

Policy & Personnel Committee
March 12, 2020

The Policy & Personnel Committee met Thursday, March 12, 2020 at 12:00 PM in the Police Jury Meeting Room of the Jackson Parish Courthouse, 500 E. Court Street, Room 301, Jonesboro, Louisiana. Members present: Mr. Lewis Chatham, Ms. Tarneshala Cowans, and Ms. Regina Rowe. Absent: none. Also in attendance: Ms. Amy Magee and Mr. John McCarty.

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Ms. Cowans. Mr. Chatham gave the invocation and Ms. Cowans led in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no public comments.

The Committee reviewed the Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance. The Secretary-Treasurer led the discussion on the included articles and stated that it was based of the state model and would need to have an effective date of August 19, 2020. She stated that she would research comparable fines and sentences for non-compliance with the ordinance.

Ms. Rowe arrived at the meeting.

Motion Mr. Chatham, seconded Ms. Rowe to recommend the Jury introduce the Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance at the next regular meeting.

The Committee reviewed the Groundwater Protection Ordinance. They discussed that this had been presented by Louisiana DEQ in an effort to protect drinking water areas throughout the parish. They discussed a reasonable fine and sentence for non-compliance and asked the Secretary-Treasurer to research what other parishes do. Motion Ms. Rowe, seconded Mr. Chatham to recommend the Jury introduce the Groundwater Protection Ordinance and present it back to the Policy & Personnel Committee for review.

The Committee reviewed the existing Nuisance Ordinance and its provisions. They discussed involving law enforcement when an abatement is required. They agreed that the ordinance needed to be applied consistently. They discussed abandoned property and stated that those cases might need a separate ordinance. The Committee requested the Secretary-Treasurer reach out to other parishes to find out what they do with abandoned property, nuisances, and mowing high grass areas.

The Committee discussed the recommendation from the Operations Committee to develop a policy for a Road Department Crew Leader position. The Secretary-Treasurer stated that she had met with the existing Operator II employees to discuss what the role would involve and to get feedback from them. She stated that the crew felt that if the proper pre-work was completed for the work site prior to them arriving to perform the work, that there would not be any need for the position. She stated that they had also requested more involvement from their Supervisor and Superintendent. The Secretary-Treasurer informed the Committee that this had all been relayed to the Road Department Superintendent and he had already begun making these requested changes. Motion Ms. Rowe, seconded Mr. Chatham to decline establishing a policy for a Crew Leader position at the Road Barn. Motion carried.

The Committee reviewed the existing sick and vacation leave policies. They discussed the existing provisions and defining the differences between separation by retirement, resignation, and termination. No action was taken.

Motion Ms. Rowe, seconded Mr. Chatham to adjourn. Motion carried.