

BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY
BENTON, LOUISIANA
MINUTES
April 3, 2013
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The Bossier Parish Police Jury met in regular and legal session on the 3rd day of April, 2013, 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 Mr. Fred Shewmake. The Parish Treasurer, Ms. Sheryl Thomas, called the roll, with all members present, as follows:

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| Mr. Rick Avery | Mr. Jerome Darby |
| Ms. Wanda Bennett | Mr. Wayne Hammack |
| Mr. Glenn Benton | Mr. Mac Plummer |
| Mr. Bob Brotherton | Mr. Doug Rimmer |
| Mr. Jimmy Cochran | Mr. Fred Shewmake |
| Mr. Sonny Cook | Mr. Jack Skaggs |

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

Ms. Thomas announced the hearing to determine the viciousness of dogs belonging to Clarence Dillard, Jr., at 1050 Caplis Sligo Road, Bossier City, LA.

Mr. Jackson stated that several complaints have been received regarding vicious dogs at 1050 Caplis Sligo Road, Bossier City, LA. He stated that the property owner, Mr. Clarence Dillard, received notification of today's hearing by letter via first class and certified mail, and requested that the record reflect that Mr. Dillard is not present at today's hearing. Mr. Jackson stated that Mr. Dillard was cited by the Bossier Parish Sheriff's Office for a leash law violation in Case No. 198,269, on February 15, 2013, and was scheduled to appear today in the 26th Judicial District Court. He stated that as Mr. Dillard is not present, a bench warrant has been issued for his arrest. Mr. Jackson requested that the jury proceed with hearing evidence on this matter today as Mr. Dillard has been properly notified of today's hearing.

Mr. Justin Jeffery, Bossier Parish Animal Control Officer, reported that on February 15, 2013, the Bossier Parish Sheriff's Office dispatched him to 1050 Caplis Sligo Road, Bossier City, LA, due to a complaint of two dogs attacking another dog at a home at 1040 Caplis Sligo Road. He stated that the two dogs belonging to Mr. Dillard were transported to the Bossier City Animal Shelter.

In response to question by Mr. Jackson, Mr. Jeffery advised that the two dogs impounded from 1050 Caplis Sligo Road were released from the Bossier City Animal Shelter on February 27, 2013, to Mr. Dillard's sister, and that the dogs were to be housed at her home at 1041 Wanda Drive, Bossier City, LA. Mr. Jackson asked Mr. Jeffery if he is aware that Bossier City officials have inspected the facility at 1041 Wanda Drive, and determined that it is habitable for the animals. Mr. Jeffery confirmed that this information has been provided to him.

Mr. Jeffery stated that on March 23, 2013, the Bossier Parish Sheriff's Office dispatched him to 1050 Caplis Sligo Road in response to a complaint that Mr. Dillard's two dogs had again attacked the dog at the residence at 1040 Caplis Sligo Road. He stated that on March 25, 2013, he went to the home of Ms. Kimberly Rogers, the complainant at 1040 Caplis Sligo Road, and confirmed that bite marks were found on the back of Ms. Rogers' dog and a two-inch laceration was found on the dog's left thigh. Mr. Jeffery stated that the incident occurred on Ms. Rogers' property. He stated that he visited Mr. Dillard and found his two dogs locked in a storage room.

Mr. Jeffery stated that Ms. Rogers advised him of several other incidents where Mr. Dillard's dogs have attacked her dog, but the incident on February 15, 2013, was the first attack she reported. Mr. Jeffery stated that on March 25, 2013, he advised Mr. Dillard that he is required to keep his dogs on a leash. He further stated that Mr. Dillard advised him that the dogs were at his home temporarily due to a death in the family, and would be returned to his sister's home at 1041 Wanda Drive in two days.

Ms. Kimberly Rogers, 1040 Caplis Sligo Road, Bossier City, LA, stated that as of today, the two dogs are still being kept at Mr. Dillard's home, and advised that these dogs have attacked her dog on her property on five different occasions. She stated that she has veterinary records for three of the attacks which resulted in her dog needing stitches and staples due to the injuries. She presented photographs of the injuries her dog sustained from the attack on March 23, 2013, advising that her dog received 30 stitches.

Ms. Rogers stated that she filed a police report on two of the five incidents, and advised that she has spoken with Mr. Dillard regarding the attacks. In response to question by Mr. Jackson regarding the breed of Mr. Dillard's dogs, Ms. Rogers advised that one is a chow mix and the other is a cur-heeler mix.

Mr. Jackson asked how Mr. Dillard's dogs are accessing Ms. Rogers' property. Ms. Rogers stated that the dogs come under a cattle gate on her property and advised that Mr. Dillard's property is not fenced.

