

BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY
BENTON, LOUISIANA
MINUTES
July 19, 2017
www.bossierparishla.gov

The Bossier Parish Police Jury met in regular and legal session on the 19th day of July, 2017, at 2:00 p.m., in the Police Jury Meeting Room, Bossier Parish Courthouse, Benton, Louisiana. The President, Mr. Bob Brotherton, called the meeting to order. The invocation was given by Mr. Tom Salzer, and the pledge of allegiance was led by Mr. Rick Avery. The Parish Secretary, Ms. Rachel Hauser, called the roll, with all members present, as follows:

Mr. Rick Avery	Mr. Jerome Darby
Ms. Wanda Bennett	Mr. Mac Plummer
Mr. Glenn Benton	Mr. Doug Rimmer, Absent
Mr. Bob Brotherton	Mr. Tom Salzer
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. Rachel Hauser, Parish Secretary.

Motion was made by Mr. Shewmake, seconded by Mr. Plummer, to adopt the minutes of the June 7, 2017, and June 21, 2017, regular meetings, and the June 21, 2017, Finance Committee meeting, as published.

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

Motion was made by Mr. Skaggs, seconded by Mr. Cochran, to appoint Mr. Joe Buffington as Treasurer of the Bossier Parish Police Jury.

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

Motion was made by Mr. Benton, seconded by Mr. Salzer, to authorize the advertising for bids for demolition of homes located at 220 Whispering Pine Drive, Haughton, LA, 224 Whispering Pine Drive, Haughton, LA, 632 Pine Cove Drive, Haughton, LA, 634 Pine Cone Drive, Haughton, LA, 639 Pine Cone Drive, Haughton, LA and 641 Pine Cone Drive, Haughton, LA, which have been approved by Hazard Mitigation Grant Program #4228-015-0001, FEMA-4228-DR-LA, Project #0001, bid date to be determined.

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

Motion was made by Mr. Benton, seconded by Mr. Shewmake, to authorize the advertising for bids for demolition of homes located at 210 Whispering Pine Drive, Haughton, LA, 218 Whispering Pine Drive, Haughton, LA, 643 Pine Cone Drive, Haughton, LA, 645 Pine Cone Drive, Haughton, LA, and 162 Cane Bend Drive, Haughton, LA, which have been approved by Hazard Mitigation Grant Program #1863-015-0001, FEMA-1863-DR-LA, Project #0001, bid date to be determined.

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

Ms. Hauser announced the public hearing to consider the application of the Benton-Parish Metropolitan Planning Commission to amend the zoning regulations to allow the use of Kennel/Boarding in an R-A, Residence-Agriculture District, under Planning approval. The application received a favorable recommendation from the Benton-Parish MPC.

Ms. Carlotta Askew-Brown, Benton-Parish MPC, stated that current zoning regulations allow kennel/boarding in industrial districts only in the Benton-Parish MPC. She stated that an individual has requested to purchase an approximate 15-acre tract of land which is currently zoned R-A, and operate a kennel/boarding facility on that tract of land. She stated that the individual would also reside on the 15-acre tract of land.

There being no objections, **motion was made by Ms. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Cochran, to approve the application of the Benton-Parish Metropolitan Planning Commission to amend the zoning regulations to allow the use of Kennel/Boarding in an R-A, Residence-Agriculture District, under Planning approval.**

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

ORDINANCE NO. 4652

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 126 OF THE BOSSIER PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES BY AMENDING SECTION 126-716 B(2), "USES REQUIRING PLANNING APPROVAL", WITHIN THE FIVE-MILE JURISDICTION OF THE BENTON-PARISH METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION, TO ADD AND/OR AMEND CERTAIN SECTIONS OR SUBSECTIONS

BE IT ORDAINED by the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on this 19th day of July, 2017, that Chapter 126, Article III, Section 126-716(b)(2), be and is hereby amended to read as follows:
Article III – UNINCORPORATED AREA WITHIN FIVE MILES OF BENTON

Section 126-716 (b)(2) is hereby amended to add the following use:

Kennel, boarding

The ordinance was offered by Ms. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Cochran. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 19th day of July, 2017.

RACHEL D. HAUSER
PARISH SECRETARY

BOB BROTHERTON, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Ms. Hauser announced the public hearing to consider approval of the plat of the proposed Sawgrass Parkway Right-of-Way Dedication and Subdivision, located in Section 22, Township 19 North, Range 13 West, Bossier Parish, LA.

Mr. Ford stated that the developer of Legacy Subdivision agreed to construct the extension of Sawgrass Parkway within two years. He stated that the proposed plat represents the plans for completion and dedication of Sawgrass Parkway which will tie into the recently approved plat for Waterford Lake Subdivision, an extension of Legacy Subdivision.

There being no objection, **motion was made by Mr. Skaggs, seconded by Mr. Cochran, to approve the plat of the proposed Sawgrass Parkway Right-of-Way Dedication and Subdivision, located in Section 22, 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 Ms. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Skaggs, to schedule a public hearing on August 16, 2017, to consider the application of G&H Development to the Benton-Parish Metropolitan Planning Commission, for a zoning amendment to change the zoning classification of 55.139 acres, more or less, located in Section 24, Township 20 North, Range 14 West, Bossier Parish, LA, from R-A, Residence-Agriculture District, to R-1, One-Family Residence District, for future residential development. The application received a favorable recommendation from the Benton-Parish MPC. This matter was tabled on June 21, 2017.

