seconds and transition time between advertisers of 1 second or less.
- F. All internally illuminated signs shall meet the following brightness standards:  
No sign shall be brighter than .3 foot-candles over ambient lighting conditions and shall have automatic dimming capability. An automatic light sensing device (such as photocell or similar technology) shall be utilized for automatically adjusting the digital billboard's brightness. Brightness measurement shall be taken with a foot-candle meter, perpendicular to the sign face from a distance of 200' for signs less than 390 square feet in size and from 250' for all others.
  - 2. No sign shall be of such intensity or brilliance as to impair the vision of a motor vehicle driver or to otherwise interfere with the driver's operation of a motor vehicle.
  - 3. No sign shall be of such intensity or brilliance that it interferes with the effectiveness of an official traffic sign, device or signal.

**9.12.4 Signs in the A-1 Airbase Buffer District**

In addition to meeting the above standards, any sign constructed in the A-1 district must also meet regulations set forth by the Federal Aviation Administration and the U.S. Air Force.

**9.13 Nonconforming Off-Premise Signs**

Nonconforming off-premise signs shall comply with the requirements specified in Section 7.6 of this Code.

**9.14 Eminent Domain Relocation of Off-Premise Signs**

In the event of Eminent Domain, the relocation of an existing sign on the same land parcel shall follow the same approval procedures of Section 3.4.2 of this code. The new location shall meet all requirements of this article.

The ordinance was offered by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Upon vote, it was duly adopted on this 17th day of March, 2010.

CINDY A. DODSON  
PARISH SECRETARY

WANDA BENNETT, PRESIDENT  
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

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Mr. Firth reported that the low bidder on office furnishings for the Cyber Innovation Center is unable to provide a warranty for a portion of its products. He stated that he has advised the low bidder that a warranty is required for all products, and has had no response. Mr. Firth stated that he has advised the bidder that unless a warranty is provided by the close of business today, the bid will be rejected. **Motion was made by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Hammack, to award the bid for furnishings for the Cyber Innovation Center to the low bidder meeting all bid specifications and requirements. Motion carried unanimously.**

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Ms. Dodson announced the public hearing to consider the application of River Rouge Plantation, LLC, to the Bossier City-Parish MPC for a zoning amendment to change the zoning classification of a 78 acre tract of land located on the south side of Cash Point Road, in a portion of Sections 29 and 30, Township 19 North, Range 13 West, Bossier Parish, LA, from R-A, Residential-Agriculture, to I-1, Light-Industry District, for an industrial complex. The application received a favorable recommendation from the Bossier City-Parish MPC.

Mr. Ford stated that he has reviewed the application with Mr. Ken Smith, engineer for the project, and Mr. Keith Tindell, Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, and has provided a letter to Mr. Robert Stinson, III, River Rouge Plantation, LLC, outlining the various comments and safety issues which were discussed regarding the proposed development, as follows:

- 1) Intersection improvements at LA Highway 3 and Cash Point Road:

- a) Northbound left turning lane will be required
- b) Southbound right acceleration lane off Cash Point Road will be required
- c) Southbound right turn lane is required unless a traffic impact study concludes otherwise
- d) Railroad crossing – DOTD recommends an eastbound designated right turn lane. This will require that the existing crossing be widened to 36 feet. Railroad signals at the crossing will also be required. Estimated cost for these improvements is \$300,000 and a Letter of Credit for this amount will be required, to be drawn on within the next year.

Mr. Ford stated that signaling at LA Highway 3/Cash Point Road/Lafitte Lane is not recommended at this time.

2) Cash Point Road:

- a) Cash Point Road must be brought up to parish road standards for an industrial roadway. (soil cement base/asphalt pave)
- b) The roadway will need to be designed so that trucks can travel safely over the tracks. Raising the roadway on the west side of the tracks may be necessary; profiles and grades needed.

3) Drainage:

- a) Developer must address the ongoing drainage problem at this location and provide a solution. The State of Louisiana has designed double 42-inch RCP under LA Highway 3, but Plantation Estates has only double 30-inch cross drains on Dauphine and Bienville. Will these double 30-inch cross drains be capable of properly draining the Industrial Park development through Plantation Estates?

4) Water/Sewer:

- a) Sewer and water must be addressed, specifically the discharge of sewer effluent from the development.

5) Street Lights:

- a) Street lights will be required along Cash Point Road and any new streets constructed within the development. Cash Point Road is also used by the RV center, Cash Point Restaurant and a mini-warehouse facility.