Mr. Jackson stated that if the jury determines that the dogs are vicious, he is authorized to petition the court to have the dogs removed and/or euthanized. Mr. Jackson stated that in accordance with parish regulations, the police jury is authorized to petition the court for an immediate impoundment order until such time as the court determines what action is necessary.

Mr. Brotherton stated that he has some experience in training dogs, and it is important that you start dogs at an early age with socialization with both humans and other animals. He stated that it is apparent that Mr. Dillard's dogs have become animal aggressive and will continue to attack other animals, and a child could be hurt as well. He stated that the natural instinct of a dog is to attack, and when there are two dogs running as a pack, they will attack to kill.

Motion was made by Mr. Brotherton, seconded by Mr. Shewmake, to declare the two dogs belonging to Mr. Clarence Dillard, Jr., at 1050 Caplis Sligo Road, Bossier City, LA, as vicious, and to authorize the Parish Attorney to petition the court for an immediate impoundment order so that these dogs will be kept at the pound until such time as the court determines whether the dogs are to be permanently relocated or euthanized.

The President called for public comment. There being none, **votes were cast and the motion carried unanimously.**

Ms. Thomas announced the public hearing to consider approval of the plat of the proposed development of Jamestowne Subdivision, Unit No. 1, located in Section 9, Township 19 North, Range 13 West, Bossier Parish, LA.

Mr. Kurt Nixon, Nixon Engineering Solutions, was present on behalf of the developer. Mr. Ford presented the master plan for the proposed development of Jamestowne Subdivision, Unit No. 1, advising that Flat River is located north of the property. He stated that Palmetto Park Subdivision and South Parkridge Subdivision are located across Flat River. Mr. Ford stated that there are a number of homes in these subdivisions that were built at or just below the base flood elevation, and there is concern that the proposed development may cause a rise in the water surface elevation in Flat River. He further stated that the proposed development would occupy the majority of the flood zone along this area.

Mr. Ford stated that Mr. Nixon has developed a detention plan for the proposed development to meet parish no adverse impact regulations, and includes a plan for water storage to meet FEMA regulations. He stated that this type of drainage has not been attempted in Bossier Parish, advising that there will be three detention/storage ponds located throughout the proposed subdivision with culverts to allow excess water from Flat River to flow into the detention/storage ponds to prevent a rise in the water elevation in Flat River. Mr. Ford stated that Mr. Nixon has provided a letter stating these facts as they want to ensure that homes on the other side of Flat River are protected.

Mr. Ford stated that the proposed development consists of 172 lots with an 80' boulevard entrance. He stated that a 60' road right-of-way is planned. Mr. Ford stated that lots are to be 60' x 135' in size and homes must be a minimum 1,400 square feet. He stated that covenants, streetlights and sidewalks are also planned. Mr. Ford stated that storage ponds for this unit need to be built immediately. He stated that the front portion of the property will be kept open for possible commercial development in the future. Mr. Ford recommended approval of the proposed development.

Mr. Brotherton expressed concern regarding the depth of the three ponds, and Mr. Nixon advised that the overall depth will be approximately eight feet with gradual slopes in order to sustain a green area element. He stated that the large pond will have very shallow slopes with some landscape berms in the bottom. Mr. Nixon stated that the ponds are designed to drain completely when there is no rain event or large flood and serve as a green space that the neighborhood can use.

Mr. Brotherton expressed concern regarding any liability to the police jury with these ponds. Mr. Ford stated that the Levee Board and the Bossier Parish Police Jury will have no responsibility concerning these areas, and the covenants clearly state that it is the responsibility of the homeowners association. Mr. Nixon stated that access to the green space areas is through the Levee Board easement, advising there will be a type of roadway in the levee easement to access the areas. Mr. Ford stated that the Levee Board has approved the proposed drainage plan.

Mr. Cochran expressed concern that the homeowner's association will fail to maintain the ponds and green spaces in the future, and citizens will be looking to the police jury for maintenance assistance. Ms. Bennett stated that the area of the proposed development is a low area, but that Mr. Williams has spent a lot of time and money to meet all of the parish's requirements for this development. She stated that the proposed covenants do specify that the homeowner's association or developer is responsible for maintenance of the ponds and all areas around the ponds. She stated that the proposed development has been thoroughly reviewed and recommended approval.

Mr. Greg Williams, developer, stated that there are problems with homeowner's associations parishwide and recommended that in the future, when lots are sold the fees for that homeowner's association should be collected up front for one to two years. Ms. Bennett recommended that the issue of the collection of fees for homeowner's association be referred to the Road/Subdivision Regulations Committee for further discussion.

