

The Police Jury met in regular session assembled with the following members present: Bryan Vidrine, Sidney Fontenot, Ryan Ardoin, Tim Causey, Kevin Veillon, Brent Guillory, Darion Arvie and Daniel Arvie. Absent and excused was Keith Saucier. A quorum was present.

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

Motion was made by Tim Causey and seconded by Kevin Veillon to approve the following monthly meeting minutes:

August 1, 2024 Committee and Regular Meeting Minutes
August 1, 2024 Public Hearing Minutes
August 5, 2024 Public Hearing Minutes
September 3, 2024 Special Meeting Minutes

Motion carried.

Motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Darion Arvie approving to appoint Brandi Fontenot as member on the Hospital Board to replace Lance Chapman. Motion carried.

Agenda items #2 & #4 regarding appointments to the Parish Emergency Management Advisory Committee (PEMAC) and Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPA) will be tabled at this time.

Motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Tim Causey to approve Bekki Miller to the Evangeline Parish Communications District (911) Board. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Ryan Ardoin to approve Opal Oleta Poole to the Evangeline Parish Communications District (911) Board. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ryan Ardoin and seconded by Kevin Veillon to approve Higginbotham Insurance as Agent of Record for the Parish Group Insurance. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sidney Fontenot and seconded by Darion Arvie approving to adjourn as a Jury and convene as Board of Review. Motion carried.

As advertised, the Police Jury, as a whole, met as a Board of Review to hear and/or review complaints received on the 2024 assessed valuations set by the Evangeline Parish Assessor. There were no appeals on the assessed values for 2024.

Motion was made by Darion Arvie and seconded by Kevin Veillon to accept and approve the 2024 assessed values as prepared by the Evangeline Parish Tax Assessor. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sidney Fontenot and seconded by Ryan Ardoin approving to adjourn the Board of Review and reconvene the regular scheduled meeting. Motion carried.

No action was taken on the USDA Building lease with City of Lafayette (LUS). Lease agreement is being reviewed and will be brought back before the Jury for discussion once completed.

Mr. Vince Deshotel from the LSU Ag Center addressed the Jury about Weather Data Collections System. This system has to be set up on government property. Property is available next to the 911 Office in the Industrial Park and will be brought before the 911 Board for discussion.

Motion was made by Daniel Arvie and seconded by Kevin Veillon approving to adopt a resolution endorsing Bryan Vidrine as 3rd Vice President to the Police Jury Association of Louisiana. Motion carried.

Secretary-Treasurer explained to the Jury that the Sheriff's Department is having problems with getting nurses to participate two (2) hours in the morning and two (2) hours in the evening in providing medical services to the parish inmates. They are requesting to have nursing from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. which would be an increase of two (2) hours per day which is \$60 per day. This new format would provide for a more stabilized staffing situation and consistent care for 6 hours and would also provide better nursing care and perhaps limit the potential for liability. Motion was made by Ryan Ardoin and seconded by Darion Arvie to approve the nursing contract revision request from the Sheriff's Department. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Ryan Ardoin to deny the Governor's Temporary Housing and Shelter Assistance Program Waiver. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Kevin Veillon seconded by Daniel Arvie and unanimously approved to amend the agenda to add the following items:

1. Discuss the hiring of a Grant Writer.
2. Discuss vacant position on the Solid Waste Commission.
3. Discuss letter received regarding Hester Heath Building.
4. Discuss bid received for the renovation of the Veterans Home.
5. Discuss management for the Detention Pond Grant.
6. Discuss Precinct changes as requested by Registrar of Voters Office.
7. Mrs. Thelma Toussaint regarding Litter in the Parish.

Motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Darion Arvie to approve hiring Debra Brunet as Grant Writer at \$20,000 per year from each agency. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Daniel Arvie and seconded by Darion Arvie approving to appoint Donald Ray Thomas to the Solid Waste Commission to replace Tommy Jones. Motion carried.

Juror Tim Causey gave an update to the Jury that the acquisition of Hester Heath Building is moving forward by the School Board.

A bid has been received from Scott LaFleur for the renovations of the Veterans Home in the amount of \$15,480.00. Motion was made by Sidney Fontenot and seconded by Kevin Veillon to accept the bid received as stated to be paid out of the General Fund. Motion carried.

It was advised that the Jury will need to hire Professional Services to manage the Grant for the Detention Pond.

Motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Brent Guillory to approve to keep the existing precincts in place as they are. Motion carried.

Mrs. Thelma Toussaint addressed the Jury regarding litter in the Parish and is requesting the need for posting signs about fines for littering.

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

Motion was made by Sidney Fontenot and seconded by Kevin Veillon authorizing the payment of the jail supply list as submitted. Motion carried.

Public Works Director gave the following report:

- Requesting approval for a new hire for Region A.

Motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Darion Arvie to approve hiring Joey Arneaux as limb cutter at \$15/hour, effective August 27, 2024 to be paid out of Road District One Fund (115). Motion carried.

- Requesting approval of a new hire Parish Wide.

Motion was made by Kevin Veillon and seconded by Tim Causey to approve the hiring of Daniel Smith at \$17/hour, effective August 21, 2024 to be paid out of 2\$ Sales Use Tax Fund (114). Motion carried.

- Requesting to make a purchase for District 4.

Motion was made by Darion Arvie and seconded by Sidney Fontenot to approve the purchase of a Grapple for the Skid Steer at approximately \$6,000 to be paid out of District 4 funds. Motion carried.

Parish Engineer gave the following report:

- Bids for the Ward One Industrial Park Infrastructure Project should be in by September 16, 2024.
- The Wyble Subdivision construction project is 50% complete.

Secretary-Treasurer gave the following report:

- Reported that auto sales tax collections are down and everything else is flat.

Motion was made by Ryan Ardoin and seconded by Darion Arvie approving to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Bryan Vidrine, President

Dirk Deville, Secretary-Treasurer