

MINUTES
POINTE COUPEE PARISH HOME RULE CHARTER COMMISSION
April 18, 2016

The Pointe Coupee Parish Home Rule Charter Commission met in regular session at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 18, 2016 at the Courthouse Annex in the Police Jury Meeting Room, New Roads, Louisiana.

Chairman Lyles called the meeting to order and directed Secretary Gerrie Martin to call the roll:

PRESENT: Messrs. Albert Dukes, Cornell Dukes, Price Gay, Jacques LaCour, Cletus Langlois, Richard Maciasz, Albert Sneed and Jimmy Lyles, Chairman. Arrived after roll call: Mrs. Gail Hurst.

OTHERS

PRESENT: Messrs. James Fairchild, Dannie Garrett, Charles Morgan, Kevin Nelson and Tommy Comeaux.

ABSENT: Messrs. Alden Andre and Jeremy LaCombe.

Chairman Lyles asked the members to keep Mr. Andre in their prayers, who is ill and in the hospital.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

ADOPT MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Maciasz and seconded by Mr. Gay:

RESOLVED, That the minutes of April 4, 2016 meeting be accepted as written and be published.

Unanimously carried.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ARTICLE V - FINANCE

Attorney Garrett discussed changes and amendments to the proposed Section 5.06 of Article V adding Sub-sections E thru H as it relates to Administration of Operating Budget and Capital Budget. After discussion, the following resolutions were offered:

Motion by Mr. Maciasz and seconded by Mr. LaCour:

RESOLVED, That Sub-section G of Section 5.06 be eliminated from Article V.

Unanimously carried.

Attorney Garrett discussed adding Section 5.11 to address Access to Budgets.

Motion by Mr. LaCour and seconded by Mr. Gay:

RESOLVED, That Article V be adopted with amendments to Section 5.06, Administration of Operating Budget and Capital Budget, and the addition of Section 5.11, Access to Budgets.

Unanimously carried.

DISCUSSION & CONSIDERATION OF ACTION FOR TRANSITION PROCEDURES & ELECTION OF OFFICIALS

Attorney Garrett commented on a memorandum sent to commissioners outlining election cost estimates. He reported that the cost of an election in the parish is about \$1,200 per precinct and there are 28 precincts in the parish. The cost of an election to the parish is reduced by up to 75% if there is a statewide matter on the ballot. He presented the following cost estimates for various elections:

	Parish President Alone	Parish President & Council
Fall 2017	\$33,600	\$33,600
Fall 2017 with 1 Constitutional Amendment*	\$8,400	\$15,300
Spring 2018	\$33,600	\$33,600
Fall 2018	\$510	\$4,100

*The costs would be less if there were more than 1 constitutional amendment on the ballot.

Motion by Mr. Langlois and seconded by Mr. Sneed:

RESOLVED, That an election be held in the fall of 2016 to vote on the charter, and if its adopted, in the following fall a parish president will be elected, Jurors will automatically become the council members and serve out their terms, and have a full election in two (2) years in the fall of 2019.

Substitute motion by Mr. Gay and seconded by Mr. A. Dukes:

RESOLVED, That an election be held in the fall of 2016 to vote on the charter, and if it's adopted, that an election be held to elect a parish president and the council in the fall of 2017 and the council will take office in January of 2018.

The Chairman called for a roll call vote on the substitute motion that resulted as follows:

YEAS: Messrs. A. Dukes, Gay, LaCour, Maciasz and Lyles.

NAYS: Messrs. Langlois and Sneed.

ABSTAIN: Mr. C. Dukes.

ABSENT: Mr. Andre, Mrs. Hurst and Mr. LaCombe.

On a vote of 5-2-1-3, motion carried.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ACTIONS TOWARD FINAL APPROVAL AND COMMUNITY MEETINGS IN REGARD TO PROPOSED HOME RULE CHARTER

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Attorney Garrett reported on presenting a preliminary draft of the Home Rule Charter at their next meeting.

Mrs. Hurst entered the meeting.

SET NEXT MEETING DATE AND AGENDA ITEMS

The next meeting will be May 2, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

Agenda item will be as follows:

- Discussion and consideration of the preliminary draft for the Home Rule Charter plan of government of Pointe Coupee Parish.
- Consideration of matters pertaining to community meetings on the proposed draft Home Rule Charter.

OPEN DISCUSSION

The commission discussed scheduling community meetings throughout the parish to discuss the proposed charter. After discussion, the commission will discuss this matter at their next meeting.

Motion by Mr. A. Dukes and seconded by Mr. Gay, the meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

Jimmy Lyles, Chairman