After further discussion, and there being no opposition, **motion was made by Ms. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Benton, to approve the plat of the proposed development of Jamestowne Subdivision, Unit No. 1, located in Section 9, Township 19 North, Range 13 West, Bossier Parish, LA.**

The President called for public comment. There being none, **votes were cast and the motion carried unanimously.**

Motion was made by Mr. Brotherton, seconded by Mr. Rimmer, to schedule a public hearing on April 30, 2013, to consider converting Harbor Landing Road located off Parish Camp Road, to a one-way road.

The President called for public comment. There being none, **votes were cast and the motion carried unanimously.**

Ms. Thomas announced the hearing to consider condemnation of property at 205 Flagg Drive, Haughton, LA. Mr. Mike Vetkoetter, Property Standards Officer, presented current photographs of the property and reported that there has been no change in the condition of the property.

After further discussion, **motion was made by Mr. Benton, seconded by Mr. Brotherton, to proceed with condemnation of property at 205 Flagg Drive, Haughton, LA, in accordance with property standards regulations.**

The President called for public comment. There being none, **votes were cast and the motion carried unanimously.**

Ms. Bennett reported on a meeting of the Legislative Committee, advising that she, Mr. Hammack, Mr. Rimmer, and Mr. Shewmake were present. She stated that Mr. Sammy Halphen and Mr. Altimus were also present. Other jurors present were Mr. Plummer, Mr. Benton, Mr. Avery, Mr. Brotherton, and Mr. Cochran.

Ms. Bennett stated that the committee discussed the upcoming Legislative Session and bills that have been filed and advised that several jurors are planning to attend the Police Jury Association Legislative Day on May 1, 2013, in Baton Rouge.

Motion was made by Mr. Darby, seconded by Mr. Hammack, to adopt a proclamation proclaiming the month of April, 2013, as Fair Housing Month in Bossier Parish.

The President called for public comment. There being none, **votes were cast and the motion carried unanimously.**

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the 45th Anniversary of the National Fair Housing Law, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, during the month of April, is an occasion for all Americans – individually and collectively – to rededicate themselves for the principle of freedom from housing discrimination whenever it exists; and

WHEREAS, this law guarantees each citizen the critical, personal element of freely choosing a home; and

WHEREAS, a fair housing law has been passed by the state of Louisiana, and implementation of the law requires the positive commitment, involvement, and support of each of our citizens; and

WHEREAS, the departments and agencies of the state of Louisiana are to provide leadership in the effort to make fair housing not just an idea, but an ideal for all our citizens; and

WHEREAS, barriers that diminish the rights and limit the options of any citizen to freely choose a home will ultimately diminish the rights and limit the option of all.

NOW, THEREFORE, We, The Bossier Parish Police Jury, do hereby proclaim the month of April, 2013, as
FAIR HOUSING MONTH

in the Parish of Bossier, and do hereby encourage all citizens to abide by the letter of spirit of the Fair Housing Law, and ask the citizens of this Parish to join in reaffirming the obligation and commitment to fair housing opportunities for all.

The proclamation was offered by Mr. Darby, seconded by Mr. Hammack. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 3rd day of April, 2013.

CINDY A. DODSON
PARISH SECRETARY

JIMMY COCHRAN, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Motion was made by Mr. Shewmake, seconded by Mr. Benton, to approve the adoption of a Citizen Participation Plan/Citizen Complaint Procedure, and approve the appointment of Mr. Altimus as Citizen Complaint Officer in connection with the FY 2014/2015 Louisiana Community Development Block Grant Program.

The President called for public comment. There being none, **votes were cast and the motion carried unanimously.**

Motion was made by Ms. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Brotherton, to approve the selection of water and street projects to be funded through the FY 2014/2015 Louisiana Community Development Block Grant Program.

The President called for public comment. There being none, **votes were cast and the motion carried unanimously.**

Motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Darby, to authorize the procurement and selection of professional services for the purpose of assisting in the development of the FY 2014/2015 LCDBG applications and implementation of the projects.

The President called for public comment. There being none, **votes were cast and the motion carried unanimously.**

Motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Hammack, to adopt a Procurement Policy for compliance with the FY2014/2015 LCDBG Program.

The President called for public comment. There being none, **votes were cast and the motion carried unanimously.**

Ms. Candace Wilkins requested a letter of no objection to the selling of beer and alcohol at a special event “4th Annual Sucker Punch Sally Rally and Music Festival Benefiting the Hillman House”, to be held on May 17, 2013, from 6:00 p.m. until 12:00 a.m., and May 18, 2013, from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 a.m., at Cash Point The Party Place, 221 Cash Point Landing, Bossier City, Bossier Parish, LA.