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. Skaggs, to schedule a public hearing on August 16, 2017, to consider approval of the plat of the proposed development of Willow Creek at Benton Subdivision, located in Section 24, Township 20 North, Range 14 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. Skaggs, seconded by Mr. Plummer, to schedule a public hearing on August 16, 2017, to consider the application of the Bossier City-Parish Metropolitan Planning Commission to revert the R-LD, Residential Low Density District, zoning classification back to R-A, Residential Agriculture District, on a certain tract of land located at 368 Myers Road, Bossier City, LA.

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

Motion was made by Mr. Skaggs, seconded by Mr. Shewmake, to schedule a public hearing on August 16, 2017, to consider the application of Barron Barton to the Bossier City-Parish Metropolitan Planning Commission, to change the zoning classification of a certain tract of land being Willow Chute Commercial Subdivision, Unit No. 1, Bossier City, LA, from B-2, Limited Business District, to B-3, General Business District, for the existing Park Place Plaza.

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

Motion was made by Mr. Skaggs, seconded by Ms. Bennett, to schedule a public hearing on August 16, 2017, to consider the application of Heroes Tavern to the Bossier City-Parish Metropolitan Planning Commission for a Conditional Use Approval for the sale of high and low content alcohol for on-premise consumption at Heroes Tavern, located at 5510 Airline Drive, Suite 104, 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. Plummer, seconded by Mr. Shewmake, to schedule a public hearing on August 16, 2017, to consider the application of GST Capital Partners, LLC, to the Bossier City-Parish Metropolitan Planning Commission for a Conditional Use Approval for a 275' telecommunication tower located at 2671 Sligo Road, 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. Skaggs, seconded by Ms. Bennett, to schedule a public hearing on August 16, 2017, to consider approval of the plat of the proposed development of Draper and Simmons Estates Subdivision, located in Section 24, 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. Skaggs, seconded by Mr. Salzer, to schedule a public hearing on August 16, 2017, to consider approval of the plat of the proposed development of Willow Trace Subdivision, Unit No. 5B, being a resubdivision of Lot 1, Willow Trace Subdivision, Unit No. 5A, located in Section 36, 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. Skaggs, seconded by Mr. Cook, to schedule a public hearing on August 16, 2017, to consider approval of the plat of the proposed development of Lakewood Subdivision, Unit No. 4-D, located in Section 3, Township 18 North, Range 13 West, Bossier Parish, LA.

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

Mr. Ghormley reported on a meeting of the Property Standards Board of Review, advising that it is recommended that a condemnation hearing be scheduled on August 2, 2017, to consider condemnation of property located at 681 Red Chute Lane, Bossier City, LA, Tax Assessment No. 111623.

Motion was made by Mr. Shewmake, seconded by Mr. Benton, to schedule a condemnation hearing on August 2, 2017, to consider condemnation of property located at 681 Red Chute Lane, Bossier City, LA, Tax Assessment No. 111623.

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

Mr. Ghormley stated that the Board of Review recommended that a condemnation hearing be scheduled on August 2, 2017, to consider condemnation of property at 9001 Dogwood Trail, Haughton, LA, Tax Assessment No. 112703.

Motion was made by Mr. Benton, seconded by Mr. Salzer, to schedule a condemnation hearing on August 2, 2017, to consider condemnation of property at 9001 Dogwood Trail, Haughton, LA, Tax Assessment No. 112703.

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

Mr. Ghormley presented current photographs of property located at 1079 CC Sandidge Road, Elm Grove, LA, Tax Assessment No. 116764, advising that the property owner has done a substantial amount of work to clean up the property. Mr. Ghormley recommended that the file on this property be closed.

Motion was made by Mr. Benton, seconded by Mr. Plummer, to dismiss condemnation proceedings on property at 1079 CC Sandidge Road, Elm Grove, LA, Tax Assessment No. 116764.

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

Mr. Ghormley presented current photographs of property located at 1746 Wafer Road, Haughton, LA, Tax Assessment No. 113639, advising that there has been very little improvement to the property.

Ms. Joyce Desadier, owner of property at 1746 Wafer Road, stated that some of the bushes have been removed, but it was hazardous to the motorist to move the pile by the roadway for pick-up. She stated that there is a large pile located beside the home and requested that the police jury pick it up from her property. Mr. Benton advised that the parish cannot access private property, and the bushes and debris would have to be moved to the parish right-of-way for the parish to be able to pick it up. Ms. Desadier claims that the pile of debris could not be located near the road because it would fall into the road.

Mr. Benton stated that two 30-day extensions have been granted to Ms. Desadier to clean up the property. He stated that very little has been done to clean the property, and the grass has not been cut. Ms. Desadier claimed that trees have been pushed down behind the home and piled up. She stated that she does not have a lawnmower and has been unable to find anyone to mow the yard.

Mr. Benton recommended that the property be condemned so that parish crews can clean the property.

Motion was made by Mr. Benton, seconded by Mr. Salzer, to proceed with condemnation of property at 1746 Wafer Road, Haughton, LA, Tax Assessment No. 113639, in accordance with property standards regulations.

The President called for public comment. Mr. Jackson stated that if the property is cleaned prior to parish crews cleaning the property, no lien will be placed on the property.

Votes were cast and the motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Hauser announced the hearing to consider condemnation of property at 235 Silver Leaf Drive, Benton, LA, Tax Assessment No. 105974. Mr. Ghormley presented current photographs of the property and stated that the barn is still packed with cardboard boxes which creates a nesting area for rodents and other animals. He stated that there was some effort to clean the front yard, and an additional privacy fence has been erected to hide debris.

