

Police Jury Room
January 23, 2008
Abbeville, Louisiana

Minutes of the reconvening of the January 14, 2008 meeting of the Vermilion Parish Police Jury held on January 23, 2008, with Vice President Ronald Darby presiding.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Darby, who asked Mr. Paul Moresi to lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Following the pledge, the Vice President asked for a moment of silent prayer or reflection.

The following members were present:

Mr. Dane Hebert	Mr. Errol J. Domingues
Mr. Chris Beraud	Mr. Gerald Butaud
Mr. Nathan Granger	Mr. Ronald Menard
Mr. Ronald Darby	Mr. Pervis Gaspard
Mr. Wayne Touchet	Mr. Cloris J. Boudreaux
Mr. Mark Poche'	Mr. T. J. Prejean, Jr.
Mr. Keith Meaux	Mr. Leon Broussard

Absent: None

Vice President Darby requested a motion to reopen nominations for the President of the Police Jury.

Upon motion by Mr. Wayne Touchet, duly seconded by Mr. Errol J. Domingues, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury reopened nominations for the position of President of the Police Jury.

Mr. Wayne Touchet thanked all the Jurors that supported him in his bid for the Presidency of the Police Jury and also complimented Mr. Granger and thanked all the Jurors who supported him. Mr. Touchet stated that the meeting of January 14, 2008 was suspended as the vote for the President of the Jury was tied, so he felt it was appropriate to let the people of Vermilion Parish know that all the Jurors were present to attend to the business of the Parish, which is to settle the issue of the Presidency this evening. Mr. Touchet stated further that he therefore nominated Mr. Gerald Butaud for the position of the President of the Vermilion Parish Police Jury.

Upon motion by Mr. Wayne Touchet, duly seconded by Mr. Nathan Granger, and unanimously carried, Mr. Gerald Butaud was nominated for the position of President of the Police Jury.

Upon motion by Mr. T. J. Prejean, Jr., duly seconded by Mr. Pervis Gaspard, and unanimously carried, nominations for the position of President of the Police Jury were closed and Mr. Butaud was elected by acclamation.

President Butaud thanked his fellow Jurors for allowing him the pleasure to represent them as their President. He also complimented Mr. Touchet and Mr. Granger for doing what needed to be done to resolve the grid-lock that the Jury had faced at their last meeting. President Butaud stated that the residents of Vermilion Parish have spoken and they are requesting change and that he felt that the Jurors that represented the Parish would come together to move Vermilion Parish forward. President Butaud also thanked the public who attended the meeting for being supportive and involved. President Butaud further stated that it was up to the Jurors to regain the public trust and change the public image of the Police Jury.

Mr. Butaud then took the gavel to conduct the balance of the meeting.

Upon motion by Mr. Ronald Darby, duly seconded by Mr. Errol J. Domingues, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury authorized the President to sign any and all official Police Jury documents.

President Butaud then presented his appointments to the various Police Jury Standing Committees for the 2008 calendar year, which are as follows:

Public Road Committee

Erroll J. Domingues – Chairman
T. J. Prejean, Jr.
Cloris J. Boudreaux
Leon Broussard
Ronald Menard
Chris Beraud
Pervis Gaspard

Public Works Committee

Wayne Touchet – Chairman
Nathan Granger
Cloris J. Boudreaux
Ronald Darby
Keith Meaux
Chris Beraud
Leon Broussard

Finance Committee

Nathan Granger – Chairman
Keith Meaux
Ronald Menard
Ronald Darby
Leon Broussard
Wayne Touchet
Cloris J. Boudreaux

Courthouse/Building Committee

Keith Meaux – Chairman
Mark Poche'
Errol J. Domingues
Dane Hebert
Wayne Touchet
Pervis Gaspard
T. J. Prejean, Jr.

Rabies & Animal Control Committee

Ronald Menard – Chairman
Mark Poche'
Errol J. Domingues
Pervis Gaspard
Dane Hebert
Ronald Darby
Nathan Granger

President Gerald Butaud is an Ex-Officio member of all Committees.

President Butaud requested a motion to absolve the General Needs Committee.

Mr. Errol J. Domingues requested clarification as to why the General Needs Committee should be absolved.

Mr. Touchet stated that any business that needed to be handled by the Jury should be conducted when the standing committees meet. He further stated that rather than having a duplication of items, each standing committee should conduct their business during their meetings, and rather than having the standing committee meet once a month, all committees should meet twice monthly. Mr. Touchet also stated that in the future, should the Jury feel that there was no need for the standing committees to meet twice a month, the issue could be revisited at that time.

Upon motion by Mr. Wayne Touchet, duly seconded by Mr. Cloris J. Boudreaux, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury approved absolving the General Needs Committee and approved having the standing committees meet twice monthly.

President Butaud stated that as of this time, the 911 Communications District Committee was comprised of 14 jurors and requested a motion to reconfigure the 911 Communications District Committee to include the following:

2 Jurors	Sheriff's Department
Fire Chiefs	Hospital Service Districts
Municipalities	

President Butaud stated it would be appropriate to reduce the number of jurors on the committee and, instead, to include more of the entities that deal with the 911 Communications Office every day, and are aware of the problems and needs of the 911 system.

Mr. Mark Poche' requested clarification regarding changing the charter of the 911 Communication District Committee.

Mr. Paul Moresi, III, Legal Counsel, stated that in order for him to advise the Jury, he would need to see the ordinance which created the 911 Communications District Committee to discern what it says regarding who may or must fill the committee that runs that particular district. Mr. Moresi suggested having the motion to reconfigure the committee include the wording "...subject to review of the ordinance which created the 911 Communications District by Legal Counsel."

Mr. Gabe Mathews, Director for the 911 Communications District, stated that when the ordinance was adopted to create the communications district, there was a loophole included which gave the Jury the right the serve on the Committee or to appoint individuals to serve on the Committee.

Upon motion by Mr. Nathan Granger, duly seconded by Mr. Errol J. Domingues, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury approved reconfiguring the 911 Communications District Committee, subject to review of the ordinance which created the 911 Communications District Committee by Legal Counsel and to continue having all 14 members of the Jury serve on the committee until review by Legal Counsel is completed with President Butaud as chairman.

Upon motion by Mr. Ronald Darby, duly seconded by Mr. Errol J. Domingues, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury approved removing "Consider Any Additions/Changes to the Agenda" from the all agendas.

Mr. Wayne Touchet stated that he felt that, at the end of the meetings, when Jurors were asked if they had any business to present, that business should only include items in that particular Jurors district and should not include Parishwide issues.

Mr. Nathan Granger stated that, according to Robert's Rules of Order, no business should be brought up that is not included on the agenda without a 2/3 vote by the Jury as a whole.

Mr. Moresi stated that the Open Meetings Law was designed to have items on the agenda so that the public could know which items were to be acted upon. Technically, if a juror has an item that he wanted the Jury to act upon, unless it is stated on the agenda, he would need a 2/3 vote in order to change the agenda. Mr. Moresi further stated that the Attorney General has stated that all public bodies in Louisiana have the right to adopt their own rules of procedures, but in the absence of that, generally you are required to follow Robert's Rules of Order or some other recognized rules of procedure.

Upon motion by Mr. Wayne Touchet, duly seconded by Mr. Cloris J. Boudreaux, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury approved the minutes of the January 14, 2008 meeting.

Upon motion by Mr. Errol J. Domingues, duly seconded by Mr. Pervis Gaspard, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury dispensed with the reading of the minutes of January 14, 2008.

President Butaud recognized Mr. Eugene Sellers, Sr., with Sellers & Associates, Inc. to present any business he had to the Jury.

Mr. Sellers stated that he had no business to present to the Jury at this evening's meeting, but he did want to extend his congratulations to President Butaud on his nomination as President.

President Butaud recognized Mr. Eugene Sellers, Jr., with The Sellers Group, to present any business he had to the Jury.

Mr. Sellers stated that he wished to inform the Jurors on the progress of the fire stations in Pecan Island and Forked Island. Mr. Sellers informed the Jury that the

contractor had poured the slab and the foundations, and was now waiting on the brick mason to raise the elevation so the upper slab could be poured.

Mr. Sellers stated that the contractor for the Multi-Purpose Community Health Center is waiting on the metal building manufacturer to send him the revised anchor bolt plans, and once those are received, he will be able to start drilling the foundation and proceed with the grade beams. In addition, subsequent to the second bidding of the Multi-Purpose Community Health Center, plans were sent to the Department of Health and the State Fire Marshall for review. The Department of Health has added a requirement for a back-flow preventer for the water feeding the building. Mr. Sellers stated they have received a quote to install the back-flow preventer from the contractor in the amount of \$2,566.00 and requested a motion approving a change order to include installing a back-flow preventer as requested by the Department of Health.

Upon motion by Mr. Wayne Touchet, duly seconded by Mr. Cloris J. Boudreaux, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury approved issuing a change order for the Multi-Purpose Community Health Center in the amount of \$2,566.0 to install a back-flow preventer for the water feeding the building.

Mr. Sellers further informed the Jury that the Department of Highways has stated that the Multi-Purpose Community Health Center storm drainage system must include a storm drain pipe and catch basin between their building and Cashway Pharmacy. The contractor has provided a quote to install a concrete catch basin and 8" pipes needed in the amount of \$1,503.00 or a heavy duty plastic catch basin and 8" pipes needed in the amount of \$1,228.00. Mr. Sellers recommended installing the concrete catch basin in the amount of \$1,503.00.

Mr. Touchet inquired as to whether the Police Jury could do the work themselves, thus saving money. Mr. Sellers stated that it would be possible for the Jury to do the work themselves, and would instruct the contractor to extend the storm drain-pipe for tie-in.

Upon motion by Mr. Wayne Touchet, duly seconded by Mr. T. J. Prejean, Jr., and unanimously carried, the Police Jury authorized the Road Supervisor to install a catch basin and 8" storm drain-pipe between the Multi-Purpose Community Health Center and Cashway Pharmacy.

President Butaud recognized Mr. Chris Theriot, Administrator/Secretary-Treasurer, to present his business to the Jury.

Mr. Theriot informed the Jury that two proposals had been received from Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, Inc. for commercial property insurance:

Option 1: Building & Content/Radio Towers Value	\$20,060,688
Wind/Hail Sub-Limit Value	\$10,000,000

Estimated Annual Premium = \$153,625.50

Option 2: Building & Content/Radio Towers Value	\$20,060,688
Wind/Hail Sub-Limit Value	\$ 5,000,000

Estimated Annual Premium = \$148,009.05

Mr. Theriot informed the Jury that the deductible has lowered from \$50,000 in 2007 to \$10,000 in 2008 and the estimated annual premium for 2007 was \$158,202.45.

Upon motion by Mr. Mark Poche', duly seconded by Mr. Ronald Menard, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury awarded the quote (Option No. 1) to Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, Inc., for a total estimated annual premium of \$153,625.50, relative to commercial property insurance for 2008.

Mr. Theriot also informed the Jury that a quote had been received from Mr. Rocky Pitre to remodel the Rabies Control Facility (including enlarging room to 14'x10'; demo interior wall; sheet-metal exterior wall to 12' height; water-proof interior wall; move existing door to new wall near drain; install 4' fluorescent light) for a total cost of \$5,850.00. These renovations will be offset by at \$10,000 grant from the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA). Mr. Pitre has requested 1/3 of the cost up front (\$1,950.00), with the balance to be paid upon completion (\$3,900.00).

Upon motion by Mr. Errol J. Domingues, duly seconded by Mr. Leon Broussard, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury referred the item of renovating the Rabies Control Facility to the Rabies and Animal Control Committee for further discussion.

Mr. Theriot also informed the Jury that the Council on Aging has submitted a Section 5311, Rural Transportation Program Application, which is an annual application. The Council on Aging has requested authorization for the President and Legal Counsel to sign the application so they can return it to the State.

Upon motion by Mr. Errol J. Domingues, duly seconded by Mr. Keith Meaux, with Juror Ronald Darby abstaining, the Police Jury authorized the President and Legal Counsel to sign the Section 5311, Rural Transportation Program Application for the Council on Aging.

President Butaud recognized Mr. Paul Moresi, III, Legal Counsel, to present his business to the Jury.

Mr. Moresi stated that in October of 2007, an individual ran into the Abbeville Health Unit with her car. The Jury requested and received an estimate from Minvielle Lumber Company to repair the building. When that estimate was turned into State Farm Insurance, they also requested and received an estimate to repair the building from an independent contractor, which was less than the Jury's original estimate.

Mr. Moresi recommended requesting 3 written estimates, accepting the lowest estimate and beginning the repair work. At that time, he will contact State Farm regarding payment for the repairs.

Upon motion by Mr. Dane Hebert, duly seconded by Mr. Chris Beraud, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury authorized requesting 3 written estimates to repair the Abbeville Health Unit, accepting the lowest quote and repairing the building and authorized Legal Counsel to contact State Farm regarding reimbursement for all costs associated with repairing the building.

Mr. Moresi informed the Jury that he had sent out letters to four local appraisers asking if they would be interested in working with the Jury regarding adjudicated properties. He stated that after he receives a response from the appraisers, he would inform the Jury.

Mr. Moresi stated that he had been requested to look into the particulars regarding the Enterprise Zone programs. He informed the Jury that the Enterprise Zone program was started by the State to encourage growth in certain underdeveloped areas of the State. He further informed the Jury that the Enterprise Zone program offered incentives to businesses that located in these underdeveloped areas. The main benefit of this program is a rebate of the sales and local use taxes imposed by the government for 5 years. He further informed the Jury that the past members of the Jury had consistently denied all requests for the Enterprise Zone program.

Upon motion by Mr. Dane Hebert duly seconded by Mr. Errol J. Domingues, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury referred the issue of the Enterprise Zone program to the Finance Committee for further review and discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. Wayne Touchet, duly seconded by Mr. Cloris J. Boudreaux, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury approved including in all future agendas the following item, under Item No. 1 Call To Order: (C) Please turn all cell phones, pagers, etc. off or set to silent mode for the duration of the Police Jury meeting.

Upon motion by Mr. Mark Poche', duly seconded by Mr. Ronald Darby, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury approved canceling the Police Jury meeting of January 28, 2008 and having all standing committees meet on January 30, 2008 at 5:30 p.m.

Upon motion by Mr. Nathan Granger, duly seconded by Mr. Dane Hebert, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury referred the grant re-write for 3 tanker trucks for the Parish back to the Public Works Committee for further review and discussion.

Mr. Cloris J. Boudreaux stated that he wished to praise his fellow Jurors for electing the Vice President and President by acclamation, which was a positive step for the Parish.

Upon motion by Mr. T. J. Prejean, Jr., duly seconded by Mr. Pervis Gaspard, and unanimously carried, the Police Jury approved replacing Mr. T. J. Prejean on the Vermilion Fire Association with Mr. Gerald Butaud.

Upon motion by Mr. Mark Poche', duly seconded by Mr. Ronald Menard, and unanimously carried, there being no further business to be presented, the meeting was duly adjourned.

Administrator/Secretary-Treasurer

President