Motion was made by Mr. Skaggs, seconded by Mr. Avery, to approve the request of Ms. Judith Bruce, Cash Point The Party Place, for a letter of no objection to the selling of alcohol and beer at a special event “4th Annual Sucker Punch Sally Rally and Music Festival Benefiting the Hillman House” on May 17, 2013, from 6:00 p.m. until 12:00 am., and May 18, 2013, from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 a.m., at Cash Point The Party Place, 221 Cash Point Landing, Bossier City, Bossier Parish, LA.

The President called for public comment. There being none, **votes were cast and the motion carried, with Mr. Hammack abstaining.**

Motion was made by Mr. Benton, seconded by Mr. Skaggs, to ratify acceptance of a proposal from Coyle Engineering Co., Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 to provide surveying services for new fencing at the Lawson Bo Brandon Sports Complex, formally known as Princeton Sports Complex, and to authorize the execution of documents.

The President called for public comment. There being none, **votes were cast and the motion carried unanimously.**

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on this 3rd day of April, 2013, that Jimmy Cochran, President, and/or William Altimus, Parish Administrator, be and are hereby authorized to execute on behalf of the Bossier Parish Police Jury, any and all documents or contracts in connection with the proposal of Coyle Engineering Co., Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$1,000, to provide surveying services for new fencing at the Lawson Bo Brandon Sports Complex, formally known as Princeton Sports Complex.

The resolution was offered by Mr. Benton, seconded by Mr. Skaggs. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 3rd day of April, 2013.

CINDY A. DODSON
PARISH SECRETARY

JIMMY COCHRAN, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Motion was made by Mr. Rimmer, seconded by Mr. Avery, to ratify acceptance of a proposal from Coyle Engineering Co., Inc., in the amount of \$1,500 to provide surveying services for the north right-of-way and south utility easement for the Dogwood Trail Bridge over Red Chute Bayou project, and to authorize the execution of documents.

The President called for public comment. There being none, **votes were cast and the motion carried unanimously.**

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on this 3rd day of April, 2013, that Jimmy Cochran, President, and/or William Altimus, Parish Administrator, be and are hereby authorized to execute on behalf of the Bossier Parish Police Jury, any and all documents or contracts in connection with the proposal of Coyle Engineering Co., Inc., in the amount of \$1,500, to provide surveying services for the north right-of-way and south utility easement for the Dogwood Trail Bridge over Red Chute Bayou project.

The resolution was offered by Mr. Rimmer, seconded by Mr. Avery. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 3rd day of April, 2013.

CINDY A. DODSON
PARISH SECRETARY

JIMMY COCHRAN, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Mr. Bruce Easterly advised that additional surveying services are required for right-of-way for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Phase I, Bossier Parish Drainage Project. **Motion was made by Mr. Skaggs, seconded by Mr. Avery, to accept the proposal of Coyle Engineering Co., Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$3,600, to provide additional services to acquire additional right-of-way at the Lafitte Lane and Wemple Road crossings for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Phase I (Design, Engineering, Surveying, Permits) for the Bossier Parish Drainage Project along Willow Chute Bayou at its intersection with Kingston Road, Lafitte Lane, and Wemple Road, and to authorize the execution of documents.**

The President called for public comment. There being none, **votes were cast and the motion carried unanimously.**

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on this 3rd day of April, 2013, that Jimmy Cochran, President, and/or William Altimus, Parish Administrator, be and is hereby authorized to execute on behalf of the Bossier Parish Police Jury, any and all documents or contracts in connection with the proposal of Coyle Engineering Co., Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$3,600, to provide additional services to acquire additional right-of-way at the Lafitte Lane and Wemple Road crossings for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Phase I (Design, Engineering, Surveying, Permits) for the Bossier Parish Drainage Project along Willow Chute Bayou at its intersection with Kingston Road, Lafitte Lane, and Wemple Road.

The resolution was offered by Mr. Skaggs, seconded by Mr. Avery. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 3rd day of April, 2013.