Mr. Ghormley stated that there is still a large amount of clutter on the front porch. He recommended that the parish proceed with condemnation of the property.

Motion was made by Ms. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Benton, to proceed with condemnation of property at 235 Silver Leaf Drive, Benton, LA, Tax Assessment No. 105974, in accordance with property standards regulations.

The President called for public comment. Mr. Charles Duke was present. He claimed he was the property owner and that he received a certified letter from the police jury around July 1, 2017. He stated that his wife contacted Mr. Ghormley on Monday, July 3, 2017, requesting additional time, but they have received no response from Mr. Ghormley.

Mr. Duke stated that there has been a substantial amount of work to clean the property and does not feel the property should be condemned. He presented photographs taken today of the front porch stating that it has been cleaned. He stated that the cardboard boxes have been removed from the barn.

Mr. Duke stated that there are several items that remain on the front porch, but the porch is clean. Ms. Bennett stated that there is a difference of opinion as to what "clean" means. She stated that the majority of the things located in the yard and at the home are from his business that is no longer open. She further stated that there are a number of nice

homes in this area and their yards are not cluttered. Ms. Bennett addressed other items located on the property that are not acceptable.

Mr. Duke stated that their home décor is farm house style which explains the items on the porch and the yard. He stated that he viewed other homes in the parish and presented photographs of those homes and yards. He stated that his home is clean compared to some of the homes presented in the photographs. Ms. Bennett explained that property standards is complaint driven, and the parish only reviews a property when a complaint is submitted.

Mr. Jackson stated that if the property owner cleans the property in a manner that is satisfactory to Mr. Ghormley prior to parish crews cleaning the property, no lien will be filed on the property.

Votes were cast and the motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Hauser announced the hearing to consider condemnation of property at 5255 John Wilson Drive, Bossier City, LA, Tax Assessment No. 105116. Mr. Ghormley presented current photographs of the property advising that the property has been mowed. Mr. Ghormley recommended that the file on this property be closed.

Motion was made by Mr. Skaggs, seconded by Mr. Shewmake, to dismiss condemnation proceedings on property at 5255 John Wilson Drive, Bossier City, LA, Tax Assessment No. 105116.

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

Mr. Avery asked if there are other fines and penalties that can be assessed on property owners who are repeat offenders of property standards violations. Mr. Jackson stated that the parish is able to control property standards violations through civil proceedings in a timely manner with condemnation hearings. He stated that the parish can also request the Sheriff's Department to issue a criminal citation to run concurrent with the condemnation hearing, but only one citation at a time can be issued on a piece of property which takes approximately 120 days to work through the court system.

Mr. Cochran asked if the parish could assess a \$500.00 fine on repeat offenders. Mr. Jackson stated that the parish does not have the ability to assess fines in a civil setting, but can request it in the criminal setting. He stated that parish regulations allow the parish to set the fine, but the court system enforces the fine and/or jail time.

Mr. Jackson stated that once a property has two violations, the Parish Administrator can contact the Sheriff's Department and request that those properties be reviewed for criminal violations. Ms. Bennett requested that any property that has two violations in a one-year time period be turned over to the Sheriff's Department to pursue for criminal violations.

Ms. Hauser announced the hearing to consider condemnation of property at 5238 John Wilson Drive, Bossier City, LA, Tax Assessment No. 105307. Mr. Ghormley presented current photographs of the property stating that there has been no change in the condition of the property, and recommended condemnation.

Motion was made by Mr. Skaggs, seconded by Mr. Avery, to proceed with condemnation of property at 5238 John Wilson Drive, Bossier City, LA, Tax Assessment No. 105307, in accordance with property standards regulations.

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

Ms. Hauser announced the hearing to consider condemnation of property at 624 Red Chute Lane, Bossier City, LA, Tax Assessment No. 113042. Mr. Ghormley presented current photographs of the property stating that an inoperable vehicle is parked in the yard. He stated that there are several RVs on the property, as well as trash and debris. Mr. Ghormley stated that there has been no contact with the property owner. He recommended that the property be condemned.

Mr. Johnathan Cobb stated that he is purchasing the property through owner/financing from Mr. Claude Dance. He stated that he lives in one of the RVs located on the property. He further stated that he is working on one of the vehicles in the yard for a friend, and there is a swimming pool that has not been set up yet in the yard.

Mr. Cobb stated that some of the debris in the photographs is not located on the property he is purchasing. He stated that the neighbor has several inoperable vehicles in his yard and trash and debris. Mr. Cobb stated that he has one vehicle in his yard that runs and needs bumpers and a blinker. He stated that the vehicle is located behind the RVs and is not visible from the road.

An unknown female with Mr. Cobb stated that they are purchasing the property and once the property is paid off, they intend to tear down the existing home. She stated that they plan to place a new home on the property and remove all RVs. Mr. Jackson asked if the existing mobile home on the property is uninhabitable. Mr. Cobb stated that the existing mobile home is uninhabitable, but they cannot tear the home down until they have paid off the property in full.

Mr. Ghormley stated that Mr. Dance is no longer listed as a property owner on the assessment for the property. He stated that Mr. Dance has contacted him, but he has had no contact with Mr. Cobb until today.

Mr. Jackson asked if Mr. Dance gave them permission to remove the mobile home, would they be able to remove the mobile home immediately. Mr. Cobb stated that he would remove the mobile home with permission from Mr. Dance.