Mr. Ford stated that he has advised Mr. Stinson that all of these items must be addressed prior to plat/site plan approval. He further stated that he recommends that Cash Point Road be improved to two 12-foot lanes with a good turn radius to accommodate large trucks. Mr. Ford stated that DOTD is concerned regarding low clearance on the railroad tracks, advising that the matter of large trucks hanging on the tracks must be considered.

Mr. Ford discussed the matter of drainage issues at this location. Mr. Stinson stated that this is a 78 acre tract and a three-acre minimum lot size is required. Mr. Ford stated that there are problems with the existing drainage and asked how the developer plans to resolve this matter. Mr. Ken Smith, engineer for the development, stated that restoration of the historical drainage pattern through Plantation Estates to Willow Chute is planned. Mr. Avery expressed concern regarding drainage from an industrial development through a residential subdivision. Mr. Smith stated that discharge is regulated and permitted by the Department of Environmental Quality.

After further discussion, **motion was made by Mr. Hammack, seconded by Mr. Butler, to table this matter for further information and review. Motion carried unanimously.**

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**Motion was made by Mr. Cummings, seconded by Mr. Johnston, to schedule a public hearing on April 7, 2010, to consider approval of the plat of the proposed resubdivision of Lots 24, 25 and 26, Northlake Estates, Unit No. 3, located off Butler Hill Road in Section 14, Township 20 North, Range 13 West, Bossier Parish, LA. Motion carried unanimously.**

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Mr. Richard Gunter, Property Standards Officer, reported on a meeting of the Property Standards Board of Review, and advised that following a review of the condition of property at 212 Johnson Drive, Elm Grove, LA, it is recommended by the Board of Review that the property be condemned. **Motion was made by Mr. Benton, seconded by Mr. Meachum, to proceed with the condemnation of property at 212 Johnson Drive, Elm Grove, LA, in accordance with property standards regulations. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Gunter further reported that the Property Standards Board of Review was provided pictures of property at 397 Princeton Road, and it is recommended that this matter be further considered by the Board of Review at its May 5, 2010, meeting. Mr. Gunter advised that the condition of property at 403 Princeton Road was also reviewed, and will be further considered at the April 21, 2010, Board of Review meeting.

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**Motion was made by Mr. Meachum, seconded by Mr. Darby, to table the consideration of amendments to the Bossier Parish Commercial Vehicle Enforcement ordinance to include penalties for violation of regulations which provide that no tire shall exceed the manufacturer's recommended tire pressure, to be considered at the April 7, 2010, regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.**

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**Motion was made by Mr. Plummer, seconded by Mr. Johnston, to approve the reappointment of Mr. Jim Williams, Mr. Jeff DeLaune and Mr. Richard Christian to the Board of Directors for Bossier Parish Communications District No. 1 for four-year terms each, terms to expire March 1, 2014. Motion carried unanimously.** Mr. Altimus stated that in accordance with attendance reports, the attendance of these board members is exemplary.

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**Motion was made by Mr. Cochran, seconded by Mr. Hammack, to approve the reappointment of Mr. Dan McGrath to the Bossier City-Parish MPC Board of Appeals for a five-year term, term to expire April 1, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.** Mr. Sam Marsiglia, Bossier City-Parish MPC, stated that Mr. McGrath has an excellent attendance record and has asked to be considered for appointment to the Board of Directors when a position becomes available.

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**Motion was made by Mr. Hammack, seconded by Mr. Cochran, to approve the reappointment of Dr. Michael Acurio and Mr. Bob Sykes to the Benton-Parish MPC Board of Appeals for five-year terms each, terms to expire April 1, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.** Ms. Nancy Penwell, Benton-Parish MPC, stated that she recommends reappointment of these members.

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**Motion was made by Mr. Butler, seconded by Mr. Benton, to accept the proposal of Coyle Engineering Co., Inc., in the amount of \$5,700, to provide surveying and engineering services in connection with the Gary Rex Circle Crossing of Tributary to Red Chute Bayou, 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 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2010, that Wanda Bennett, President, be and is hereby authorized to execute on behalf of the Bossier Parish Police Jury, a proposal with Coyle Engineering Co., Inc., in the amount of \$5,700, to provide surveying and engineering services in connection with the Gary Rex Circle Crossing of Tributary to Red Chute Bayou.

The resolution was offered by Mr. Butler, seconded by Mr. Benton. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2010.

CINDY A. DODSON  
PARISH SECRETARY

WANDA BENNETT, PRESIDENT  
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

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**Motion was made by Mr. Darby, seconded by Mr. Plummer, to authorize completion of the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire in connection with the 2009 audit of Bossier Parish Police Jury financial records, 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 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2010, that Wanda Bennett, President, be and is hereby authorized to execute on behalf of the Bossier Parish Police Jury, the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire in connection with the 2009 audit of Bossier Parish Police Jury financial records.