CINDY A. DODSON
PARISH SECRETARY

JIMMY COCHRAN, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Mr. Easterly presented Plan Change No. 6 on State Project No. 576-08-0001(333)/H.009254, Flood Control Improvements to Tall Timbers Lateral, Phase 3, advising that this plan change provides for 8 additional contract days. **Motion was made by Mr. Benton, seconded by Mr. Brotherton, to approve Plan Change No. 6 on State Project No. 576-08-0001(333)/H.009254, Flood Control Improvements to Tall Timbers Lateral, Phase 3, and to authorize the President to execute documents.**

The President called for public comment. There being none, **votes were cast and the motion carried unanimously.**

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on this 3rd day of April, 2013, that it does hereby approve Plan Change No. 6 on State Project No. 576-08-0001(333)/H.009254, Flood Control Improvements to Tall Timbers Lateral, Phase 3.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Jimmy Cochran, President, is hereby authorized to execute said Plan Change No. 6.

The resolution was offered by Mr. Benton, seconded by Mr. Brotherton. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 3rd day of April, 2013.

CINDY A. DODSON
PARISH SECRETARY

JIMMY COCHRAN, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Mr. Altimus advised that he is scheduling a meeting with Mr. John Miralles, Program Director for LSU-Shreveport Animation and Visual Effects Department, to obtain information regarding the program and to discuss possible funding. He stated that he will notify jurors of the date and time for the meeting and encouraged their attendance.

Mr. Ford stated that utility relocation for the Caplis Sligo Road bridge project is complete, and advised that the bridge will be closed for approximately five to six months. He stated that message boards will be placed on Caplis Sligo Road prior to the start of construction.

Mr. Ford extended appreciation to Mr. Gary Pentek, Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, for his assistance with the Dogwood Trail Bridge project, advising that contracts have been signed. He stated that James Construction Group, LLC, is the low bidder for this project, advising that the bridge will be closed beginning May 15, 2013, and will re-open August 15, 2013.

Mr. Ford stated that he is currently reviewing the final revised plans for the Sligo Road turning lane project.

Mr. Ford advised that a meeting with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and the Louisiana Transportation Research Center, is scheduled on Thursday, April 11, 2013, at 11:30 a.m., to discuss the Destination Zero Deaths program.

Mr. Avery stated that the southbound turn lane on Airline Drive at Kingston Road is not a designated turn lane, but serves as a 50-foot turn allowance into the Bank of Ringgold property. Mr. Ford stated that it is recommended that the 50-foot turn lane be extended to Kingston Road in an effort to improve traffic flow. He stated that a meeting will be scheduled in the next few weeks to discuss the traffic study for this area.

Mr. Hammack inquired about the possibility of increasing the speed limit on the new Sligo Road Extension from 45 miles per hour to 55 miles per hour. Mr. Ford stated that the increased speed limit would only apply to approximately 1.5 miles of roadway, and is then reduced to 15 miles per hour. He stated that he does not recommend an increase in the speed limit at this time.

Mr. Hammack requested an update on the status of an insurance claim filed for damages on the courthouse chiller compressor. Mr. Ford stated that the police jury should receive an insurance payment of approximately \$35,000, advising that these funds will be applied to the cost of the new multi-stack compressor system, which includes the cost for removing the existing compressor.

Mr. Benton requested an update on the Eastwood Lateral project. Mr. Ford stated that right-of-way for the project is being acquired.

Mr. Ronnie Andrews, Public Works Director, reported on activities of the highway department and on several road projects in the parish.

Mr. Benton reported that he has received a complaint regarding trees on Daleen Road which have been cut down by Swepco and not cleaned up. He stated that the trees were cut approximately one month ago and road crews are unable to mow. Mr. Benton requested that Mr. Andrews contact Swepco to request that the trees be removed.

Mr. Avery expressed appreciation to the highway department for their efforts in clearing dead trees throughout the parish.

Mr. Benton reported on a meeting with the Police Jury Association and Governor's staff yesterday, advising that nine bills filed by the House and two by the Senate regarding the removal of state income tax, are now available for review. He stated that a commission will be appointed which is to consist of police jurors, sheriffs and two appointments by the Governor. Mr. Benton advised that there is concern by police jurors regarding the proposed tax increase and how citizens will respond when a parish renews its tax millages. He stated that the Governor's office will hold open forums throughout the state and encouraged all to attend any local forums.

Mr. Cochran reported on a meeting held yesterday regarding closure of the Shreveport Downtown Airport control tower, advising that closure of this tower could be detrimental for the Barksdale Air Force Base flight zone. He advised that efforts are being made to prevent closure of the Shreveport Downtown Airport control tower and requested that the parish participate in these efforts.

Mr. Jackson advised that he, Mr. Cochran and Mr. Altimus will be in Washington, D.C. next week meeting with delegation members.

There being no further business to come before the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on this 3rd day of April, 2013, the meeting was adjourned by the President at 3:10 p.m.

CINDY A. DODSON
PARISH SECRETARY

JIMMY COCHRAN, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY