

MINUTES
Of the Regular Meeting, of
The Claiborne Parish Police Jury
10:00 a.m.
April 10, 2024
Police Jury Chambers
507 West Main Street
Homer, LA 71040

The Claiborne Parish Police Jury met in regular session in the Jury Chambers of the Claiborne Parish Police Jury Complex, located at 507 West Main Street in Homer, LA at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday the 10th of April 2024. On being called to order by President, Scott Davidson, the following Jurors were present:

Larry Ford, Mark Furlow, Mary McDaniel, Paul Cook, Joseph Merritt, Malcom Cooper, Gil Dowies, and Rev. Willie Young, Sr.

District Three Juror Kevin Gray was absent.

There were 22 others in attendance which included, Secretary-Treasurer Dwayne R. Woodard, Parish Co-Road Superintendents Chad Verdin and Brant Cupp, Claiborne Parish Sheriff Sam Dowies, District Attorney Danny Newell, Director of Libraries Mrs. Pam Suggs, Library Historian Wesley Harris, Parish Digital Navigator Jerry Hilledge, CMMC CEO Tina Haynes, CPHSD#3 Board Member Dr. Sam Abshire, Parish Coroner Dr. Mark Haynes, OOCS Executive Director April Childress, Parish Engineer Randal Smoak with CGS Engineering, Clerk of Court Brian Flynn, Claiborne Parish Registrar of Voters Tracey Lowery, Parish Coroner Dr. Mark Haynes, CPPJ Hwy Dept. Asst. Foreman and Village of Lisbon Mayor Wayne Tanner, LSU AgCenter Parish Chair Lee Faulk, Claiborne Parish Fire District 4 Board member Ronald Day, Town of Homer Recreation Director Terry Willis, Dr. Steve Fowler of the Homer Cornerstone Church, Mr. Jerry Whitton of Homer, and Jerry Strahan, Jr.

There was a Road Committee Meeting held at 9:00 am in the Police Jury Conference Room.

President Scott Davidson called the meeting to order.

The meeting was opened with a word of Prayer led by Rev. Willie Young, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Paul Cook.

Upon motion by Mark Furlow, duly seconded by Joseph Merritt, the Jury unanimously voted to adopt the Regular Agenda as presented.

Upon motion by Gil Dowies, duly seconded by Mary McDaniel, the Jury unanimously approved the following consent agenda:

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the March 6, 2024, regular meeting minutes as published in the Official Journal.
2. Payment of the March 2024 bills as approved by the Claims Committee.
3. Request from Town of Haynesville, in a letter received March 13, 2024, requesting assistance with the removal and replacement of culverts located on Reed Street and Main Street to help alleviate flooding in these areas. The work will be down under the Town's ad valorem tax credit.

Regular Agenda

President Scott Davidson read aloud a notice that all Parish Employees are required to complete one (1) hour of ethics training by December 31, 2024.

President Scott Davidson reminded everyone that one (1) hour of Preventing Sexual Harassment Training is required to be completed by December 31, 2024, by all Parish Employees – Department Heads and Jury Officers have a two (2) hour training requirement.

President Scott Davidson reminded the Jurors that their personal financial disclosure statements for 2023 are due by May 15, 2024.

President Scott Davidson read aloud a notice that the ROV Employees' Retirement System employer rate for the fiscal year July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, will remain at 18.00% and the employee rate will remain at 7.00%.

At this time, Clerk of Court, Brian Flynn, addressed the Jury to thank them on behalf of the Secretary of State's Office for assistance with delivering the voting machines for the 2024 Spring Presidential General Election after the drayage contractor's truck broke down. The machines were delivered by Hwy Dept Asst Road Foreman Mr. Wayne Tanner. Clerk of Court Brian Flynn informed the Jury that with their help the machines were delivered on time and the election was held with no issues. After thanking the Jury, he read aloud a proclamation from Secretary of State Nancy Landry formally thanking the Claiborne Parish Police Jury.

Upon motion by Mark Furlow, duly seconded by Paul Cook, the Jury unanimously voted to begin the process by introducing Ordinance No. 803 - for the Parish to redeem Parcel #9320122250, 1547 & 1765 Washington Dr, Haynesville, LA 71038.

The following ordinance was presented for review on this the 10th day of April 2024. Upon a motion by Mark Furlow seconded by Paul Cook, the proposed ordinance began its period of review for public comment and consideration. A Public Hearing will be held on Wednesday, May 8, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. to hear comments concerning Claiborne Parish Ordinance No. 803.

The following Ordinance was offered by _____, who moved for its adoption:

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 803

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A CLAIM OF OWNERSHIP OF ADJUDICATED PROPERTY TO THE CLAIBORNE PARISH POLICE JURY PURSUANT TO LA. R.S. 47:2236, ET SEQ.; AND FURTHER PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO:

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 47:2236 authorizes the claim of full ownership of adjudicated properties for purposes allowed by the Louisiana Constitution;

WHEREAS, the three (3) year period for redemption provided by Art. 7, §25 of the Louisiana Constitution on the adjudicated property referenced herein has elapsed, and the owner of record has failed to redeem the adjudicated property.

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 47:2236 authorizes the political subdivision to claim full ownership of said property;

WHEREAS, the Claiborne Parish Police Jury ("CPPJ") intends to claim full ownership of the following property described as Parcel 9320122250: LOT #5, BLK. 1, JERRY FORCH ADD. #1, OF HAYNESVILLE that has been adjudicated to the Claiborne Parish Police Jury since 2018.

WHEREAS, the Claiborne Parish Police Jury finds that such acquisition is in the public interest and in accordance with applicable law;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED that the Claiborne Parish Police Jury does hereby declare its intent to acquire full ownership interest of the adjudicated property identified above upon completion of the procedures for adjudicated property pursuant to La. R.S. 47:2236, *et seq.*;

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the President of the Claiborne Parish Police Jury be, and hereby is authorized to execute such documents as are reasonable and necessary to complete the acquisition as described above.

Juror _____ seconded the motion to adopt the Ordinance.

The foregoing Ordinance having been submitted to a vote, the vote resulted as follows:

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSTAINED:

ABSENT:

And the Ordinance was adopted on this the 8th day of May, 2024.

I hereby certify the above and foregoing to be a true and correct copy of an Ordinance which was adopted at a meeting held by the Claiborne Parish Police Jury

Dwayne R Woodard, Secretary-Treasurer

Upon motion by Gil Dowies, duly seconded by Joseph Merritt, the Jury unanimously approved the request from Co-Road Superintendents Brat Cupp and Chad Verdin, to increase Truck Driver Marcus Hudson’s base pay by \$0.50 per hour to \$15.29 effective April 20, 2024. Mr. Hudson will complete his six-month probationary period on April 19, 2024.

Upon motion by Paul Cook, duly seconded by Mary McDaniel, the Jury unanimously approved and accepted the CPPJ Hwy Dept Capital Improvement Program for 2025-2027.

Parish Wide Capital Improvement Program for 2025-2027

2025 – Hebron Road rehabilitation for approximately 0.90 tenths of a miles – soil cement and 3 shot chip seal – estimated cost \$190,000

Chip Seal Road Program roads TBD - \$450,000 estimated budget.

2026 – Harris Road widening in certain areas – estimated cost \$90,000

Chip Seal Road Program roads TBD - \$400,000 estimated budget.

2027 – Columbia Road rehabilitation from railroad tracks to the injection well for approximately 1.0 miles – estimated cost \$75,000

Chip Seal Road Program roads TBD - \$450,000 estimated budget.

All roads and budgets subject to change based on need and financial situation.

Upon motion by Mark Furlow, duly seconded by Mary McDaniel, the Jury unanimously approved the Special Event Permit from Mr. Charles White of White Acres Trail Ride and Horse Show on May 10 & 11, 2024 – 404 Ed White Rd, Haynesville, LA 71038.

At this time, President Scott Davidson report from the Road Committee.

Upon motion by Paul Cook, duly seconded by Gil Dowies, the Jury unanimously approved the recommendation from the Road Committee concerning the hiring of a new truck driver through Manpower. The posting for this position was left open-ended due to the current shortage of truck drivers within the Hwy Department.

Upon motion by Rev. Willie Young, duly seconded by Larry Ford, the Jury unanimously approved the recommendation from the Road Committee for the hiring of Eddie Hoof as a part-time season worker for the Hwy Dept at a rate of \$12.00 per hour effective as soon as he passes the pre-employment physical.

Upon motion by Mary McDaniel, duly seconded by Paul Cook, the Jury unanimously approved the recommendation from the Road Committee to advertise for sealed bid for the Surplus Dump Truck and to establish the minimum bid of \$18,000. Bids will be received until Tuesday, May 7th at 2:00 pm. The bids be acted upon at the May 8, 2024, the regular Jury Meeting.

At this time, Claiborne Parish Coroner Dr. Mark Haynes, gave his monthly Coroner’s report - there were 10 deaths for the month of March in the Parish - (7) Hospice/ER, (0) CMMC, (0) other, (1) on scene with no autopsy, and (2) on scene that required autopsies. His office had (4) CECs for the month.

Dr. Mark Haynes gave a quick update on the clinics and CMMC for the month of March. They are seeing sporadic flu cases that are mostly in children.

ITEM #20 – April 10, 2024 – AGENDA

SECRETARY-TREASURER – UPDATE ON GRANTS AND OTHER ITEMS

1. LGAP Projects –

Claiborne Parish Police Jury
FY2022-2023 LGAP Grant
Amount \$100,000
Project – Roof rehab/repair CPPJ Admin Building
Status – Contract signed and approved by the State.

2. CWEF Projects -

Pinehill Water System
FY2020-2021 CWEF Grant
Amount - \$21,225
Project – Water line extension E D White Road area
Status – Contract signed and approved by the State.

South Claiborne Water System
FT2022-2023 CWEF Grant
Amount - \$100,000
Project – Owens Booster Station Project (Hwy 146)
Status – Contract received and approved by the State.

3. Sales Tax Collections for Feb 2024 – net of \$64,339 from gross collections of \$65,989
Net sales tax collections for Jan 2024 – \$55,094 – increase \$9,245 (16.78%)
Net sales tax collections for Feb 2023 - \$57,078 – increase \$7,261 (12.72%)

4. Cash position on March 31, 2024 - \$11,365,735
Cash position on February 29, 2024 - \$11,495,083 (decrease of \$-129,348)
Cash position on March 31, 2023 - \$10,753,565 (increase of \$612,170)

See Deposit Balances by Institution for breakdown on March 31, 2024 –

5. Total Receipts for the month of March 2024 – \$330,070.

6. Upcoming important dates and meetings –

- 4/16 – OOCS Board Meeting
- 4/22-26 – Auditors here for field work
- 4/25 – CPHSD3 Board meeting
- 4/29 – CPL Board Meeting
- 5/1 – Agenda items due
- 5/8 – Regular Meeting
- 5/17 – LRPIC Board Meeting

Additional Public Comments:

Upon motion by Larry Ford, duly seconded by Paul Cook the meeting was adjourned.

Dwayne R. Woodard
Secretary–Treasurer

Scott Davidson
President