

**MINUTES  
POINTE COUPEE PARISH POLICE JURY  
June 28, 2016**

The Pointe Coupee Parish Police Jury met in regular session at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 28, 2016, at the Courthouse Annex in the Police Jury Meeting Room, New Roads, Louisiana.

President Cornell Dukes called the meeting to order and directed Secretary Gerrie Martin to call the roll:

PRESENT: Messrs. Mitch Langlois, Charles Watkins, Gordon Taylor, Mrs. Melanie Bueche, Messrs. Stephen Smith, Kyle Olinde, Justin Cox, Glenn Cline, Anthony Hurst, Kurt Jarreau and Cornell Dukes.  
ABSENT: Mr. Edward Bazile.

As President of the Jury, Juror Dukes will generally abstain unless his vote will alter the outcome on a matter by voting to break or make a tie.

15 MINUTES OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

Messrs. Rick Falgout, Wiley Dial, Arthur Ewing, Les Cantrell, L. J. Grezaffi and Mark O'Neil reserved their public comments until Item 11 was discussed.

ADOPT MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Olinde and seconded by Mrs. Bueche:

RESOLVED, That the minutes of June 14, 2016 meeting be adopted as presented and published in the official journal.

Unanimously carried.

EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARY AWARDS

The following employee anniversary service awards were presented to the following:

Dale Howard - 5 years (Juror Cline)  
Jerome Duhe - 10 years (Juror Hurst)  
Mark Bourgeois - 5 years (Juror Hurst)  
Dinah Bourgeois - 10 years (President Dukes)

The Jury recognized employee Herman Jack, who is retiring on June 30, 2016 after 28 years of dedicated service.

PUBLIC HEARING--AN ORDINANCE TO REENACT CHAPTER 2 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE PARISH OF POINTE COUPEE, LOUISIANA RELATIVE TO THE REVIEW OF VOTING PRECINCTS WITH LESS THAN 300 ACTIVE VOTERS

A hearing to obtain public input to a proposed ordinance to reenact Chapter 2, Article II of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Pointe Coupee, Louisiana relative to the review of voting precincts with less than 300 active voters that have been identified by the Secretary of State was held Tuesday, June 28, 2016 at 5:40 p.m. by the Police Jury of the Parish of Pointe Coupee, Louisiana.

Secretary Martin reported the precincts with fewer than 300 active voters were submitted and approved by the Secretary of State as qualifying for an exemption under the provisions of LRS 18:532B(4)(a), resulting in no changes in the precincts.

There were no objections received, orally nor written.

CONSIDERATION TO REENACT CHAPTER 2 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE PARISH OF POINTE COUPEE, LOUISIANA RELATIVE TO THE REVIEW OF VOTING PRECINCTS WITH LESS THAN 300 ACTIVE VOTERS

Motion by Mrs. Bueche and seconded by Mr. Taylor:

RESOLVED, That a proposed ordinance to reenact Chapter 2, Article II of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Pointe Coupee, Louisiana relative to the review of voting precincts with less than 300 active voters that have been identified by the Secretary of State be adopted by the Pointe Coupee Parish Police Jury.

The President called for a roll call vote that resulted as follows:

YEAS: Messrs. Langlois, Watkins, Taylor, Mrs. Bueche, Messrs. Smith, Olinde Cox, Cline, Hurst, Jarreau and Dukes.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Mr. Bazile,

On a vote of 11-0-0-1, the motion carried.

INTRODUCE NEW DIRECTOR FOR H.O.P.E. MINISTRY OF POINTE COUPEE, INC.

Executive Director Delores Hurst of H.O.P.E. Ministry of Pointe Coupee, Inc. reported on her recent appointment. Ms. Hurst gave a brief overview of her education and experience, and thanked the Jury for their contributions to H.O.P.E. Ministry.

APPROVAL OF DRAWDOWN OF FALSE RIVER BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 6, 2016 AND ENDING JANUARY 15, 2017

Juror Olinde requested approval of the Jury to drawdown False River to a maximum of six (6) feet beginning September 6, 2016 and ending January 15, 2017. He commented on the benefits of the previous drawdown of the river in 2014 to 3 feet.

Juror Olinde introduced Mr. Brian Heimann of the LA Department of Wildlife & Fisheries who gave a presentation about the water level management and drawdown of False River as a management effort to combat the adverse effects of siltation and improve sport fish habitat. He reported that the LA W&F, along with the support of the False River Watershed Council, is recommending the water level reduction (drawdown).

Mr. Tommy Bryant a resident of False River for 65 years commented on his support of the drawdown.

Mr. Rick Falgout, a resident of Pecan Island, voiced objections to the drawdown and reported on damages occurred to his and others properties in 2014 during the drawdown. He stated that they are not against cleaning the river, but feels the drawdown is not the best way.

Mr. Wiley Dial, a resident of Pecan Island, presented questions that were addressed by LA W&F concerning the drawdown.

Mr. Arthur Ewing voiced concerns about the drawdown and questioned if any data was available to determine the effectiveness of the past drawdown, and asked that the residents be involved and be allowed to give input regarding the drawdown.

Mr. Les Cantrell, representing the Parish Economic Development and Chamber of Commerce, asked the Jury to delay the drawdown about 30 or 45 days to educate and advise the public about the drawdown.

Mr. L. J. Grezaffi, a property owner on the river, voiced concerns about property damage, water quality, property values, and a lack of public awareness about the drawdown.

Mr. Mark O'Neal, who owns property on Pecan Island, voiced concerns about the odor, unable to place his boats in the river for eight (8) months during the last drawdown, and the need to resolve the siltation problem in the river. He stated he was in favor of cleaning the river.

State Representative Major Thibaut, a member of the False River Watershed Council, gave a detailed overview and information about the drawdown of the river that is being recommended

by the FR Watershed Council and LA W&F. In closing, he responded to questions from persons in the audience and Jurors.

After further discussion and comments by Jurors, the following resolution was offered:

Motion by Mr. Olinde and seconded by Mr. Cox:

RESOLVED, That the Police Jury approves a six (6) feet drawdown of False River beginning September 6, 2016 and ending January 15, 2017.

The President called for a roll call vote that resulted as follows:

YEAS: Messrs. Cox, Cline, Jarreau, Langlois, Watkins, Taylor, Mrs. Bueche, Messrs. Smith and Olinde.

NAYS: Mr. Hurst.

ABSTAIN: Mr. Dukes.

ABSENT: Mr. Bazile,

On a vote of 9-1-1-1, the motion carried.

CONSIDERATION IN HAVING THE E-911 COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT APPROVE THE BUDGET AND GET APPROVAL FROM EACH OF THE PARTICIPATING GOVERNMENTAL BODIES WITH REGARD TO THEIR CONTRIBUTION TOWARD THE OPERATION OF 911

Attorney Dannie Garrett reported on two (2) bills that passed the legislature that will generate additional revenues for the E-911 Communications District. He reported Act 590 raises the tax on the prepared wireless from 2% to 4% that becomes effective October 1, 2016, and will generate an extra \$20,000. He reported Act 665 authorizes the Communications District to raise the land line surcharge from \$.85 to \$1.25 that becomes effective August 1, 2016, and will generate an extra \$38,000.

Motion by Mr. Cox and seconded by Mr. Taylor:

RESOLVED, That the E-911 Communications District approve the budget and get approval from each of the participating governmental bodies with regard to their contribution toward the operation of 911, and that Mr. Cornell Dukes be authorized to sign the Intergovernmental Agreement on behalf of the Police Jury.

Unanimously carried.

UPDATE ON FALSE RIVER

Vice President Olinde gave an update on False River, and reported the water level is 16.1 feet.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Chairman Smith reported on an Economic Development Committee meeting held June 13, 2016. He reported they welcomed the three (3) new members to the committee and that there were no recommendations from the committee.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Vice President Olinde reported on a Planning Commission meeting held June 16, 2016. Copies of the minutes were emailed to each Juror.

Motion by Mr. Olinde and seconded by Mrs. Bueche:

RESOLVED, That upon the recommendation of the Pointe Coupee Parish Planning Commission and Parish Sanitarian, that a plat showing the subdivision of two (2) lots fronting LA Highway 1 into Lot A, Lot B & Lot C located in Sections 30 & 31, T1S & R7E at Legonier for Tree of Life Baptist Church be approved; and be it

RESOLVED further, That Mr. Cornell Dukes be authorized to execute the above mentioned plat for Tree of Life Baptist Church.

Unanimously carried.

### RECREATION

Chairman Hurst reported on a Recreation Committee meeting held June 20, 2016. Copies of the minutes were emailed to each Juror.

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

RESOLVED, That the proposal in the amount of \$845.50 submitted by Andy's Electric to complete the lighting on the practice football field at PC Rec be accepted; and be it

RESOLVED further, That PC Rec will not be responsible for providing porta cans at rural parks for events; and be it

RESOLVED further, That a five-man football sled in the amount of \$2,524.99 be purchased for the PC Rec football program, that will be paid by donations from the parents of the football league.

Unanimously carried.

### FINANCE

Chairman Cox reported on a Finance Committee meeting held May 23, 2016. Copies of the minutes were emailed to each Juror.

Chairman Cox commented on the decline in sales tax collections that indicated a projected decrease and deficit of \$580,000 for the end of the year. He commented on a proposed plan approved by the Finance Committee to enhance revenues and changes in expenditures that will include a 25% reduction of personnel in each department to off-set the shortfall. This will leave projected net revenue of a negative \$125,000. He reported of the 11 full time positions to be deleted; only six (6) full time employees will be eliminated since some vacancies have not been filled. Once these recommendations are approved by the Jury, the labor attorney and the Personnel Committee will develop a procedure and begin the elimination of the necessary positions of the proposed budget reduction plan.

President Dukes stated the Jury has worked hard on this matter and it is an unavoidable financial decision, which no one wanted to cut any jobs, but they had to make some tough decisions because their sales tax collections have been reduced by \$30,000 per month, compared to last year.

Motion by Mr. Cox and seconded by Mr. Watkins:

RESOLVED, That the operational budget changes plan be accepted.

The President called for a roll call vote that resulted as follows:

YEAS: Messrs. Cox, Cline, Jarreau, Langlois, Watkins, Taylor, Mrs. Bueche, Messrs. Smith and Olinde.

NAYS: Mr. Hurst.

ABSTAIN: Mr. Dukes.

ABSENT: Mr. Bazile,

On a vote of 9-1-1-1, the motion carried.

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

RESOLVED, That an invoice in the amount of \$3,651.99 submitted by Superior Collison Center, LLC to perform repairs to the utilities truck be approve for payment; and be it

RESOLVED further, That the Police Jury implement a hiring freeze; and be it

RESOLVED further, That all department heads be instructed to be aware of the Jury's financial situation, all purchases and purchase orders be approved by the treasurer prior to

any purchases and all purchases are to be made by department heads or their assistant in their absence; and be it

RESOLVED further, That CPA Jacob Waguespack be authorized to present a draft of a Revenue Stabilization Ordinance to be reviewed by the Finance and Public Utilities Committees; and be it

RESOLVED further, That President Cornell Dukes be authorized to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between the Police Jury and the Sheriff of Pointe Coupee to allow the trustees to clean the common areas of the Parish Courthouse and the Sheriff's Civil Office, the sheriff will purchase the cleaning supplies, etc., and the treasurer be authorized to setup an account to purchase supplies; and be it

RESOLVED further, That a quote in the amount of \$845 submitted by Southern Compressors & Supplies to repair and replace a compressor core in the walk-in freezer at the Detention Center be accepted; and be it

RESOLVED further, That Assistant District Attorney John Wayne Jewell be authorized to offer a settlement in the amount of \$2,000 in a lawsuit of Wynekia Smith vs the Police Jury and the City of New Roads; and be it

RESOLVED further, That the Director of the PC Parish Library, Chairman of the Library Board of Controls and the attorney be requested to attend a Police Jury meeting to discuss a lawsuit of Stephanie Savoy vs the Police Jury and PC Parish Library, and that an invoice in the amount of \$12,934.90 for attorney fees not be paid; and be it

RESOLVED further, That President Cornell Dukes be authorized to execute the Local Services Agreement between the Police Jury and the City of New Roads to finance operations of the PC Parish Museum, and the Police Jury allocate \$18,850 to fund the replacement of the roof on the museum with \$6,000 to be reimbursed to the Jury from the LGAP Funds.

Unanimously carried.

Juror Jarreau commented that a reduction plan is never easy and thanked Juror Cox, CPA Jacob Waguespack and Treasurer Mayeux for spearheading the plan that took a lot of effort to present to the Jury.

