

The Jackson Parish Police Jury met in regular session on Tuesday, May 23, 2023, at 5:30 PM in the Dr. Charles H. Garrett Community Center, 182 Industrial Drive, Jonesboro, Louisiana. Members Present: Mr. Todd Culpepper, Mr. Lewis Chatham, Ms. Amy Magee, Mr. John McCarty, and Ms. Tarneshala Cowans. Absent: Ms. Regina Rowe and Mr. Lynn Treadway. Also present: Mr. Brad Roller, Operations Manager and Mr. Jody Stuckey, Road Superintendent.

The President, Mr. Culpepper, called the meeting to order. Mr. Culpepper gave the invocation and Ms. Magee led in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Ms. Magee, second by Mr. McCarty to amend the agenda to adopt a proclamation in honor of Mr. Lynn Treadway, District 7 Police Juror and add the agenda item as No. 22. Motion carried.

The President opened the floor for public comments. There were no public comments.

Mr. Gerald Long, Special Assistant for Senator Bill Cassidy and former State Senator presented an update of the Broadband internet program for Jackson Parish.

The President moved to the approval of minutes.

Motion by Ms. Magee, second by Mr. McCarty to adopt the minutes of the April 26, 2023, May 3, 2023, and May 15, 2023, Special Called Police Jury Meetings, monthly purchase orders, and the payment of all bills. Motion carried.

The President moved to Committee Reports.

Motion by Ms. Magee, second by Ms. Cowans to adopt the following minutes from the May 11, 2023, Finance Committee meeting. Motion carried.

*Finance Committee
May 11, 2023*

The Finance Committee met Thursday, May 11, 2023, at 12:15 PM in the Nathaniel Zeno, Jr. Meeting Room, 160 Industrial Drive, Jonesboro, Louisiana. Members Present: Mr. Todd Culpepper, Ms. Amy Magee, and Mr. John McCarty. Absent: none. Also present: Mr. Brad Roller, Operations Manager.

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Mr. Todd Culpepper. Ms. Magee gave the invocation and Mr. McCarty led in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no public comments.

The Chairman moved item #3 to item #1. Mr. Greg Garner of the South East Hodge Water System gave a presentation of the financial condition of the water system and the need for assistance from the police jury to purchase two (2) water pumps for the water system. Motion by Ms. Magee, second by Mr. McCarty to allow Mr. Culpepper and Mr. Roller to reach out for any legislative assistance with regard to the South East Hodge Water System. Motion carried.

Emmett Gibbs, Secretary-Treasurer gave an update on the current financial position of the Funds.

The Committee discussed a letter from Mr. David "Hoot" Caskey, Coroner regarding the duties of the Coroner's Office and the request for an increase in the salary of the Coroner. Motion by Ms. Magee, second by Mr. McCarty to recommend to the police jury a \$500 per month salary increase for the Coroner. Motion carried.

Emmett Gibbs gave an update on the status of the 2021 audit.

Motion by Ms. Magee, second by Mr. McCarty to adjourn. Motion carried.

Motion by Ms. Magee, second by Mr. Chatham to reach out for any legislative assistance with regard to the South East Hodge Water System. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. McCarty, second by Mr. Chatham to approve a \$500 per month salary increase for the Coroner. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Chatham, second by Ms. Magee to adopt the following minutes from the May 15, 2023, Personnel Committee meeting. Motion carried.

*Personnel Committee
May 15, 2023*

The Personnel Committee met Monday, May 15, 2023, at 10:20 AM in the Nathaniel Zeno, Jr. Meeting Room, 160 Industrial Drive, Jonesboro, Louisiana. Members Present: Mr. Todd Culpepper (replacing Mr. Lynn Treadway), Mr. Lewis Chatham, and Mr. John McCarty. Absent: Mr. Lynn Treadway. Also present: Mr. Brad Roller, Operations Manager.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. McCarty, Chairman. Mr. Culpepper gave the invocation and Mr. Chatham led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Chair opened the floor for public comments. There were no public comments.

The sealed envelope containing the results of the interviews of the Registrar of Voters candidates was opened and the results were tabulated. Motion by Mr. Todd Culpepper, second by Mr. Chatham to recommend to the Police Jury, based on the tabulations that the police jurors made during the interview process, the appointment of Ms. Tina Marie Cockerham to the Jackson Parish Registrar of Voters position. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Culpepper, second by Mr. Chatham to adjourn. Motion carried.

The President called for monthly management reports.

Mr. Brad Roller, Operations Manager presented the April 2023 Operations Manager Report.

Mr. Jody Stuckey, Road Superintendent, presented the April 2023 Road report noting that \$3,065.60 had been spent on emergency call-outs/off-schedule work.

Motion by Ms. Magee, second by Ms. Cowans to accept the April 2023 emergency call outs/off-schedule report. Motion carried.

Mr. Robin Sessions, Solid Waste Superintendent presented the April 2023 Solid Waste report.

Mr. Emmett Gibbs, Secretary-Treasurer presented the April 2023 Financial Report highlighting the budget vs. actual comparisons for the major funds.

The President moved on to Other Business.

Mr. Paul Riley, Parish Engineer presented the bids for the 2023 Road Program - Asphalt and the Surface Treatment Projects.

Motion by Ms. Magee, second by Ms. Cowans to approve the bid of \$403,307.50 from Amethyst Construction for Contract I – Asphalt Project. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Chatham, second by Ms. Magee to approve the bid of \$284,280.00 from Dreher Contracting for Contract II – Surface Treatment Project. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Chatham, second by Mr. McCarty to approve Edquado Howard and Walter Johnson attending the LSWA Workshop in Shreveport, LA on July 11 & 12, 2023. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Culpepper, second by Mr. Chatham to give the President authority to send a letter to Library Board asking that the book titled Families, Families, Families be removed and any similar books be removed. Motion carried with Ms. Magee and Ms. Cowans voting NAY.

Motion by Mr. Chatham, second by Mr. McCarty to approve the Resolution for Jackson Parish to join the AG Lawsuit against FEMA. Motion carried.

Resolution

WHEREAS, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) “is updating the National Flood Insurance Program’s (NFIP) risk rating methodology through the implementation of a new pricing methodology,” titled “Risk Rating 2.0: Equity in Action”;

WHEREAS, FEMA states that Risk Rating 2.0’s “methodology leverages industry best practices and cutting-edge technology to enable FEMA to deliver rates that are actuarially sound, equitable, easier to understand and better reflect a property’s flood risk”;

WHEREAS, the Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana, members of both the Louisiana legislature and the federal legislature, members of state government, numerous Parish Presidents and their Councils, and many other entities in Louisiana and around the nation have grave concerns about the soundness of Risk Rating 2.0’s underlying methodology, its failure to properly take into account any of the numerous improvements Louisiana’s Levee Boards have made to the flood protection systems, and its catastrophic effect on Louisiana’s flood insurance rates and the ability of Louisiana’s homeowners to purchase flood insurance;

WHEREAS, many of those entities have repeatedly raised their concerns to FEMA, have asked FEMA for documentation showing FEMA’s underlying methodology, and have been passed from one federal office to the next without receiving any meaningful answers to their questions or documents showing FEMA’s underlying methodology;

WHEREAS, FEMA has denied and continues to deny the efforts of those who are trying to protect their interests, the interests of their members, the interests of many Louisiana industries, and the interests of Louisiana citizens, making what is supposed to be “Equity in Action” an inequitable program across the entire State of Louisiana;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Jackson Parish Police Jury joins the Attorney General of Louisiana in litigation against FEMA to challenge Risk Rating 2.0.

This resolution was declared adopted on May 23, 2023.

ATTEST:

/s/ Todd Culpepper
Mr. Todd Culpepper, President

Motion by Ms. Magee, second by Mr. Chatham to renew the lease agreement with E-911 Communications District for the Blake Building. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. McCarty, second by Mr. Chatham to move Pine Belt Multi-Purpose Community Action Agency's request for financial assistance to the Finance Committee. Motion carried.

The following resolution was offered by Ms. Magee and seconded by Mr. McCarty:

RESOLUTION

A resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the special election held in the Parish of Jackson, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, April 29, 2023, to authorize the continuation of a special tax therein.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Police Jury of the Parish of Jackson, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the Parish of Jackson, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), that:

SECTION 1. Canvass. This Governing Authority does now proceed in open and public session to examine the official tabulations of votes cast at the special election held in the Parish of Jackson, State of Louisiana, on SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2023 (the "Election"), to authorize the continuation of a special tax therein pursuant to the following proposition (the "Proposition"):

PROPOSITION (MILLAGE CONTINUATION)

Shall the Parish of Jackson, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), continue to levy an eighty-two hundredths (0.82) mills tax on all the property subject to taxation within the Parish (an estimated \$155,300 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for a period of ten (10) years, beginning with the year 2023 and ending with the year 2032, for the purpose of maintaining, operating and supporting the Jackson Parish Public Health Unit, said millage to represent a seven hundredths of a mill (0.07) increase (due to reappraisal) over the 0.75 mills tax authorized to be levied through the year 2022 pursuant to an election held on November 6, 2012?

This Governing Authority does further proceed to examine and canvass the returns of the Election thereof.

SECTION 2. Election Results. According to the official certified tabulation of votes cast at said Election, there was a total of **705** votes cast **IN FAVOR OF** Proposition and a total of **430** votes cast **AGAINST** Proposition, resulting in a majority of **275** votes cast **IN FAVOR OF** Proposition. The Proposition was therefore duly **CARRIED** by a majority of the votes cast by the qualified electors voting at the Election.

SECTION 3. Promulgation of Election Result. The results of said election shall be promulgated by publication in the manner provided by law, after receipt from the Secretary of State's office of the actual costs of the election, as required by Act 205 of the Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana for the year 2019.

SECTION 4. Declaration. The foregoing results of the Election are hereby declared by this Governing Authority and shall be published as required by law.

SECTION 5. Procès Verbal. A *Procès Verbal* of the canvass of the returns of the Election shall be made and a certified copy thereof shall be forwarded to the Secretary of State, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, who shall record the same in his office; another certified copy thereof shall be forwarded to the Clerk of Court and *Ex-Officio* Recorder of Mortgages in and for the Parish of Jackson, who shall record the same in the Mortgage Records of said Parish; and another copy thereof shall be retained in the archives of this Governing Authority.

This resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

MEMBERS:	YEAS:	NAYS:	ABSENT:	ABSTAINING:
Todd Culpepper	<u> X </u>	_____	_____	_____
Lewis Chatham	<u> X </u>	_____	_____	_____
Amy Magee	<u> X </u>	_____	_____	_____
John McCarty	<u> X </u>	_____	_____	_____
Tarneshala Cowans	<u> X </u>	_____	_____	_____
Regina Rowe	_____	_____	<u> X </u>	_____
Lynn Treadway	_____	_____	<u> X </u>	_____

And the resolution was declared adopted on this, the 23rd day of May, 2023.

/s/ Emmett Gibbs	/s/ Todd Culpepper
Secretary-Treasurer	President

PROCÈS VERBAL OF THE CANVASS OF THE VOTES CAST AT THE SPECIAL ELECTION HELD IN THE PARISH OF JACKSON, STATE OF LOUISIANA, ON SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2023.

BE IT KNOWN AND REMEMBERED that on Tuesday, May 23, 2023, at 5:30 p.m., at its regular meeting place, the Dr. Charles H. Garrett Community Center, 182 Industrial Drive, Jonesboro, Louisiana, the Police Jury of the Parish of Jackson, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the Parish of Jackson, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), and being the authority ordering the special election held therein on Saturday, April 29, 2023, with the following members present:

Todd Culpepper, Lewis Chatham, Amy Magee, John McCarty, Tarneshala Cowans;

There being absent: Regina Rowe, Lynn Treadway (Deceased);

did, in open and public session, examine the official certified tabulations of votes cast at the said election, and did examine and canvass the returns of the said election, there having been submitted at said election the following proposition, to wit:

**PROPOSITION
(MILLAGE CONTINUATION)**

Shall the Parish of Jackson, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), continue to levy an eighty-two hundredths (0.82) mills tax on all the property subject to taxation within the Parish (an estimated \$155,300 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire

year), for a period of ten (10) years, beginning with the year 2023 and ending with the year 2032, for the purpose of maintaining, operating and supporting the Jackson Parish Public Health Unit, said millage to represent a seven hundredths of a mill (0.07) increase (due to reappraisal) over the 0.75 mills tax authorized to be levied through the year 2022 pursuant to an election held on November 6, 2012?

There was found by said count and canvass that there was a total of **705** votes cast **IN FAVOR OF** Proposition and a total of **430** votes cast **AGAINST** Proposition, as hereinabove set forth, and it was further found and determined that there was a majority of **275** votes cast **IN FAVOR OF** Proposition as hereinabove set forth.

Therefore, the Governing Authority did declare and proclaim and does hereby declare and proclaim in open and public session that the Proposition as hereinabove set forth was duly **CARRIED** by a majority of the votes cast by the qualified electors voting at the said special election held in the Parish on Saturday, April 29, 2023.

Results by precinct are available from the Secretary-Treasurer of this Governing Authority during regular business hours or via the Louisiana Secretary of State's website (voterportal.sos.la.gov).

Exhibit "A" attached hereto and made a part of this *Procès Verbal* is a copy of the Notice of Special Election and proof of publication thereof.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED at Jonesboro, Louisiana, on this, the 23rd day of May, 2023.

ATTEST:

/s/ Todd Culpepper

President

/s/ Emmett Gibbs

Secretary-Treasurer

EXHIBIT "A"

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

Pursuant to the provisions of a resolution adopted by the Police Jury of the Parish of Jackson, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the Parish of Jackson, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), on December 20, 2022, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special election will be held within the Parish on **SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2023**, and that at the said election there will be submitted to all registered voters in the Parish qualified and entitled to vote at the said election under the Constitution and Laws of the State of Louisiana and the Constitution of the United States, the following proposition, to-wit:

PROPOSITION (MILLAGE CONTINUATION)

Shall the Parish of Jackson, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), continue to levy an eighty-two hundredths (0.82) mills tax on all the property subject to taxation within the Parish (an estimated \$155,300 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for a period of ten (10) years, beginning with the year 2023 and ending with the year 2032, for the purpose of maintaining, operating and supporting the Jackson Parish Public Health Unit, said millage to represent a seven hundredths of a mill (0.07) increase (due to reappraisal) over the 0.75 mills tax authorized to be levied through the year 2022 pursuant to an election held on November 6, 2012?

Said special election will be held at each and every polling place in the Parish of Jackson, which polls will open at seven o'clock (7:00) a.m. and close at eight o'clock (8:00) p.m., in accordance with the provisions of La. R.S. 18:541.

The polling places at the precincts in the Parish are hereby designated as the polling places at which to hold the said election, and the Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners, respectively, shall be those persons designated according to law.

The estimated cost of this election as determined by the Secretary of State based upon the provisions of Chapter 8-A of Title 18 and actual costs of similar elections is \$31,000.

Notice is further given that a portion of the monies collected from the tax described in the Proposition shall be remitted to certain state and statewide retirement systems in the manner required by law.

The said special election will be held in accordance with the applicable provisions of Chapter 5 and Chapter 6-A of Title 18 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, and other constitutional and statutory authority, and the officers appointed to hold the said election, as provided in this Notice of Special Election, or such substitutes therefor as may be selected and designated in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1287, will make due returns thereof to said Governing Authority, and NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the Governing Authority will meet at its regular meeting place, the Dr. Charles H. Garrett Community Center, 182 Industrial Drive, Jonesboro, Louisiana, on **TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2023**, at **FIVE-THIRTY O'CLOCK (5:30) P.M.**, and shall then and there in open and public session proceed to examine and canvass the returns and declare the results of the said special election. All registered voters of the Parish are entitled to vote at said special election and voting machines will be used.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED at Jonesboro, Louisiana, on this, the 20th day of December, 2022.

ATTEST:

/s/ Lynn Treadway
President

/s/ Emmett Gibbs
Secretary-Treasurer

PROCLAMATION

I, the undersigned President of the Police Jury of the Parish of Jackson, State of Louisiana, the governing authority of the Parish of Jackson, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), do hereby declare, proclaim and announce that the proposition submitted at the special election held in the Parish on Saturday, April 29, 2023, was CARRIED by a majority of the votes cast at the said special election, all as described and set out in the above *Procès Verbal*.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED at Jonesboro, Louisiana, on this, the 23rd day of May, 2023.

/s/ Todd Culpepper
President

STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH OF JACKSON

I, the undersigned Secretary-Treasurer of the Police Jury of the Parish of Jackson, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the Parish of Jackson, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), do hereby certify that the foregoing pages constitute a true and correct copy of the proceedings and *Procès Verbal* made by said Governing Authority on May 16, 2023, providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the special election held in the Parish on Saturday, April 29, 2023, to authorize the continuation of a special tax therein.

IN FAITH WHEREOF, witness my official signature at Jonesboro, Louisiana, on this, the 23rd day of May, 2023.

/s/ Emmett Gibbs
Secretary-Treasurer

Motion by Ms. Magee, second by Mr. Chatham to adopt a proclamation in honor of Mr. Milton Bryant. Motion carried.

Motion by Ms. Magee, second by Mr. McCarty to adopt a proclamation in honor of Mr. Lynn Treadway. Motion carried.

The President opened the floor for Juror comments.

Motion by Mr. Chatham, second by Ms. Magee to adjourn. Motion carried.