

Police Jury Room
September 3, 2002
Abbeville, Louisiana

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Vermilion Parish Police Jury held on September 3, 2002 with Mr. Edval Simon, Jr. presiding.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Simon, who asked that the meeting begin with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following members were present:

Mr. Purvis Abshire	Mr. Hubert Faulk
Mr. Terry Bessard	Mr. Luther "Buster" Hardee
Mr. Ernal "E. J." Broussard	Mr. Louis Joe Hardy
Mr. Minos Broussard	Mr. Mark Poche
Mr. Kenneth DeHart	Mr. T. J. Prejean, Jr.
Mr. Carroll Duhon	Mr. Edval Simon, Jr.

Absent: Mr. Pervis "Pee Wee" Meaux,
Mr. Ritter Trahan.

Upon motion of Mr. Purvis Abshire, duly seconded by Mr. Ernal "E. J." Broussard, and unanimously carried, the reading of the minutes of the August 19, 2002 meeting were dispensed with and were accepted.

President Edval Simon, Jr. invited those with time on the agenda to present their business at this time.

Mr. Howard Cormier with the Vermilion Rice Growers Association requested the consideration of the Police Jury to authorize the President to sign a proclamation declaring the month of September as Rice Month in Vermilion Parish. Mr. Cormier gave a presentation on their mission, goals and activities for the Rice Industry in Vermilion Parish. Mr. Cormier also introduced Rice Growers Association President Mrs. Linda Zaunbrecher; Ms. Nancy Greene, Adult Leader; Mr. Dane Hebert, President of Vermilion Parish Farm Bureau; Mrs. Rebecca Shirley; and the Vermilion Rice Ambassadors - Leonard Hebert, Chairman, Andre Greene, Will Hardee, Melissa Lacour, and Valerie Bouillion. The Jurors were thanked for their continued assistance.

Upon motion of Mr. Luther "Buster" Hardee, duly seconded by Mr. Carroll Duhon, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury authorized the President to sign the following, proclaiming September as Rice Month in Vermilion Parish:

**AN OFFICIAL DECLARATION TO PROCLAIM
SEPTEMBER 2002**

NATIONAL RICE MONTH

WHEREAS, Vermilion Parish has traditionally had the largest rice acreage in the state each year; and

WHEREAS, the value of rice last year to Vermilion farmers is over \$26 million (without government payments); and

WHEREAS, the rice industry provides hundreds of jobs and many dollars through value – added items to our local economy; and

WHEREAS, the production and consumption of rice provides a rich part of the Cajun heritage, tradition, and joie de vive; and

WHEREAS, the State of Louisiana is a key supplier of U. S. grown rice, producing nearly 33 million pounds annually; and

WHEREAS, rice is the staple grain for most of the population of the world; and the significance of rice cannot be overemphasized; and

WHEREAS, rice provides an important contribution to the diet, to the economy of this nation, and to the nourishment of other countries;

WHEREAS, The United States produces more than 21 billion pounds annually; and

WHEREAS, rice is vital to the economic stability of rice farmers and millers in Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, Texas, California, Missouri, and Florida; and

WHEREAS, intense research and development in rice technology has resulted in rice farmers of this Nation producing some of the highest yields of rice per acre, making such rice one of the most land-efficient and cost-efficient crops grown; and

WHEREAS, the United States is one of the largest exporters of rice, as this Nation exports rice to over one hundred and twenty countries and supplies almost 12 percent of the rice for world trade; and

WHEREAS, millions of people in this Nation, as well as countless people in other countries, enjoy rice in a variety of forms, including the use of rice as an edible grain, in flour, bran, cooking oil, cereals, rice cakes and health food snacks; and

WHEREAS, rice is an important source of nutritional value, as rice provides an excellent source of complex carbohydrates, contains only a trace of fat, and is cholesterol-free and sodium-free; and

WHEREAS, rice is recognized world wide as an economical food and an important part of feeding the expanding population in Third World nations; and

WHEREAS, rice farmers in this Nation represent a key element in the enhancement of habitat for waterfowl such as ducks, geese, swan, cranes, and others; and

WHEREAS, the harvest of rice in this Nation is celebrated each September;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the President of the Vermilion Parish Police Jury, that September, 2002 is designated as

“RICE MONTH”

and this proclamation is issued calling up appropriate ceremonies and activities.

EDVAL SIMON, JR.
PRESIDENT

Mrs. Nancy Frederick from Menard Marble & Granite requested permission to locate a 9/11 memorial on the grounds of the Courthouse at no cost to the Police Jury. A drawing of the proposed memorial was provided for the Jurors consideration.

Upon motion of Mr. Purvis Abshire, duly seconded by Mr. Hubert Faulk, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury authorized Menard Marble & Granite to locate a 9/11 memorial on the grounds of the Courthouse.

President Edval Simon, Jr. read the following announcements:

- (1) A reminder that the Police Jury's Annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day will be Saturday, September 7, 2002, from 8:00 a.m. till 1:00 p.m. at the Solid Waste Facility.
- (2) Received notification from Acadian Ambulance & Air Med Services of their intent to renew their ambulance permit, which expires at the end of this year. They will submit a comprehensive application packet with all required materials at a later date.

- (3) Mayor Mark Piazza has sent an invitation to attend a memorial service on September 11, 2002 from 8:30 am – 9:30 am on the west porch of the Courthouse, commemorating the September 11th 2001 attack on our country. In addition to remembering lives lost, the police, fire, and sheriff departments will also be honored.

Mayor Piazza is also asking that all flags be flown at half-mast that day.

- (4) Received an invitation to the rededication of the Old LeBlanc Church to be held on Saturday, September 14, 2002 at 12 o'clock noon at 3203 J. Alcee Road, Leblanc (off of La. Hwy 339).
- (5) Representative Vic Stelly will be at the September 5th General Membership meeting of the Greater Abbeville-Vermilion Chamber of Commerce to discuss the Stelly Plan - Tax Proposal. The meeting will begin at 12:00 noon at the Abbeville Country Club.

Upon motion of Mr. Carroll Duhon, duly seconded by Mr. Kenneth DeHart, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury granted approval to Northstar Design Solutions, Inc., on behalf of Bellsouth Telecommunications, Inc., to install new cable within the public right-of-way of Taft Road in Election District No. 1.

Upon motion of Mr. Kenneth DeHart, duly seconded by Mr. Luther "Buster" Hardee, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury approved the issuance of Permit No. 1220-D to Toce Oil Company to install and maintain an 80-foot culvert on the west side of Theall Road at the intersection of Hunter Road, install appurtenant structures, and to drill and produce the J. M. Pierce No. 1 Well located in Election District No. 09.

Upon motion of Mr. Kenneth DeHart, duly seconded by Mr. Terry Bessard, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury approved the issuance of Permit No. 1221 to Petrogulf Corporation to install and maintain approximately 4,000-feet of one (1) 3-inch gas line to serve the Truman J. Abshire #1 Well located in Election District No. 9.

Upon motion of Mr. T. J. Prejean, Jr., duly seconded by Mr. Luther "Buster" Hardee, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury approved payment of Invoice No. 006771 in the amount of \$38,449.57 to Sellers & Associates, Inc. for engineering services provided relative to the Phase 3 Subtitle D Cell Improvements at the Solid Waste Plant.

Upon motion of Mr. T. J. Prejean, Jr., duly seconded by Mr. Minos Broussard, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury approved payment of Invoice No. 006770 in the amount of \$105.00 to Sellers & Associates, Inc. for engineering services provided relative to the Off System Bridge Priority Program.

Upon motion of Mr. Kenneth DeHart, duly seconded by Mr. Carroll Duhon, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury approved payment of Partial Payment Estimate No. 1 (Final) in the amount of \$22,147.50 to M. Matt Durand, LLC for road improvements done on Marlin Road and Everglade Road. Costs to be paid from Road District No. 7 funds.

Upon motion of Mr. Ernal "E. J." Broussard, duly seconded by Mr. Purvis Abshire, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury authorize the President to sign the following proclamation declaring September 11, 2002 as Patriot Day to honor those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001:

AN OFFICIAL DECLARATION TO PROCLAIM

SEPTEMBER 11TH as PATRIOT DAY

WHEREAS, on September 11, 2001, America was suddenly and brutally attacked by terrorists, and;

WHEREAS, thousands of innocent Americans were killed and injured as a result of these attacks, including the passengers and crew of the four aircraft, workers in the World Trade Center and in the Pentagon, rescue workers, and bystanders, and;

WHEREAS, these cowardly acts targeted symbols of American strength and success, clearly were intended to intimidate the nation and weaken our resolve, and;

WHEREAS, these horrific events affected all Americans. With courage America carried on with the regular activities of our lives. Terrorism was not allowed to break the spirit of the American people;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the President of the Vermilion Parish Police Jury declares September 11, 2002 Patriot Day in honor of the individuals who lost their lives as a result of the terrorist attacks against the United States that occurred on September 11, 2001.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Vermilion Parish Police Jury display the flag of the United States at half-mast on Patriot Day in honor of the individuals who lost their lives as a result of the terrorist attacks.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Vermilion Parish Police Jury recommends to its citizens to observe a moment of silence on Patriot Day in honor of the individuals who lost their lives as a result of the terrorist attacks against the United States that occurred on September 11, 2001.

EDVAL SIMON, JR.

Upon motion of Mr. Minos Broussard, duly seconded by Mr. Terry Bessard, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury approved payment of application No. 3 in the amount of \$21,057.00 to Minvielle Lumber for work done relative to the renovation of an existing building to house the Erath Branch of the Vermilion Parish Library. Cost to be paid from the Library Construction Fund.

Upon motion of Mr. Minos Broussard, duly seconded by Mr. Louis Joe Hardy, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury approved payment of Invoice No. 2264 from The Sellers Group in the amount of \$467.94 for architectural services provided relative to the renovation of an existing building to house the Erath Branch of the Vermilion Parish Library. Cost to be paid from Library Construction Fund.

Upon motion of Mr. Hubert Faulk, duly seconded by Mr. Carroll Duhon, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury approved payment of Partial Payment Estimate No. 2 in the amount of \$46,692.37 to Jan's Construction Co. for work done relative to the FY 2000-2001 LCDBG Water System Improvements – North Vermilion – Area V – Water Distribution System. Cost to be paid from LCDBG funds.

Upon motion of Mr. Purvis Abshire, duly seconded by Mr. T. J. Prejean, Jr., and unanimously carried, the Police Jury approved payment of Invoice No. 060602-R1A in the amount of \$223.90 to Brooks Court Reporter for depositions taken relative to the Charles E. Taylor lawsuit.

Upon motion of Mr. T. J. Prejean, Jr., duly seconded by Mr. Terry Bessard, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury approving that the following self-insured insurance deductible payments be paid to Laborde & Neuner relative to the suits shown:

- A) Guy Duhon vs. VPPJ, et al
Amount Due = \$2,371.22
- B) Charles Taylor vs. VPPJ, et al
Amount Due = \$388.51
- C) Herman J. Taylor vs. VPPJ, et al
Amount Due = \$88.30

Upon motion of Mr. Mark Poche, duly seconded by Mr. Minos Broussard, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury readopted an intergovernmental agreement previously approved on August 5, 2002 with the Town of Erath and Vermilion Parish School Board to install culverts in the area of the Erath High School girls baseball field. Readoption required due to wording change made by School Board to reflect their cost “not to exceed \$500.00”.

Upon motion of Mr. Minos Broussard, duly seconded by Mr. Ernal "E. J." Broussard, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury approved payment of Invoice No. 2202606 in the amount of \$2,160.81 to Coastal Environments, Inc. for services provided relative to the Environmental Impact Study of the Deepwater Access Channel To The Port Of Iberia. Cost to be paid from Coastal Impact Assistance Program funds.

Upon motion of Mr. Mark Poche, duly seconded by Mr. Kenneth DeHart, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury authorized payment of the deductible payment in the amount of \$5,000.00 to Deep South Surplus relative to the settlement of the damage claim filed by Harold Shaffer. Cost to be paid from '94 Sales Tax Fund.

Upon motion of Mr. T. J. Prejean, Jr., duly seconded by Mr. Purvis Abshire, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury authorized payment of the deductible payment in the amount of \$5,000.00 to Deep South Surplus relative to the settlement of the damage claim filed by Patrick Mouton. Cost to be paid from '94 Sales Tax Fund.

Upon motion of Mr. Minos Broussard, duly seconded by Mr. Louis Joe Hardy, and unanimously carried, approved payment of overtime worked by Mr. Ricky Faulk due to increased spraying relative to the West Nile Virus.

Upon motion of Mr. Ernal "E. J." Broussard, duly seconded by Mr. Terry Bessard, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury authorized payment of Invoice No. 1 in the amount of \$5,000 to the Vermilion Community Health Network relative to the Rural Health Access Program which represents the portion of the local match for which the Police Jury has previously budgeted to.

Upon motion of Mr. Purvis Abshire, duly seconded by Mr. Ernal "E. J." Broussard, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury authorized entering into an intergovernmental agreement with the Vermilion Community Health Network to use the old Kaplan Health Unit facility to operate the Kaplan area health clinic and the pharmacy access program.

Upon motion of Mr. Ernal "E. J." Broussard, duly seconded by Mr. Terry Bessard, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury authorized payment of the following invoices relative to the construction of the new Abbeville Library. Cost to be paid from the Library Construction Fund:

- A) Rudick Company
Application No. 5
Amount Due = \$104,868.92

- B) The Sellers Group
Invoice No. 2265
Amount Due = \$1,600.63

Upon motion of Mr. Mark Poche, duly seconded by Mr. Luther "Buster" Hardee. and unanimously carried, the Police Jury authorized the allocation of up to \$500.00 to the Vermilion Parish Economic Development District to have a logo designed and to pay for the cost of the printing letterhead. Cost to be taken from a carryover of funds derived from previous economic development actions.

Upon motion of Mr. Hubert Faulk, duly seconded by Mr. Minos Broussard, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury approved the following state highway driveway permit installations:

- A) Roy Pommier – La. Hwy 92
- B) Harry Landry – La. Hwy 89

Upon motion of Mr. Ernal "E. J." Broussard, duly seconded by Mr. Kenneth DeHart, and unanimously carried, at the request of legal counsel, Paul Moresi, III, the Police Jury went into executive session to discuss pending litigation at 7:30 p.m.

Upon motion of Mr. Hubert Faulk, duly seconded by Mr. Louis Joe Hardy, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury returned to regular session at 7:40 p.m.

Upon motion of Mr. Ernal "E. J." Broussard, duly seconded by Mr. Kenneth DeHart, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury authorized the legal counsel to file the appropriate paperwork to initiate litigation against Med-Express and Hartec and to authorize the Secretary to sign all of the necessary paperwork.

Police Juror Terry Bessard advised the Jury that the Headstart Administrative Offices have been relocated to the Abbeville Headstart Center. St. Mary Community Action Agency has done a great job in upgrading the site and the program.

Upon motion of Mr. Minos Broussard, duly seconded by Mr. Louis Joe Hardy, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury authorized the appropriate personnel to develop a parishwide hazard mitigation plan and to request all municipalities, school board, hospital districts, and drainage boards to join in the development of the plan.

Upon motion of Mr. Mark Poche, duly seconded by Mr. Ernal "E. J." Broussard and unanimously carried, that there being no further business to be presented, the meeting was duly adjourned.

Secretary-Treasurer

President