Mr. Cobb stated that they plan to put the swimming pool up, and he is working on one of the vehicles for a friend. Mr. Jackson asked if the vehicle runs, has tags and is insured. Mr. Cobb stated that the vehicle does run, has a license plate and is insured. Mr. Avery asked what was piled in the back of the truck, and Mr. Cobb stated that it is ruined clothes. Mr. Jackson stated that the ruined clothes is considered trash, and anything where rats, roaches and other vermin can breed, needs to be cleaned up.

Mr. Cobb requested additional time to clean the property. Mr. Jackson requested that Mr. Cobb remain in contact with Mr. Ghormley and a recommendation will be made at the August 2, 2017, regular meeting regarding condemnation.

Mr. Brotherton asked if they were living in one of the RVs. The female stated that they are living in one of the RVs at this time. She stated that they do have sewerage hook-up. Mr. Ghormley stated that the health department has been reviewing the sewerage hook-up. The female stated that the health department has inspected and approved the sewerage system.

Mr. Skaggs stated that it appears that this property has been sold at tax sale, and asked if the property has been adjudicated. Mr. Cobb stated that they have paid the taxes on the property.

Ms. Bennett asked who needs to contact the property owner who is owner/financing the property for Mr. Cobb to obtain permission to move items from the property. Mr. Jackson stated that it is the property owner's obligation to clean the property, and if the property owner refuses to allow Mr. Cobb to remove items on the property in an effort to clean the property, the parish will be forced to condemn the property and place a lien on the property. He stated that if the parish is forced to clean the property and place a lien on the property, it will affect the purchase of the property by Mr. Cobb. Mr. Jackson stated that it is imperative that the property owner be willing to work with Mr. Ghormley and Mr. Cobb to clean the property.

After further discussion, **motion was made by Mr. Benton, seconded by Mr. Salzer, to allow the owner of property at 624 Red Chute Lane, Bossier City, LA, Tax Assessment No. 113042, an additional two weeks in which to bring the property into compliance with property standards regulations.**

The President called for public comment. There being none, **votes were cast and the motion carried unanimously.** The matter will be reviewed at the August 2, 2017, regular meeting.

Ms. Hauser announced the hearing to consider condemnation of property at 5211 Clover Lane, Bossier City, LA, Tax Assessment No. 101622. Mr. Ghormley presented current photographs of the property advising that there have been significant improvements to the property. Mr. Ghormley recommended that the file on this property be closed.

After further discussion, **motion was made by Mr. Skaggs, seconded by Ms. Bennett, to dismiss condemnation proceedings on property at 5211 Clover Lane, Bossier City, LA, Tax Assessment No. 101622.**

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

Ms. Hauser announced the police jury's intention to hold a public meeting in the Police Jury Meeting Room on September 6, 2017, to adopt an ordinance levying the 2017 ad valorem property tax millages.

Motion was made by Mr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Avery, to declare adjudicated property described as Lot 50, Carstarphen Heights Subdivision, Tax Assessment No. 109299, as surplus, and authorize the advertising of bids for the sale of said property.

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

Motion was made by Mr. Shewmake, seconded by Mr. Plummer, to adopt a resolution indicating the intention of the Bossier Parish Police Jury to become a participating political subdivision in the Louisiana Local Government Environmental Facilities and Community Development Authority, and reappointing Ms. Bennett as police jury representative to the Board of Directors for said authority.

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

RESOLUTION

INDICATING THE INTENTION OF THE BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TO BECOME A PARTICIPATING POLITICAL SUBDIVISION IN THE LOUISIANA LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENVIRONMENTAL FACILITIES AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (THE "AUTHORITY"); APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF A DIRECTOR TO REPRESENT THE BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE AUTHORITY; AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO AS PROVIDED BY CHAPTER 10-D OF TITLE 33 OF THE LOUISIANA REVISED STATUTES OF 1950, AS AMENDED.

WHEREAS, Chapter 10-D of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, comprised of R.S. 33:4548.1 through 4548.16 is known as the Louisiana Local Government Environmental Facilities and Community Development Authority Act (the "Act"); and

WHEREAS, the Act creates the Louisiana Local Government Environmental Facilities and Community Development Authority (the "Authority") for the purpose of assisting political subdivisions, as defined in the Act, and other designated entities in acquiring, financing and constructing certain facilities, including environmental, public infrastructure, community and economic development purposes and to otherwise establish programs to aid in the financing of local government and economic development projects; and

WHEREAS, the Bossier Parish Police Jury, State of Louisiana, is eligible to become a participating political subdivision of the Authority in accordance with the Act; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 4548.4 of the Act, the governing authority of the Bossier Parish Police Jury, State of Louisiana, desires to become a member of the Authority ("Member") and to approve the appointment of Ms. Wanda Bennett to serve as a Director of the Authority and ratify any action taken heretofore by and on behalf of the member.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the governing authority of the Bossier Parish Police Jury, State of Louisiana, acting in such capacity:

Section 1. Under the authority of Section 4548.4 of the Act, it is hereby declared to be the express intention of the Bossier Parish Police Jury, State of Louisiana, to become a participating political subdivision and member of the Authority.

Section 2. Pursuant to the Act, the appointment of Ms. Bennett to serve as a director of the Authority for a term of two (2) years from the date hereof is hereby approved.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately and a certified copy hereof shall be forwarded to the offices of the Authority.

The resolution was offered by Mr. Shewmake, seconded by Mr. Plummer. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 19th day of July, 2017.

RACHEL D. HAUSER
PARISH SECRETARY

BOB BROTHERTON, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Motion was made by Mr. Benton, seconded by Mr. Salzer, to adopt a resolution commending the Louisiana Military Department and the Louisiana National Guard for contributing to the economic well-being of this region and its citizens and for providing quality, necessary military training for the members of our military, recognizing and recording for posterity that the Louisiana Military Department and the Louisiana National Guard are the most significant economic development activities located at Camp Minden, pledging support to the Louisiana Military Department and the Louisiana National Guard economic efforts and military training activities on Camp Minden, encouraging continued improvement and enhancing economic development and military training activities on Camp Minden, and encouraging obtaining all funding required for completion of Phase 2, Phase 3, and Phase 4 (total estimated cost of \$77.2 million) of the Regional Training Institute on Camp Minden.

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

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Army Ammunition Plant, formerly known as the Louisiana Ordnance Plant, produced munitions to support the war efforts of the United States of America during World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War and, in so doing, provided employment for thousands of workers in northwest Louisiana, south Arkansas, and east Texas, and

WHEREAS, from 1941 until 1996, the Louisiana Army Ammunition Plant served as a major stimulus to the economy of northwest Louisiana, south Arkansas and east Texas, and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Army Ammunition Plant was placed in in-active status in 1996 and, in 2005, transferred from the United States Government to the State of Louisiana, and

WHEREAS, following the transfer of the Louisiana Army Ammunition Plant became known as the Camp Minden Training Site, and the Governor of the State of Louisiana charged the Louisiana Military Department with operational control of the installation, and

WHEREAS, since the transfer, the Louisiana Military Department has attracted and retained 17 businesses and organizations, which, when combined with the Louisiana Military Department and Louisiana National Guard staffs, account for a total of 438 employees, and

WHEREAS, the Camp Minden military component accounts for a regional direct economic impact of more than \$28.2 million annually in payroll and vendor sales; and

WHEREAS, between 2005 and 2017, Military Construction on Camp Minden has resulted in the following: 1) construction of the Armed Forces Readiness Center (completed in 2012 - total cost \$30 million); 2) Regional Training Institute, Phase 1 (completed in 2011 - total cost \$23.8 million), 3) Military Training Ranges (completed in 2010 - total cost \$1.5 million); 4) Troop Barracks and Officer's Quarter's (completed in 2008/09 - total cost - \$2.1 million); and 5) Multi-use Dining Facility (completed in 2009: total cost \$5.9 million), for a total Military Construction cost of \$63.3 million, and

WHEREAS, the Regional Training Institute will provide training for approximately 8,000 military students annually, and

WHEREAS, the estimated annual budget for the Regional Training Institute includes \$9.5 million in tax revenue over a 10-year period; \$12 million for purchase of goods and services, \$5 million operating cost and \$8 million payroll, thus infusing a total of over \$25 million into the regional economy, and

WHEREAS, in 2011 the Regional Training Institute, Phase 1, construction, which included land clearing, site preparation and shaping; infrastructure (water, plumbing, and electrical service); central heating and cooling plant building; one classroom building; and one dormitory were completed for a total Federally funded cost of \$23.8 million.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the Bossier Parish Police Jury does hereby commend the Louisiana Military Department and the Louisiana National Guard for contributing to the economic well-being of this region and its citizens and for providing quality, necessary military training for the members of our military; and does hereby recognize and record for posterity that the Louisiana Military Department and the Louisiana National Guard are the most significant economic development activities located at Camp Minden.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Bossier Parish Police Jury pledges support to the Louisiana Military Department and the Louisiana National Guard economic efforts and military training activities on Camp Minden and encourages the Louisiana Military Department and the Louisiana National Guard to continue improving and enhancing economic development and military training activities on Camp Minden, and encourages the Louisiana Military Department and the Louisiana National Guard, the Honorable Governor John Bel Edwards, the Honorable Senator Bill Cassidy, the Honorable Senator John Kennedy, and the Honorable Congressman Mike Johnson to obtain all funding required for completion of Phase 2, Phase 3 and Phase 4 (total estimated cost of \$77.2 million) of the Regional Training Institute on Camp Minden.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Adjutant General, State of Louisiana, the Honorable Governor John Bel Edwards, the Honorable Senator Bill Cassidy, the Honorable Senator John Kennedy, the Honorable Congressman Mike Johnson, and to the Louisiana State Legislative Representatives in northwest Louisiana.

The resolution was offered by Mr. Benton, seconded by Mr. Salzer. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 19th day of July, 2017.

RACHEL D. HAUSER
PARISH SECRETARY

BOB BROTHERTON, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Motion was made by Ms. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Benton, to accept the proposal of Jimmie Eppinette at a rate of \$125.00 per hour for technical support for the 2020 census, 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 19th day of July, 2017, that William Altimus, Parish Administrator, and/or Bob Brotherton, President, 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 Jimmie Eppinette at a rate of \$125.00 per hour for technical support for the 2020 census.

The resolution was offered by Ms. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Benton. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 19th day of July, 2017.

RACHEL D. HAUSER
PARISH SECRETARY

BOB BROTHERTON, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Motion was made by Mr. Skaggs, seconded by Mr. Benton, to approve Bridge Crossing Permit No. 2017-09, from the Bossier Parish Levee District, for the replacement of an existing bridge for Vanceville Road crossing Willow Chute Bayou, 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 19th day of July, 2017, that it does hereby approve Bridge Crossing Permit No. 2017-09, from the Bossier Parish Levee District, for the replacement of an existing bridge for Vanceville Road crossing Willow Chute Bayou.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Bob Brotherton, President, is hereby authorized to execute said permits.

The resolution was offered by Mr. Skaggs, seconded by Mr. Benton. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 19th day of July, 2017.

RACHEL D. HAUSER
PARISH SECRETARY

BOB BROTHERTON, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Mr. Ford presented Plan Change No. 9 on the Consolidated Waterworks/Sewerage District No. 1 of the Parish of Bossier Wastewater Treatment Facility, North Bossier Parish Area, FP&C Project No. 50-J08-06B-02, advising that the plan change results in an additional cost of \$93,899.97. **Motion was made by Mr. Skaggs, seconded by Mr. Shewmake, to approve Plan Change No. 9 on the Consolidated Waterworks/Sewerage District No. 1 of the Parish of Bossier Wastewater Treatment Facility, North Bossier Parish Area, FP&C Project No. 50-J08-06B-02, subject to approval by the Office of Facility Planning and Control, 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 19th day of July, 2017, that it does hereby approve Plan Change No. 9 on the Consolidated Waterworks/Sewerage District No. 1 of the Parish of Bossier Wastewater Treatment Facility, North Bossier Parish Area, FP&C Project No. 50-J08-06B-02, subject to approval by the Office of Facility Planning and Control.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Bob Brotherton, President, is hereby authorized to execute said Plan Change No. 9.

The resolution was offered by Mr. Skaggs, seconded by Mr. Shewmake. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 19th day of July, 2017.

RACHEL D. HAUSER
PARISH SECRETARY

BOB BROTHERTON, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Mr. Ford presented Plan Change No. 10 on the Consolidated Waterworks/Sewerage District No. 1 of the Parish of Bossier Wastewater Treatment Facility, North Bossier Parish Area, FP&C Project No. 50-J08-06B-02, advising that the plan change results in a decrease in the amount of \$15,000.00.

Motion was made by Mr. Skaggs, seconded by Mr. Salzer, to approve Plan Change No. 10 on the Consolidated Waterworks/Sewerage District No. 1 of the Parish of Bossier Wastewater Treatment Facility, North Bossier Parish Area, FP&C Project No. 50-J08-06B-02, subject to approval by the Office of Facility Planning and Control, 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 19th day of July, 2017, that it does hereby approve Plan Change No. 10 on the Consolidated Waterworks/Sewerage District No. 1 of the Parish of Bossier Wastewater Treatment Facility, North Bossier Parish Area, FP&C Project No. 50-J08-06B-02, subject to approval by the Office of Facility Planning and Control.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Bob Brotherton, President, is hereby authorized to execute said Plan Change No. 10.

The resolution was offered by Mr. Skaggs, seconded by Mr. Salzer. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 19th day of July, 2017.

RACHEL D. HAUSER
PARISH SECRETARY

BOB BROTHERTON, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Mr. Ford presented Plan Change No. 4 on the Consolidated Waterworks/Sewerage District No. 1 of the Parish of Bossier, North Bossier Parish Area, Contract "C" – Sewer Force Mains and Gravity Mains Project No. 2015-458 advising that the plan change results in an increase in the amount of \$116,488.35, and an additional 52 contract days. **Motion was made by Mr. Skaggs, seconded by Mr. Benton, to approve Plan Change No. 4 on the Consolidated Waterworks/Sewerage District No. 1 of the Parish of Bossier, North Bossier Parish Area, Contract "C" – Sewer Force Mains and Gravity Mains Project No. 2015-458, 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 19th day of July, 2017, that it does hereby approve Plan Change No. 4 on the Consolidated Waterworks/Sewerage District No. 1 of the Parish of Bossier, North Bossier Parish Area, Contract "C" – Sewer Force Mains and Gravity Mains Project No. 2015-458.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Bob Brotherton, President, is hereby authorized to execute said Plan Change No. 4.

The resolution was offered by Mr. Skaggs, seconded by Mr. Benton. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 19th day of July, 2017.

RACHEL D. HAUSER
PARISH SECRETARY

BOB BROTHERTON, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Mr. Ford stated that the police jury approved Water's Edge, Cypress, Phase II, Subdivision on July 20, 2016, and all streets and drainage are now complete. He stated that an amendment was made to the drainage plans for the subdivision and Raley and Associates, Inc., submitted those plans to the Cypress Black Bayou Recreation and Water Conservation District for approval. Mr. Ford stated that CBBRWCD has requested that an additional drainage pipe be extended onto CBBRWCD property down to the water's edge.

Mr. Ford stated that work to extend the pipe has not been done, but the developer has submitted a maintenance bond to the police jury to approve the streets and drainage in Water's Edge, Cypress, Phase II, Subdivision, prior to the additional drainage work required by CBBRWCD being complete. He stated that the developer is requesting to sell lots that are not encumbered by the drainage easements associated with the additional drainage work needed. Mr. Ford recommended approval of the streets and drainage in Water's Edge, Cypress, Phase II, Subdivision, with the understanding that no lots encumbered by the drainage easements associated with the additional drainage work are to be sold until the drainage work is complete.

Mr. Jackson asked how long it will take for the drainage work to be complete. Mr. Ford stated that wetland delineation is required to ensure that there is no encumbrance on wetlands, and anticipates that the drainage work will be complete within 30 to 60 days. He stated that he recommends that the parish accept the streets and drainage to allow the developer to sell lots that are not encumbered by the drainage easements associated with the extension of the drainage pipe to the water's edge.

Mr. Benton asked who would be responsible for maintenance of the drainage pipe extending across CBBRWCD property. Mr. Ford stated that CBBRWCD will be requesting that the parish maintain the drainage pipe on their property down to the water's edge. Mr. Avery expressed concern with accepting streets and drainage prior to all work being complete.

