

BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY  
BENTON, LOUISIANA  
SPECIAL MEETING  
May 18, 2011

The Bossier Parish Police Jury met in special and legal session on this 18th day of May, 2011, at 11:00 a.m., in the Police Jury Meeting Room, Bossier Parish Courthouse, Benton, Louisiana. The President, Mr. Rick Avery, called the meeting to order and the Parish Secretary, Ms. Cindy Dodson, called the roll, with the following members present:

Mr. Bill 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

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Ms. Dodson announced the purpose of the special meeting:

1. To hold a public hearing to allow public comment on the proposed Bossier Parish Police Jury Redistricting Plan.
2. To consider any other business that may come before the Bossier Parish Police Jury in special session.

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Mr. Gary Joiner, Precision Cartographics, stated that following each census, all elected bodies with districts are required to reapportion themselves. Mr. Joiner stated that in accordance with the 2010 Census, the total population of Bossier Parish has increased by approximately 17,000 people, to a new total population of 116,979. He stated that with 12 police jury districts, the ideal population per district is 9,748. Mr. Joiner stated Police Jury District 6 gained the most in population and Police Jury District 7 lost the most. He stated that some of the districts grew unevenly, and advised that in establishing the new police jury districts, he has worked to equally distribute the parish population.

Mr. Joiner stated that he utilizes standard operating procedures in establishing the new police jury districts, and stated that he makes every effort to maintain communities of people who may know each other and share like interests. He stated that he also works to protect minority interests. Mr. Butler stated that the growth in Bossier Parish has extended the population further out into the parish.

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The President called for public comment. Mr. Kenneth Weaver stated that he currently resides in Police Jury District 5 and votes in Bossier Parish Precinct 4-11A. He stated that he understands that if the proposed redistricting plan is adopted, he will reside in Police Jury District 4 and vote in Bossier Parish Precinct 4-1A. Mr. Weaver stated that he lives on the north side of Dogwood Subdivision and does not understand the connection between the people of this area and the rural communities of Police Jury District 4. He stated that no common interests exist among these communities and asked how the proposed change is legitimate. Mr. Joiner explained that it is necessary to increase the population of Police Jury District 4, and he has made every effort to make the necessary changes as efficient as possible. Mr. Butler stated that in accordance with the 2010 Census, Mr. Johnston's district, Police Jury District 4, needed to gain population and that his district, Police Jury District 5, needed to lose population. He stated that they worked several hours drawing lines to best accommodate the needs of the districts.

Mr. Weaver requested information on the population per precinct and Mr. Joiner offered to provide him with that information as soon as possible. Mr. Joiner stated that when he works on a redistricting plan, there is no intent to see how large or small a precinct can be, and verified that there can be no more than 2,200 voters in a precinct. He further stated redistricting is done according to population, not voter turn out. Mr. Joiner explained that when you have a district like Police Jury District 4 that extends from the Arkansas state line down, and there are pressures from within the cities to expand out, changes must be made and in this case, this is where the necessary changes were most feasible.

There were no further comments from the public.

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There being no further business to come before the Bossier Parish Police Jury in special and legal session on this 18<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2011, the meeting was adjourned by the President at 11:30 a.m.

CINDY A. DODSON  
PARISH SECRETARY

RICK AVERY, PRESIDENT  
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY