

The Jackson Parish Police Jury met in Business Session Monday, February 3, 2020 at 5:15 PM in the Police Jury Meeting Room #301 of the Jackson Parish Courthouse, 500 E. Court Street, Jonesboro, Louisiana. Members present: Mr. Todd Culpepper, Mr. Lewis Chatham, Ms. Amy Magee, Mr. John McCarty, Ms. Niki Cowans, Ms. Regina Rowe, and Mr. Lynn Treadway. Absent: none. Also present: Mr. Darrell Avery, Assistant District Attorney.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Ms. Magee.

Mr. McCarty gave the invocation and Ms. Rowe led in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

The President opened the floor for public comments.

Ms. Linda Devine asked if the Parish had a leash law. Ms. Magee stated that they would research the Parish Ordinance Code and let her know.

Ms. Devine stated that she would like to know how the roads for the road program would be determined and asked that the Operations Committee consider paving gravel roads.

With no other public comments, Ms. Magee moved on to the Jackson Parish Mayor's Meeting.

The Mayors in attendance were asked to introduce themselves. The Mayors present included:

Ms. Kathy Robertson, North Hodge

Mr. Hal Mims, East Hodge

Mr. Gerald Palmer, Hodge

Ms. Kelly Gryder, Eros

The President commended prior juries for doing what they could in the past to assist the municipalities. She explained the recommendations from the Finance Committee to reduce all 2020 appropriations by 10% and the requirements to receive Police Jury funding including proof of filing for state grants like LGAP, having specific letters of request for items like road work, being able to verify the expenditures, and being in compliance with the Legislative Auditor and Jackson Parish Coroner. She stated that the Police Jury would continue to perform routine maintenance on potholes and grading as the schedule permits. The Mayors confirmed that they had submitted LGAP applications for 2020 and discussed issues with school buses damaging city roads. The President encouraged them to reach out to the School Board to repair the damages caused by the buses.

The President thanked the Mayors for their attendance.

The President called for Committee Reports.

The President addressed the practice of committees and stated that only the Committee Members were to participate in the discussions. Any other Jurors in attendance are to be regarded as a member of the public and can speak only during public comments. She reiterated that all Jurors would have an opportunity to discuss the items from the Committee Meetings during the Business Session.

Ms. Magee, Chairman of the Operations Committee provided a summary of the January 24th meeting stating that the requested GPS reports would be reviewed at the next meeting. She informed the Jury that two recommendations had been sent to the Policy & Personnel Committee for review.

The Jury reviewed the recommendations from the Road Department and the Secretary-Treasurer provided additional details on the training documents received.

Ms. Cowans, Chairman of the Policy & Personnel Committee provided a summary of the January 27th meeting stating that the Committee had reviewed the recommendations from the Operations Committee and had begun establishing a policy for the Crew Leader Setup. The Jury reviewed the prepared job description for the proposed new position of Operations Manager. The President asked the Jurors to review the document and provide

feedback to the Committee for them to finalize. Ms. Cowans stated that the Committee would also set up a schedule to begin reviewing the Personnel Policy and Parish Code of Ordinances.

Ms. Rowe, Chairman of the Project Committee provided a summary of the January 28th meeting. The Secretary-Treasurer stated that the attorney had requested a meeting be set up to begin negotiations for the hospital drainage project servitudes. The Secretary-Treasurer also stated that the presented samples for the Industrial Drive Offices were available for the Jurors to review.

Mr. Culpepper, Chairman of the Finance Committee provided a summary of the January 29th meeting. He discussed the established requirements for entities to receive funding from the Police Jury. The Jury reviewed the 2020 appropriations with the 10% decrease.

The President moved on to Continued Business.

The Jury reviewed the list of Continued Business items and the Secretary-Treasurer explained the status of each project.

The Jury reviewed the list of parish board vacancies and expirations. Nominees will be presented at the regular meeting.

The President moved on to New Business.

The Jury reviewed the LSU Ag Center request for appropriation and discussed the 10% reduction.

The Jury reviewed the letter of request from North Hodge for assistance on Lowery Road. The President stated that this would be a good project for them to request for their 2020 appropriation.

The Jury reviewed the presented salary schedule for the Coroner's Office. The Secretary-Treasurer stated that the increase had been approved through the budget and the presented schedule detailed the individual rates.

The Jury discussed the closure of the Jackson Independent newspaper. Mr. Avery provided guidance on the statues for declaring a legal journal. The Jury reviewed the options from the Ruston Daily Leader and the Natchitoches Times.

Motion Mr. Chatham, seconded Mr. Culpepper to appoint Mr. Walter Kotz to complete the term of Constable, District B. Motion carried.

The President moved to discussion of other topics.

Mr. McCarty briefed the Jury on the activities of the Workforce Development Board and asked that they consider candidates of post-graduates from high school that could benefit from the program to attend a vocational school. Mr. McCarty announced that the Parish Clean-up Committee would be meeting and asked that the Jurors consider a person in their district that could serve on a committee to prepare a parish-wide clean up event. Mr. Culpepper updated the Jury on the activities of the Library Board and stated that the board was open to consider the process of emancipating the library from the Police Jury.

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