

The Police Jury met in regular session assembled with the following members present: Sidney Fontenot, Ryan Williams, Ryan Ardoin, Daniel Arvie, Bryan Vidrine, Kevin Veillon, Keith Saucier, Lamar Johnson, and Eric Soileau. All members were present.

There were no comments from the public regarding the agenda items.

A public hearing was then opened to hear comments and/or questions on the Jury authorizing the collection of a local hospital assessment payment. A representative was present to address the Jury in requesting the Jury to enact an ordinance for the assessment of a levy for an occupational license tax on the local hospital. The reason behind this assessment is to allow the hospital to draw down more Medicare dollars from the federal government.

Being there were no further comments the public hearing was declared closed.

The Floor was then opened for nomination for the office of President and Vice President for the fiscal year 2021.

On motion of Bryan Vidrine, Ryan Williams was nominated for the office of President. Motion was made by Bryan Vidrine and seconded by Ryan Ardoin that nominations are closed and Ryan Williams is hereby appointed as President for the fiscal year 2021.

On motion of Daniel Arvie, Bryan Vidrine was nominated for the office of Vice-President. Motion was made by Daniel Arvie and seconded by Ryan Ardoin that nominations are closed and Bryan Vidrine is hereby appointed as Vice-President for the fiscal year 2021.

Motion was made by Sidney Fontenot and seconded by Eric Soileau approving the appointment of Committee Members for the FY 2021. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sidney Fontenot and seconded by Kevin Veillon that the Police Jury Meeting Room of the Courthouse Building, 200 Court Street, Ste. 207, Ville Platte, La is hereby designated as the meeting place for the regular meeting of the Police Jury and the date and time are hereby designated on the first Monday of each month to be held at 6:00 p.m. An exception will occur for holidays falling on said Monday, therefore the following holidays will be moved as follows:

Monday July 5, 2021 (Fourth of July Holiday) moved to Monday July 12, 2021.

Monday September 6, 2021 (Labor Day Holiday) moved to Monday September 13, 2021.

Motion carried.

Motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Lamar Johnson that the Police Jury Committee Meetings date and time are hereby designated on the first Monday of each month to be held at 5:00 p.m. in the Police Jury Meeting Room of the Courthouse Building, 200 Court Street, Ste. 207, Ville Platte, La. An exception will occur for holidays falling on said Monday, therefore the following holidays will be moved as follow:

Monday July 5, 2021 (Fourth of July Holiday) moved to Monday July 12, 2021.

Monday September 6, 2021 (Labor Day Holiday) moved to Monday September 13, 2021.

Motion carried.

Mrs. Sarah Dake addressed the Jury to introduce herself and informed the Jury she will be the contact for Senator John Kennedy Acadiana Regional Representative.

Motion was made by Daniel Arvie and seconded by Eric Soileau to approve the adoption of an ordinance to participate in the Local Health Care Provider Participation Program for the Evangeline Parish Police Jury and St. Landry Parish territory. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sidney Fontenot and seconded by Lamar Johnson to approve the following members to serve on the Mercy Regional Hospitals Assessment Committee:

Ryan Williams
Chris Aguillard
Mike Fontenot
Chase Melancon
Amanda Cain

Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sidney Fontenot and seconded by Kevin Veillon approving to call a public hearing on Monday February 1, 2021 at 4:45 p.m. in the Police Jury Meeting Room of the Courthouse Building, 200 Court Street, Ste. 207, Ville Platte, La to hear public comments and/or questions on the adoption of an ordinance to levy the local health care provider participation program annual assessment. Motion carried.

Section 8 Director, Anna Frank, addressed the Jury with an update on Section 8 Housing. Mrs. Frank stated that approval is needed for amendments to the Section 8 Administrative Plan. Currently there are 159 tenants that are housed in Evangeline Parish and a total of 175 applicants on the waiting list.

Motion was made by Lamar Johnson and seconded by Daniel Arvie to approve the 2021 Fair Market Rent Payment Standard at 100%, effective November 1, 2020. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sidney Fontenot and seconded by Ryan Ardoin to approve Section 8 to utilize the 2021 updated utility allowance. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Daniel Arvie and seconded by Bryan Vidrine to approve Evangeline Parish C-Map for the year 2020 using C-maps for fiscal year ending 2019, score of 96 Hap performance due to the pandemic. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sidney Fontenot and seconded by Bryan Vidrine to approve the Section 8 2021 Administrative Plan using HANO (Housing Authority of New Orleans) Plan which covers housing charts voucher program. Motion carried.

Mrs. Frank is also requesting from the Jury a pay increase for herself and Secretary, Tremeka Leday. Motion was made by Lamar Johnson and seconded by Ryan Ardoin to approve a pay increase of \$1.01/hr. to Anna Frank and a pay increase of \$1.73 for Tremeka Leday, to be paid out of the Section 8 HUD administrative plan funds, effective January 18, 2021. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Daniel Arvie and seconded by Ryan Ardoin to approve an amendment to the Section 8 HUD Administrative Plan for available funds to be used to house families affected by the hurricane, effective 10-1-2020. Motion carried.

Dr. Gwen Fontenot, Evangeline Parish Chamber of Commerce President, addressed the Jury with an update on Chamber Activity.

Park Manager, Kim Ortego, addressed the Jury to present quotes for a new security gate at Crooked Creek Recreational Park entrance. Motion was made by Lamar Johnson and seconded by Sidney Fontenot approving the quote received from Invision Technical Solutions in the amount of \$23,999 for the installing of a security gate. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Lamar Johnson and seconded by Bryan Vidrine approving to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that we, the President and Jury Members of the Evangeline Parish Police Jury, Parish of Evangeline, State of Louisiana, acting as governing body of said Parish do hereby enact the following resolution on this 11th day of January 2021;

WHEREAS: The Evangeline Parish Police Jury is applying for funding through the Community Water Enrichment Fund, a grant program that has been made available by the Louisiana Office of Community Development; and

WHEREAS: The Parish intends to improve their Ward 1 Industrial Park Water System by repairing and/or replacing the water well controls and chlorination system for the two existing water wells; and

WHEREAS: The Evangeline Parish Police Jury has no funds available at this time to complete this project, this application would provide \$100,000 for these project costs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governing body of the Evangeline Parish Police Jury by way of this resolution does hereby approve to submit an application to the Office of Community Development for water enrichment grant funding in the amount of \$100,000 for the proposed improvements.

The above and foregoing, having been submitted to a vote was unanimously approved this 11th day of January, 2021.

Motion was made by Lamar Johnson and seconded by Keith Saucier approving to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that we, the President and Jury Members of the Evangeline Parish Police Jury, Parish of Evangeline, State of Louisiana, acting as governing body of said Parish do hereby enact the following resolution on this day the 11th of January 2021;

WHEREAS: The Evangeline Parish Police Jury is applying for funding through the Local Government Assistance Program, a grant program that has been made available by the Louisiana Office of Community Development; and

WHEREAS: The Parish proposes to extend its sewer and water lines at its facility in the crooked creek area; and

WHEREAS: The Evangeline Parish Police Jury has no funds available at this time to complete this project, this application would provide up to \$100,000 for this project costs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governing body of the Evangeline Parish Police Jury by way of this resolution does hereby approve to submit an application to the Office of Community Development for grant funding in the amount of \$100,000 for proposed improvements.

The above and foregoing, having been submitted to a vote was unanimously adopted this 11th day of January 2021.

Motion was made by Lamar Johnson and seconded by Ryan Ardoin approving to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Evangeline Parish Police Jury does hereby authorize and approve Secretary-Treasurer, Donald Bergeron, to sign any and all documents required for FEMA Reimbursements related to the 2020 Hurricane Damages.

The above and foregoing, having been submitted to a vote was hereby adopted on this 11th day of January 2021.

Motion was made by Eric Soileau and seconded by Eric Soileau to approve the hiring of a demographer to determine if reapportionment is necessary based on the 2020 Census figures. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Bryan Vidrine approving to take action on seeking reimbursement from Diamond B. Construction for asphalt damages occurring on Colt Avenue and approving Fontenot's Asphalt for road repairs. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Lamar Johnson to approve transferring employee, Darwin Lewis, from Region-A part time to full time operator position in Region A for District 5 & 7. Motion carried.

Due to Mardi Gras following Presidents Day this year and due to COVID most activities will be cancelled a motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Keith Saucier to approve removing Mardi Gras from the 2021 Holiday List for employees. Motion carried.

The Jury then discussed adopting procedures for deviating from established working hours. It was addressed to the Jury of office and road staff leaving early the day before a major holiday. Motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Lamar Johnson to approve adopting the procedure for the President of the Police Jury to notify all other jury members before approving employees to dismiss early before a major holiday. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Lamar Johnson and seconded by Kevin Veillon approving to reappoint the following fiscal agents for the FY2021:

Evangeline Bank
Jeff Davis Bank
Investar Bank
Basile State Bank

Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sidney Fontenot and seconded by Lamar Johnson to approve the December 22, 2020 Public Hearing and Special Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Lamar Johnson and seconded by Sidney Fontenot to approve the Acadiana Crime Lab amended Budget for the Fiscal Year 2020 as submitted. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sidney Fontenot and seconded by Lamar Johnson approving the IRS standard mileage rates for 2021 at 56 cents per mile driven for business use. This rate is down 1.5 cents from the rate for 2020. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sidney Fontenot and seconded by Lamar Johnson to approve the jail supply list as submitted. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sidney Fontenot and seconded by Ryan Ardoin authorizing the payment of bills on file in the office. Motion carried.

Public Works Director gave the following report:

- 2% Parish wide Equipment is located in the Chataignier area.
- Ward 1 Drainage Equipment is located in District 9.

No reports were given by Parish Engineer at this time.

Secretary-Treasurer, Donald Bergeron, gave the following report:

- Acadian Ambulance monthly report is in compliance with the ordinance.
- Sales Tax collections, collected in December 2020 for the month of November 2020, \$250,660.95.
- Mr. Bergeron stated that each juror has been emailed the parish budget to actual comparison reports for each fund and asked the Jury if there were any questions regarding those reports. No comments were reported.

Motion was made by Sidney Fontenot, seconded by Ryan Ardoin and unanimously approved to amend the agenda to add the following item:

1. Aaron Causey to address the Jury regarding Louisiana Public Service Commission (LPSC)

Mr. Causey addressed the Jury informing the Jury of LPSC fund which allocates funding based on revenues from utility companies for energy efficiency projects.

Motion was made by Ryan Ardoin and seconded by Sidney Fontenot approving to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Ryan Williams, President

Donald Bergeron, Secretary-Treasurer