Mr. Michael Kelsch, Raley and Associates, Inc., stated that they were not fully aware that they were required to obtain CBBRWCD approval. He stated that once construction of the streets and drainage were complete, they were informed that CBBRWCD approval was required due to the pipe extending into the flowage easement. He further stated that CBBRWCD then requested that the drainage pipe be extended to the water's edge, and the developer has agreed to do so. Mr. Kelsch stated that once the plans were complete and forwarded to CBBRWCD for approval, it was determined that further review needed to be made to determine if wetlands existed where the drainage pipe was being extended.

Mr. Kelsch stated that at the CBBRWCD meeting last week, they approved the plans and location of the drainage pipe extension contingent upon determining that no wetlands were located where the drainage pipe would be located. He stated that he has spoken with the Corps of Engineers regarding wetlands in this matter, but it has not been determined how long the Corps of Engineers' review will take.

Mr. Kelsch requested that the police jury approve the streets and drainage contingent upon the eight (8) lots that are encumbered by the drainage easement for the drainage pipe extension are not to be sold until the drainage work is complete. He stated that the developer is willing to put up a bond to ensure that improvements and extension of the drainage pipe will be complete as required.

Mr. Kelsch stated that CBBRWCD does not want construction to begin on the drainage pipe extension until the Corps of Engineers has made their determination regarding wetlands. He stated that there are 32 lots that could be sold which are not encumbered upon by the drainage pipe extension.

Mr. Ford stated that all parish requirements for the parish to accept the streets and drainage for Water's Edge, Cypress, Phase II, Subdivision, have been met. He stated that CBBRWCD has made the additional request for the extension of the drainage pipe across their property to the water's edge.

Mr. Bruce Easterly stated that a determination needs to be made as to whether a permit is required from the Corps of Engineers to place riprap in this area. He stated that the Corps of Engineers will issue a permit, but mitigation of wetlands may be required. He stated that all future developments around Cypress Black Bayou will be required to contact the Corps of Engineers to determine if a permit is required.

After further discussion, **motion was made by Mr. Cochran, seconded by Ms. Bennett, to table the acceptance of streets and drainage in Water's Edge, Cypress, Phase II, Subdivision, into the parish road system for permanent maintenance, to be considered at the August 2, 2017, regular meeting.**

Votes were cast and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ford presented Change Order No. 1 on the Acceleration Lane on US 71, Planning and Construction (Bossier), FP&C Project No. 50-J08-14-02 advising that the plan change results in a deduct of \$167,050.99. He stated that the railroad has denied a permit for the contractor to work in the railroad right-of-way, which required a redesign of the project.

Motion was made by Mr. Plummer, seconded by Mr. Cochran, to approve Plan Change No. 1 for the Acceleration Lane on US 71, Planning and Construction (Bossier), FP&C Project No. 50-J08-14-02, subject to approval by Office of Facility Planning and Control, 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 19th day of July, 2017, that it does hereby approve Plan Change No. 1 for the Acceleration Lane on US 71, Planning and Construction (Bossier), FP&C Project No. 50-J08-14-02, subject to approval by Office of Facility Planning and Control.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Bob Brotherton, President, is hereby authorized to execute said Plan Change No. 1.

The resolution was offered by Mr. Plummer, seconded by Mr. Cochran. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 19th day of July, 2017.

RACHEL D. HAUSER
PARISH SECRETARY

BOB BROTHERTON, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Mr. Altimus expressed appreciation to the jurors who attended the announcement at the Bossier Parish Community College STEM building.

Mr. Ford reported that the Haughton Middle School grand opening is scheduled for Monday, at 11:00 a.m.

Mr. Ford stated that he has prepared an updated list of all FEMA funds to be received by the Bossier Parish Police Jury. He provided additional information on the purchase of flood damaged homes through the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

Mr. Ford stated that the deadline to submit applications for Flood Mitigation Assistance is November 17, 2017. He stated that at this time, applications will be resubmitted for 11 repetitive loss flood victims, which provides 90 to 100 percent of the appraised value of a home.

Mr. Skaggs stated that there has been no movement on relocation of utilities on the North/South Corridor Project. He stated that the utilities must be relocated within six months, and asked that a letter be requested showing a time-line for relocation of the utilities.

Mr. Mark Coutee, Public Works Director, presented an update on activities of the highway department and on several road projects in the parish. He stated that the Johnson Koran Road Bridge is now open.

Finance Committee Meeting – July 19, 2017, 1:30 p.m.

The Finance Committee of the Bossier Parish Police Jury met on this 19th day of July, 2017, at 1:30 p.m., in the Police Jury Meeting Room, Bossier Parish Courthouse, Benton, Louisiana, with Mr. Rimmer being absent.

Motion was made by Mr. Benton, seconded by Mr. Cochran, to approve payment of accounts payable invoices for the month of June, 2017.

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

Motion was made by Mr. Cochran, seconded by Ms. Bennett, to amend the agenda to add Ms. Michelle Rodgers, Chief Deputy Assessor for the Bossier Parish Assessor's Office, as a visitor to discuss property tax millage rates for the year 2017.

The Chairman called for public comment. There being none, **motion carried, with the following vote recorded:**

AYES: Mr. Avery, Ms. Bennett, Mr. Benton, Mr. Brotherton, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Cook, Mr. Darby, Mr. Plummer, Mr. Salzer, Mr. Shewmake, Mr. Skaggs
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Mr. Rimmer

Ms. Rodgers introduced Mr. Scott Stevens advising that Mr. Stevens will be assuming her duties with the Assessor's Office when she retires.