The resolution was offered by Mr. Darby, seconded by Mr. Plummer. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2010.

CINDY A. DODSON  
PARISH SECRETARY

WANDA BENNETT, PRESIDENT  
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

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**Motion was made by Mr. Hammack, seconded by Mr. Cochran, to approve Change Order No. 18 on the Cyber Innovation Center Building, and to authorize the Parish Administrator to execute documents. Motion carried unanimously.**

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2010, that it does hereby approve Change Order No. 18 on the Cyber Innovation Center Building.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that William R. Altimus, Parish Administrator, is hereby authorized to execute said Change Order No. 18.

The resolution was offered by Mr. Hammack, seconded by Mr. Cochran. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2010.

CINDY A. DODSON  
PARISH SECRETARY

WANDA BENNETT, PRESIDENT  
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

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**Motion was made by Mr. Cochran, seconded by Mr. Darby, to approve the adoption of a resolution opposing the elimination of staff positions at the Northwest Louisiana Veteran's Home and urging the restoration of the home's full funding. Motion carried unanimously.**

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE ELIMINATION OF STAFF POSITIONS AT THE NORTHWEST LOUISIANA VETERAN'S HOME AND URGING THE RESTORATION OF THE HOME'S FULL FUNDING

WHEREAS, the Bossier Parish Police Jury has long been deeply concerned about and actively involved in efforts that related to the needs and well-being of this nation's war veterans, and particularly those residing in the northwest Louisiana region; and

WHEREAS, an indication of that interest and concern was demonstrated by the police jury's strong support for establishing the Northwest Louisiana War Veteran's Home in Bossier Parish; and

WHEREAS, recent desperate attempts by the State to belatedly rectify shortcomings in the management of its budget have now resulted in reductions in numerous State departments and programs, including the Department of Veterans Affairs; and

WHEREAS, funding cuts in that Department have not taken the form of essential staff reductions at the Northwest Louisiana War Veteran's Home, with the result that the Home has lost a pharmacy, a pharmacist and a nurse practitioner who were vital to the proper care of the approximately 145 aging warriors who reside there; and

WHEREAS, the loss of these two positions places an unreasonable burden of care and responsibility upon the Home's staff physician and nurses, lessening their ability to provide proper medical attention and magnifying the potential for error or oversight. This potential for error is particularly applicable in regard to the dispensing of medications, the responsibility for which has been transferred to already-busy and often-diverted nurses. They now must function as pharmacists—drawing the medicines from central stock, compiling the drugs into individual doses for 40 or more patients, and then administering them; and

WHEREAS, the Bossier Parish Police Jury recognizes that revenue shortfalls impose an obvious negative impact on budgets, and that expenditure reductions are necessary and correct. However, this police jury also harbors a strong conviction that a compelling moral gravity should render certain budgetary responsibilities inviolable, among those being the fulfillment of promise, spoken and unspoken, that this nation and this state have repeatedly made to those who willingly stepped forward to place themselves between us and those who would strip us of our fortunes and our freedoms; and

WHEREAS, this police jury considers the responsibilities of this State and this Nation to its veterans to be no less than a sacred trust—a trust that transcends the machinations of political wranglings; a promise that cannot be broken or compromised.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Bossier Parish Police Jury in legal and regular session convened on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2010, that it does with a most fervent sincerity and conviction protest and condemn the budgetary reductions that threaten the well-being of the veterans of this State, and certainly those residents of Northwest Louisiana War Veteran's Home, and it asks that those reductions be fully restored.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Governor and the Legislature of the State of Louisiana approach the expenditure of this State's revenues with an attitude of true stewardship, and that it concentrate its cost-cutting efforts on areas of the budget that truly can be and should be reduced or eliminated; areas which are costing far, far more than the \$215,000 that was stripped from the Northwest Louisiana Veteran's Home.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if any provision or item of this resolution or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications of this resolution which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications and to this end the provisions of this resolution are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

The resolution was offered by Mr. Cochran, seconded by Mr. Darby. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2010.

CINDY A. DODSON  
PARISH SECRETARY

WANDA BENNETT, PRESIDENT  
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

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Mr. Altimus reported that the request for funding for the proposed Eastwood Drainage Improvements project has moved favorably out of the Senate and will now go to the Legislature for concurrence.

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Mr. Altimus advised that Ms. Bennett has asked that the police jury send a letter to the Town of Benton regarding the status of drainage issues at 1900 Parkridge Drive. **Motion was made by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Cochran, to authorize a letter to the Town of Benton requesting the current status of a drainage problem at 1900 Parkridge Drive, Benton, LA. Motion carried unanimously.**

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Mr. Ford reported that FEMA has completed its review of the jury's expenses due to the recent flood and tornado event, advising that the jury should be reimbursed 75% of its total expenses. He stated that reimbursement is available for storm-related expenses only.

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In response to question by Mr. Meachum, Mr. Ford advised that the Corps of Engineers is requesting that the jury consider rescinding its abandonment of a portion of Bossier Point Road to provide them access to the game reserve. He stated that the engineering staff is currently reviewing this matter.

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Mr. Ford reported that water and sewer work is being done at the Princeton Sports Complex, and stated that the new restrooms are complete.

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Jurors were provided a list of current projects and the consultants for each.

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Mr. Ronnie Andrews, Public Works Director, reported that highway department employees will begin working nine hour days on April 5, 2010.

Mr. Andrews advised that the Cypress Black Bayou Recreation and Water Conservation District has requested that highway department crews be authorized to blade and place gravel on the boat launch on Highway 162, advising that they have offered to pay for the gravel. **Motion was made by Mr. Hammack, seconded by Mr. Johnston, to authorize parish crews to blade and place gravel on the boat launch on Highway 162, with the Cypress Black Bayou Recreation and Water Conservation District paying the cost of the gravel. Motion carried unanimously.**

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Mr. Cochran advised of a request from Parkway High School for discretionary funds, advising that the request will be considered at the April 21, 2010, Finance Committee meeting.

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Finance Committee Report – March 17, 2010, 1:30p.m.

The Finance Committee of the Bossier Parish Police Jury met on this 17th day of March, 2010, at 1:30 p.m., in the Police Jury Meeting Room, Bossier Parish Courthouse, Benton, Louisiana, with Ms. Bennett absent and excused.

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Mr. G. B. Cazes, Cyber Innovation Center, discussed the CIC Academic Outreach Program. He stated that a knowledge-based program has been developed for students in kindergarten through post-graduate classes, in an effort to introduce the CIC research park to citizens of the area. Mr. Cazes discussed the recent national robotics competition held in Bossier City and advised that Bossier will become a regional site for this competition in the future. He stated that twenty teams from across a 150 mile span came to Bossier City to compete in the competition and the two top winning teams were from Parkway High School and Benton High School. Mr. Cazes stated that the teams from Parkway High School and Benton High School are now eligible to compete in the national competition in Dayton, Ohio, in June of 2010, and stated that travel funds are needed. He advised that the Mini-Urban Challenge group will contribute \$2,000 per team, but there will be additional expenses. Mr. Cazes reported that approximately 10 students are attending. Mr. Altimus urged jurors to consider contributing discretionary funds to help offset travel expenses, advising that these students have the opportunity to earn national recognition.

**Motion was made by Mr. Cummings, seconded by Mr. Benton, to approve the contribution of discretionary funds in a total amount of up to \$10,000, to be divided equally among jurors, for travel expenses for students from Parkway High School and Benton High School to attend the National Robotics Competition in Dayton, Ohio, in June of 2010. Motion carried unanimously.** Mr. Cazes is to submit an itemized list of travel expenses.

\*\*\*

**Motion was made by Mr. Cummings, seconded by Mr. Butler, to amend the agenda to add Dr. Shelly Barrett, Meadowview Elementary, and Mr. Kenneth Dawson. Motion carried, with the following vote recorded: AYES: Mr. Altimus, Mr. Avery, Mr. Benton, Mr. Butler, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Cummings, Mr. Darby, Mr. Hammack, Mr. Johnston, Mr. Meachum, Mr. Plummer.**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSTAIN: None**

**ABSENT: Ms. Bennett**

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Dr. Shelley Barrett, Meadowview Elementary, introduced Mr. Kenneth Dawson, a student from Airline High School. Mr. Dawson stated that he is a member of Troop 64 of the Boy Scouts of America and is currently working to obtain his Eagle Scout badge. He requested the jury's assistance in the placement of informational signs around the track at Meadowview Elementary School. Mr. Dawson advised that the proposed signs will provide information on physical education and on fitness facts such as how to calculate calories burned while walking or running. Mr. Dawson advised that this information can also be used by students at the school during physical education classes. Mr. Cummings presented photos of the proposed signs and asked if the signs can be made at the highway department sign shop. Mr. Andrews, Public Works Director, advised that he will check into the matter. **Motion was made by Mr. Cummings, seconded by Mr. Avery, to approve the contribution of discretionary funds to provide educational signs around the track at Meadowview Elementary School, as requested by Mr. Kenneth Dawson for his Eagle Scout project. Motion carried unanimously.**

\*\*\*

**Motion was made by Mr. Benton, seconded by Mr. Cummings, to approve payment of accounts payable invoices in the amount of \$3,354.26 for the Johnny Gray Jones Youth Shelter for the month of February, 2010, as follows:**

Storer Equipment Sales	\$ 783.26
Tubbs Hardware & Rental	\$ 26.96
R E Michel Company, Inc.	\$ 84.92
Neil Erwin Law, LLC	\$1,664.00
Jayroes Hardware & Garden	\$ 23.48
Mantek	\$ 651.70
Plumbmaster	\$ 119.94

**Motion carried unanimously.**

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**Motion was made by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Benton, to approve payment of all other accounts payable invoices for the month of February, 2010. Motion carried unanimously.**

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**Motion was made by Mr. Benton, seconded by Mr. Meachum, that Mr. Benton and Mr. Meachum will contribute discretionary funds in the amount of \$1,501.29 each, for a total of \$3,002.58, to Houghton Middle School for helmets for the football team. Motion carried, with Mr. Butler opposing.**

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**Motion was made by Mr. Hammack, seconded by Mr. Plummer, that Mr. Hammack, Mr. Plummer and Mr. Meachum will contribute matching discretionary funds in the amount of \$563.42 each, for a total of \$1,690.26 to Parkway High School for a PA system for the football stadium. Motion carried, with Mr. Butler opposing.**

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**Motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Cummings, that Mr. Cummings will contribute discretionary funds in the amount of \$1,000, Mr. Avery will contribute matching discretionary funds in the amount of \$1,797.50, and Mr. Cochran will contribute matching discretionary funds in the amount of \$797.50, for a total of \$3,595 to Airline High School for crimson red deluxe blend infield conditioner for the softball field. Motion carried, with Mr. Butler opposing.**

\*\*\*

Mr. Avery referred to discretionary funds that were previously approved at the February 17, 2010, Finance Committee meeting for completion of a batting cage and replacing a scoreboard for the Benton High School softball team. **Motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Johnston, that Mr. Avery will contribute discretionary funds in the amount of \$1,000 and Mr. Johnston will contribute matching discretionary funds in the amount of \$1,000, for a total of \$2,000 to Benton High School for completing the batting cage and replacing a scoreboard for the softball team. Motion carried, with Mr. Butler opposing.**

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**Motion was made by Mr. Butler, seconded by Mr. Hammack, that Mr. Butler, Mr. Hammack and Mr. Plummer will contribute discretionary funds in the amount of \$166.66 each, for a total of \$500 to Keep Bossier Beautiful for the annual Earth Day Fest. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Altimus reported that on Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., 100 trees will be planted at the North Bossier Park in celebration of Arbor Day to replace the trees that were destroyed by the recent tornado.

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**Motion was made by Mr. Cummings, seconded by Mr. Altimus, that Mr. Cummings and Mr. Altimus will contribute discretionary funds in the amount of \$300 each, for a total of \$600 to Central Park Elementary for Teacher Appreciation Week. Motion carried, with Mr. Butler opposing.**

\*\*\*

Mr. Plummer reported on a meeting of the Finance Subcommittee regarding the proposal of Merrill Lynch and Blackrock Investments to enter into an agreement with the police jury for the management of funds designated as investment funds. Mr. Plummer advised that the committee agrees that the proposal should be considered, but recommends that all options be explored. Mr. Plummer advised that there are no recommendations from the Finance Subcommittee at this time.

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Mr. Altimus presented a quarterly budget report, advising that at this time, the only fund in a deficit is the Capital Projects Fund. Mr. Altimus reported that although a deficit is shown, growth in the parish is continuing. He advised that 459 new subdivision lots were approved in 2009 and 139 subdivision lots have been approved in 2010.

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Mr. Altimus reported on a request from Mr. Bobby McElwee for assistance in the replacement of a fence on Boler Road which he alleges has been damaged by parish road crews. Photographs of the fence were presented for review by the jury. Mr. Johnston advised that Mr. McElwee has rejected an offer by the police jury in the amount of \$500 to repair the fence. Mr. Hammack recommended that no action be taken. The jury concurred.

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**Motion was made by Mr. Hammack, seconded by Mr. Cochran, to approve the request for 10 additional sick days in 2010 for Melissa Toys, police jury employee. Motion carried unanimously.**

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The Finance Committee meeting was adjourned by the Chairman

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There being no further business to come before the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2010, the meeting was adjourned by the Vice President at 4:00 p.m.

CINDY A. DODSON  
PARISH SECRETARY

RICK AVERY, VICE PRESIDENT  
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY