

The Police Jury met in regular session assembled with the following members present: Sidney Fontenot, Bryan Vidrine, Angelica Williams, Eric Soileau, Ryan Ardoin, Lelia Thrasher, Kevin Veillon, and Keith Saucier. Absent and excused is Daniel Arvie. A quorum was present.

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

Motion was made by Sidney Fontenot and seconded by Kevin Veillon approving the February 6, 2023 Committee and Regular meeting minutes. Motion carried.

A draft has been created in regards to the Tannerite Ordinance. This proposed ordinance is to prohibit usage of Tannerite with propane bottles for recreational use. Motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Ryan Ardoin to approve calling a public hearing on Monday, April 3, 2023 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 comments from the public regarding a proposed ordinance banning the practice of shooting a combination of Tannerite explosives with propane bottles aimed for recreational use. Motion carried.

IBV Energy addressed the Jury on the Solar Ordinance Project. This project will support energy, create jobs and increase tax revenues for the Parish. Construction is proposed to start in 2024. Commercial operations will begin in 2025. Motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Keith Saucier approving to call a public hearing on Monday, April 3, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. in the Police Jury Meeting Room of the Courthouse Building, 200 Court Street, Ste. 207, Ville Platte, La to hear comments from the public on a proposed Solar Ordinance Project. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sidney Fontenot and seconded by Kevin Veillon to approve the appointment of Melissa Clavier as board member to the Tourist Commission. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Keith Saucier and seconded by Ryan Ardoin that the following resolution is hereby adopted:

WHEREAS, in accordance with the resolution of February 6, 2023 the Police Jury published its intention to abandon the following property to wit:

The Parish Road identified as Boo Boo Lane on the Parish E-911 maps. Abandonment is located in Section 5, Township 3 South, Range 1 West of Evangeline Parish Louisiana and more specifically described as 600 feet of parish road.

The Parish Road identified as Berry Lane on the Parish E-911 maps. Abandonment is located in Section 5, Township 3 South, Range 1 West of Evangeline Parish Louisiana and more specifically described as 700 feet of parish road.

WHEREAS, there were no objections received to these abandonments from adjacent property owners; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Police Jury does hereby declare the above named roads as officially abandoned.

The above and foregoing, having been submitted to a vote, was unanimously adopted this 6th day of March 2023.

Motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Keith Saucier approving to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Evangeline Parish Police Jury, governing body of the Parish of Evangeline, State of Louisiana, does hereby change Precincts 1081, 1090, 1091 voting location from Voting Machine Warehouse located at 1208 Dardeau Street, Ville Platte to Village De Memoire located at 1001 North Reed Street, Ville Platte, La 70586.

The above and foregoing, having been submitted to a vote was unanimously adopted this 6th day of March 2023.

Motion was made by Keith Saucier and seconded by Eric Soileau approving to adopt a resolution giving preliminary approval to the issuance of not exceeding two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000) of limited tax bonds for Fire Protection District #2. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Keith Saucier and seconded by Kevin Veillon to approve Ray Fontenot as cemetery caretaker of St. Julien Cemetery. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Keith Saucier and seconded by Lelia Thrasher to approve the appointment of Linda Lebsack to replace Katy Marcantel on the Library Board for remainder of the term. (08/26). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sidney Fontenot and seconded by Lelia Thrasher approving to adopt a resolution of the Acadiana Planning Commission in support of creating a Regional Juvenile Detention Center. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ryan Ardoin and seconded by Kevin Veillon approving to adopt the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire for the 2022 audit. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sidney Fontenot and seconded by Lelia Thrasher authorizing the payment of bills on file in the Police Jury Office. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sidney Fontenot and seconded by Ryan Ardoin approving the jail supply list as submitted. Motion carried.

Public Works Director gave the following report:

- Updated the Jury on current Public Works Director, Andrew Tate, has stepped down from the position and will need to be replaced. Mr. Tate will be moving back as Region A Foreman. Mr. Granger is requesting the hiring of Jody Snoddy as Public Works Director at \$25/hour.

Motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Eric Soileau to approve the hiring of Jody Snoddy as Public Works Director at \$25/hour replacing Andrew Tate. Motion carried.

- Request the hiring of Darryl Shepherd, Jr. as Assistant Public Works Director.

Motion was made by Ryan Ardoin and seconded by Keith Saucier to approve the moving Darryl Shepherd, Jr. as Assistant Public Works Director at \$22/hour. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Keith Saucier and seconded by Kevin Veillon to approve moving Andrew Tate as Foreman for Region A at \$20/hour. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Keith Saucier and seconded by Kevin Veillon to approve moving Wyatt Duplechain as Ward 1 Drainage Equipment Operator at \$17.50/hour. Motion carried.

- Parish Wide drainage equipment is located in the Basile area and Ward 1 drainage equipment is located in District 1 area.

- Tractor which has been ordered should be in around the end of March. Request to proceed with hiring for drivers/operators for the equipment.

Motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Keith Saucier approving to proceed with the hiring of drivers/operators for new equipment, starting at \$14/hour. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Lelia Thrasher and seconded by Keith Saucier to approve the hiring of Huey Johnson as a full-time employee, retroactive to January 1, 2023. Motion carried.

Parish Engineer gave the following report:

- Water Sector Grant has been approved in the amount of \$923,000.00 which is for Wyble Subdivision Sewer Plant. Requesting approval for President to initiate documents pertaining to this grant.

Motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Keith Saucier authorizing President, Bryan Vidrine, to sign any and all documents related to the Water Sector Grant. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Lelia Thrasher approving to adopt a resolution entering into an administration contract for work related to the Water Sector Grant. Motion carried.

- Jail Facility utilities are being extended on Maxie Ray Road. The expense on that project will come out of the agreement made with the Sheriff.

Secretary-Treasurer, Chester Granger, gave the following reports:

- Acadian Ambulance report is in compliance with the ordinance.
- Announcing Hwy 1159 is needed of repairs. DOTD will be contacted to proceed.
- Approve hiring employee for District #2.

Motion was made by Sidney Fontenot and seconded by Kevin Veillon to approve the hiring of an employee for District #2. Motion carried.

- Parish was notified that the Off Road Bridge System will be giving the Parish Beiber Road Bridge over Bayou Nepique. The bridge is funded and will be going to engineering and development.
- 2% Sales Use Tax Collections received \$368,972.00.
- Mr. Granger 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 Kevin Veillon and seconded by Lelia Thrasher approving to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Bryan Vidrine, President

Chester Granger, Secretary-Treasurer