Ms. Rodgers stated that two weeks ago numbers were reviewed from the 2017 tax roll and it was determined that there was a loss in assessed value. She stated that the Assessor's Office is unable to obtain numbers from the tax roll any earlier due to the deadline for submission of personal property reports. She further stated that they have not received public service numbers from the Tax Commission.

Ms. Rodgers stated that she has spoken with the Tax Commission asking for an estimate of the public service numbers, and was advised that it is projected that there will be an approximate \$2 million decrease in pipelines. She stated that the Assessor's Office immediately began reviewing numbers to determine where the loss of funds may resonate from. Ms. Rodgers stated that the Parish of Bossier had no major commercial property construction for the 2017

tax roll. She stated that there has been many homes built in Bossier Parish this year, but the commercial property is what generates the higher property taxes.

Ms. Rodgers stated that upon reviewing tax codes, it was determined that there was a major loss in pipelines, and a decline in oil and gas which affected many of the fire districts. She stated that there is a decline in business assets as well. Ms. Rodgers stated that companies are not keeping a large inventory, and the existing inventory has depreciated.

Ms. Rodgers stated that riverboats are considered movable property and are not valued once every four years like real estate. She stated that one of the riverboats had a \$500,000.00 depreciation this year.

Ms. Rodgers stated that the \$20 million loss in value is a culmination of all of the above issues. She stated that property was not revalued this year and the property values remain the same, but the law states that when there is a loss in assessed value, millage rates can be increased so the same amount of money can be collected in the budget as the previous year.

Ms. Rodgers stated that the reassessment provided to the police jury in the July 12, 2017, correspondence has been approved by the Legislative Auditor. She stated that the upward adjustment in the millage rates is so the parish can collect the same amount of money for the budget that was collected the previous year.

Ms. Rodgers stated that the adjusted millage rates have been approved by the Legislative Auditor, but it is not mandatory that the parish adopt the new millage rates. She stated that if the parish elects to keep the same millage rates as last year, there is a chance that the parish budget will be negatively affected.

Mr. Skaggs asked what the number would be if the current millage rates were applied to the \$20 million loss of taxable value. Ms. Rodgers stated that she could supply that number to the jurors this afternoon.

Mr. Benton asked how much of an increase in property taxes will be assessed to a homeowner. She stated that the Assessor's Office has not been supplied with all the information necessary to answer that question. She stated that the Assessor's Office was only provided the proposed millage rates two weeks ago, so there has not been sufficient time to review all the numbers.

Ms. Rodgers provided additional information on millage rates. Mr. Skaggs stated that his understanding is that the police jury has the option to adopt the new adjusted millage rates as approved by the Legislative Auditor, or keep the same millage rates from 2016, which could possibly negatively affect the police jury budget. Ms. Rodgers stated if the police jury elects to adopt the new adjusted millage rates, the police jury budget should not be negatively affected for 2017.

Ms. Rodgers stated that the Assessor's Office has not completed the tax roll, and the open book deadline is August 15th. She stated that changes can be made up to August 31st through open book and some of the numbers may change.

Sheriff Julian Whittington stated that he received the recent letter from the Assessor's Office, but they have already adopted the millage rates and will now have to go through the entire process again based on the recent letter from the Assessor's Office. He requested the date in which the Assessor's Office will have the final numbers so that the Sheriff's Office can adopt correct numbers. Ms. Rodgers stated that the numbers provided in the letter dated July 12, 2017, are considered the best numbers available prior to the deadline for adoption of millage rates.

Sheriff Whittington asked who sets the deadlines for millage rates. Ms. Rodgers stated that the Legislature and Louisiana Tax Commission set all deadlines associated with the millage rates. Sheriff Whittington asked how the taxing bodies can meet deadlines set by the Tax Commission when they have not provided the necessary information to the Assessor's Office for the millage rates prior to the deadlines. Ms. Rodgers stated that they are required to use the best information available to the Assessor's Office at the time. She stated that the Legislative Auditor would not have approved the adjusted millage rates submitted by the Assessor's Office if they did not approve of the adjustments.

Mr. Skaggs requested that Ms. Rodgers provide the police jury with the projected amount to be collected if the police jury does not adopt the new adjusted millage rates for 2017.

There was further discussion regarding millage rates and required deadlines. Mr. Benton asked if the proposed adjusted millage rates as provided by the Assessor's Office in the July 12, 2017, letter will change prior to the September 6, 2017, public meeting. Ms. Rodgers stated that the proposed adjusted millage rates as provided in the July 12, 2017, letter will not change, and the Legislative Auditors' Office has approved the proposed adjusted millage rates. She stated that based on the information provided to the Assessor's Office, the numbers provided are the most accurate numbers available.

Ms. Rodgers stated that the cause of decline in assessed values is a culmination of several different issues. She stated that there is a decline in inventory, pipeline, and oil and gas. She further stated that this is the first year the parish has suffered a decline in assessed values in the 16 years she has worked for the Assessor's Office.

Sheriff Whittington asked for additional information pertaining to the depreciation of pipelines. Ms. Rodgers stated that pipelines and public services are handled by the Louisiana Tax Commission. She stated that she has yet to obtain the final numbers from the Louisiana Tax Commission for pipelines and public services.

Mr. Skaggs stated that the police jury will take this matter under advisement.

The Finance Committee meeting was adjourned by Mr. Skaggs.

There being no further business to come before the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on this 19th day of July, 2017, the meeting was adjourned by the President at 3:30 p.m.

RACHEL D. HAUSER
PARISH SECRETARY

BOB BROTHERTON, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY