

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

Motion was made by Sidney Fontenot and seconded by Lelia Thrasher to approve the December 12, 2023 Regular meeting minutes. Motion carried.

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

Motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Ryan Ardoin to approve adopting an ordinance authorizing participation in the Acadiana Watershed District, as codified by Louisiana Act 323. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ryan Ardoin and seconded by Daniel Arvie approving a \$200 per month pay increase to the Justice of the Peace and Constables. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Lelia Thrasher approving to reduce the speed limit on O'Quinn Loop from 45 mph to 25 mph. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Keith Saucier approving to reduce the speed limit on Cabot Road from 25 mph to 15 mph. Motion carried.

Announcement was made from Representative Rhonda Butler and Senator Heather Cloud that Capital Outlay funding has been approving for the resurfacing of Hwy 106 in Evangeline Parish starting from Pine Prairie, La to the Allen Parish line.

Motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Keith Saucier approving to adopt a resolution providing for the Levy within the Police Jury Ward No. 1 of Evangeline Parish, State of Louisiana, an Ad Valorem Property Tax for the purpose of maintaining and upkeeping public cemeteries located in Police Jury Ward No. 1, more specifically a 10-year, 0.84 mill property tax continuation, beginning January 1, 2023 in said district, levying and providing for the assessment, collections, payment and dedication of the proceeds of such tax and the purpose for which the proceeds of the tax may be expended, such tax having been authorized at a special election in the district on November 18, 2023. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Keith Saucier and seconded by Kevin Veillon approving to adopt a resolution of the Evangeline Parish Police Jury, State of Louisiana, providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the special election held within the boundaries of Police Jury Ward No. 1 on November 18, 2023 to authorize the renewal of a special Tax therein. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sidney Fontenot and seconded by Ryan Ardoin approving to adopt a resolution providing for the levy within the Parish of Evangeline, State of Louisiana, and ad valorem property tax, for services to the elderly, including the establishment and maintenance of centers for its senior citizens, more specifically a 10 year, 1.04 mill property tax continuation, beginning January 1, 2025, in said district, levying and providing for the assessment, collection, payment and dedication of the proceeds of such tax and the purpose for which the proceeds of the tax may be expended, such tax having been authorized at a special meeting held in the district on November 18, 2023. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sidney Fontenot and seconded by Eric Soileau approving to adopt a resolution of the Evangeline Parish Police Jury, State of Louisiana, providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the special election held within the boundaries of the Parish of Evangeline, State of Louisiana, on November 18, 2023, to authorize the renewal of a special tax therein. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Keith Saucier and seconded by Lelia Thrasher approving to adopt the following resolution requesting the designation of certain census tract block groups enumerated below as

enterprise zones, for participation in the Enterprise Zone Program administered by the Louisiana Department of Economic Development

WHEREAS, LA R.S. 51:1784, pertaining to the Enterprise Zone Program, includes a provision that data from the most recent federal decennial census shall be applied in determining areas qualified for designation as enterprise zones; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Economic Development designates the below enumerated tracts as Enterprise Zone eligible based upon the 2020 federal decennial census; and

WHEREAS, LA R.S. 51:1785, pertaining to the Enterprise Zone Program includes a provision that the Louisiana Department of Economic Development shall only designate eligible block groups as Enterprise Zone if the local governing authority agree to participate in the Enterprise Zone program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Evangeline Parish Police Jury, that:

- Section 1. Evangeline Parish wishes to participate in the Enterprise Zone Program:
- Section 2. Evangeline Parish agrees to assist the Department in evaluating progress made in any Enterprise Zone within its jurisdiction.
- Section 3. Evangeline Parish wishes to designate the following as Enterprise Zones:

CENSUS TRACT	BLOCK GROUP
9503	3
9503	4
9503	5
9504	2
9504	3
9504	4
9505	1
9505	3
9505	4
9506	2
9506	3
9506	4
9507	1
9507	4
9508	3

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if any provision or item of this resolution or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications of this resolution which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications and to this end the provisions of this resolution are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

The above and foregoing, having been submitted to a vote was unanimously adopted this 18<sup>th</sup> day of December 2023.

Motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Eric Soileau approving the Workers Compensation proposal submitted by LWCC with an estimated annual premium the amount of \$96,818.00. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sidney Fontenot and seconded by Ryan Ardoin approving the 2024 Employee rehire list as submitted and to include a two-year term for Secretary-Treasurer, Chester Granger. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sidney Fontenot and seconded by Eric Soileau approving the following Holiday Schedule for the fiscal year 2024:

Martin Luther King Day	January 15, 2024
Mardi Gras Day	February 13, 2024
Presidents Day	February 19, 2024
Good Friday	March 29, 2024
Memorial Day	May 29, 2024
Juneteenth National Independence Day	June 19, 2024
Independence Day	July 4, 2024
Labor Day	September 2, 2024
Columbus Day	October 14, 2024
Veterans Day	November 11, 2024
Thanksgiving Day	November 28-29, 2024
Christmas Day	December 24-26, 2024
New Years Day	January 1-2, 2024
(2) Personal Days	Must be used by end of Calendar Year

Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sidney Fontenot and seconded by Keith Saucier approving to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Evangeline Parish Police Jury having published notice of public hearing and said public hearing having been held, that the proposed budget amendments for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2023 for all funds hereby be adopted;

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

YAYS: Sidney Fontenot, Lelia Thrasher, Ryan Ardoin, Bryan Vidrine, Keith Saucier, Angelica Williams, Kevin Veillon, Eric Soileau, Daniel Arvie.  
NAYS: None.  
ABSTAIN: None.  
ABSENT: None.

The above and foregoing resolution was hereby adopted this 18th day of December 2023.

Motion was made by Sidney Fontenot and seconded by Kevin Veillon approving to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Evangeline Parish Police Jury having published notice of public hearing and said public hearing having been held, that the proposed budgets appropriations for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2024 and ending December 31, 2024 for all funds hereby be adopted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, to include \$1,000 per month to be paid out of the Health Unit Fund used for veterinary services for animal control; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, to include a \$200 per month pay increase out of the General Fund for Justice of the Peace and Constables.

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

YAYS: Angelica Williams, Ryan Ardoin, Lelia Thrasher, Bryan Vidrine, Kevin Veillon, Keith Saucier, Sidney Fontenot, Eric Soileau, Daniel Arvie.  
NAYS: None.  
ABSTAIN: None.  
ABSENT: None.

The above and foregoing resolution was hereby adopted this 18th day of December 2023.

Motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Keith Saucier approving to update the Evangeline Parish Police Jury Standard Operating Procedures to include a Sexual Harassment Policy and the following procedures:

Procedures Adding New Vendors

1. Person or Company must fill out a W-9
2. Once W-9 is completed, the Assistant Secretary Treasurer puts the vendors information into the system. At that point, we are ready to do business with the person or company.

Procedures for Contracting

Types of services requiring written contracts:

-Most bid services should have contracts.

Approval Process:

-Because it is a bid the Jury would have to on the bid winner and would be given a contract.

Procedures for Credit Cards

Required approvers of statements:

Visa – A/P Secretary #1 who does not have a card

Final Signature – Secretary Treasurer

WEX – A/P Secretary#2 who does not have a card

Final Signature – Public Works Director

Procedure for Ethics

System to monitor possible ethics violation:

-The Police Jury policy in place has two people and as many as four persons looking at every transaction.

Procedure for Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity

- A. Identification of critical data/frequency of back up
  - a. All data through our server and all computers are protected and backed up on a daily basis.
- B. Storage of backups in separate physical location from network.
- C. Periodic testing/verification that backups can be restored.
- D. Use of antivirus software on all systems are provided by third party.
- E. Timely application of all available system and software patches/updates is done annually.
- F. A Third Party handles all software and anti-virus for the Police Jury office.

Motion carried.

Motion was made by Eric Soileau and seconded by Lelia Thrasher approving to adopt the Proposed Budget for the fiscal year 2024 as presented by the Acadiana Crime Lab. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Daniel Arvie and seconded by Kevin Veillon approving to go into executive session to discuss the Police Jury picking up 1% of Anna Franks salary. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Eric Soileau approving to reconvene the special meeting agenda. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Eric Soileau and seconded by Kevin Veillon approving to take no action on agenda item #14 at this time. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Keith Saucier approving to advertise for the Manager position at Crooked Creek Recreational Park. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Eric Soileau, seconded by Kevin Veillon and unanimously approved to amend the agenda to add the following items:

1. Review and Accept bids for material and services for fiscal year 2024.
2. Resolution for Sewer Systems.
3. Resolution for annexing of property for Ville Platte.
4. Discuss pay raise for Greg Manuel.
5. Call a public hearing to abandon a portion of a Cousins road.

Motion was made by Ryan Ardoin and seconded by Keith Saucier approving to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Bids were opened and reviewed on December 18, 2023 for Pest Control Services, Limestone, Grader Blades, Emulsified Asphalt, Diesel, Corrugated Polyethylene Pipe, Hot/Cold Mix; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the low bids submitted as listed on the tabulation of low bids attached hereto and made a part thereof be and they are hereby accepted beginning January 1, 2024 and ending December 31, 2024.

Above and foregoing, having been submitted to a vote, was unanimously adopted this 18th day of December 2023.

Motion was made by Keith Saucier and seconded by Daniel Arvie approving to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Parish of Evangeline informs the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality that the following actions were taken by the Evangeline Parish Police Jury;

1. Resolved the municipal water pollution prevention audit report which is attached to this resolution.
2. Set forth the following actions necessary to maintain permit requirements contained in Louisiana Pollution discharge elimination system permit LA109542.
  - a. Maintain sufficient chlorine levels to reduce effluent exceedances.
  - b. Repair blower motors to aerate system.
  - c. Record daily flow and effluent date.
  - d. Repair plates in media chamber.
  - e. Replace sand in filter bed to reduce algae growth.
  - f. Report loading values for bd5, tss, and ammonia total nitrogen.
  - g. Report total nitrogen and phosphorous.
  - h. Dispose of regulated solid waste in a manner approved by LA RS 30:2155.

The above and foregoing, having been submitted to a vote was unanimously adopted this 18<sup>th</sup> day of December 2023.

Motion was made by Lelia Thrasher and seconded by Ryan Ardoin approving to adopt a resolution to concur with the City of Ville Platte, Louisiana to enlarge its limits and boundaries of by annexing approximately 13.06 acres located in SW ¼ of Section 26, Evangeline Parish, Louisiana, and a portion of

Crimson Lane adjacent and contiguous to the eastern most boundary of the City of Ville Platte, and to other wise provide with respect thereto. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Keith Saucier and seconded by Sidney Fontenot approving to increase employee, Greg Manuel's pay to \$18.00 per hour. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Keith Saucier approving to call a public hearing on Monday February 5, 2024 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 the abandonment on a portion of Cousins Road. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Lelia Thrasher and seconded by Sidney Fontenot approving to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

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Bryan Vidrine, President

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Chester Granger, Secretary-Treasurer