Juror Cox also thanked President Dukes and Vice President Olinde for their participation as well.

#### PERSONNEL

Chairman Olinde reported on a Personnel Committee meeting held June 23, 2016. Copies of the minutes were emailed to each Juror.

Motion by Mr. Olinde and seconded by Mr. Langlois

RESOLVED, That the Police Jury obtain a legal opinion from Labor Attorney Bob David about whether Mr. Roland Albert, who did not receive any monthly deductions from his payroll checks for his health insurance, is obligated to reimburse the Jury for payment of his insurance premium for the past two (2) years and what time frame is allowed to satisfy the reimbursement, and that no monthly insurance deductions be taken from Mr. Roland Albert's payroll until a legal opinion is received from Labor Attorney Bob David.

Unanimously carried.

#### RESOLUTIONS

Chairperson Bueche reported on a Resolutions Committee meeting held June 27, 2016. Copies of the minutes were emailed to each Juror.

Motion by Mrs. Bueche and seconded by Mr. Olinde:

RESOLVED, That Change Order No. 1 to provide a credit in the amount of (\$598.26) and a two (2) day time extension due to final adjustment of quantities and the Certificate

of Substantial Completion be approved for the LRA Hurricane Gustav/Ike Disaster Recovery Project No. 14 – Canezaro Road Drainage Relief; and be it

RESOLVED further, That the Certificate of Substantial Completion be approved for the LRA Hurricane Gustav/Ike Disaster Recovery Project No. 5 – Island Road Drainage; and be it

RESOLVED further, That Mr. Cornell Dukes be authorized to sign the above Change Order No. 1 and Certificate of Substantial Completions; and be it

RESOLVED further, That Mr. Cornell Dukes be authorized to sign a Local Services Agreement between the Police Jury and the Pointe Coupee Parish Gravity Drainage District No. 1 for the removal and replacement of five (5) crossings and maintaining debris in Johnson Bayou for the district; and be it

RESOLVED further, That the Jurors Flower Account be renamed Jurors Miscellaneous Account for funding retirement celebrations for employees and other activities hosted by Jurors; and be it

RESOLVED further, That Mr. Cornell Dukes be authorized to dismantle the Resolutions Committee.

Unanimously carried.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS (DIRECTORS & SUPERVISORS):

**Animal Control Officer**

In the absence of Troy LeCoq, an Animal Control Report was presented.

**Building Maintenance Supervisor**

Ken Vosburg presented a Building Maintenance Report.

**Certified Building Official**

Tommy Leonard presented a report on the residential and commercial permits issued in the parish.

**Multi-Use Center Director**

Weldon Jewell reported on activities scheduled in July and August at the Multi-Use Center.

**Parish Treasurer**

Becky Mayeux presented a report on finances of the Jury ending June 28, 2016. She informed Juror Jarreau that she will include the collected fees for building permits in her monthly report.

**Public Utilities Supervisor**

Albert Sneed presented a Public Utilities Maintenance Report. He reported that Meter Reader Frank Lindsly resigned.

**Public Utilities Billing and Collections Supervisor**

In the absence of Beverly Francois, a Utilities Billing and Collections and Daily Cash Reports were presented.

**Public Works Director**

James David presented a monthly Work Orders Report for drainage and road projects in the parish. Treasurer Mayeux reported on receiving a call for a purchase order for repairs to the Peterbilt Dump Truck; the cost was \$14,000 instead of the original estimate received of \$12,000, due to additional repairs needed.

**Recreation Director**

Sal Genusa presented a report on recreation in the parish.

**Sales Tax Director**

In the absence of Ronell Roubique, a Sales Tax Collections and Delinquent Taxpayers Reports were presented.

Juror Cox commented and recommended that President Dukes bring concerns of the Building Maintenance Supervisor's behavior and comments to the Personnel Committee for appropriate actions and reprimand, due to his conduct when giving his report while attending the Jury meetings and other personnel concerns.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

June 28, 2016

7

President Dukes thanked all the Jurors and committees who put in a lot of hard work the last two (2) weeks to assist with the decisions the Jury made tonight. He wished everyone a Happy Independence Day.

Motion by Mr. Olinde and seconded by Mr. Jarreau, the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

---

Gerrie P. Martin  
Secretary

---

Cornell T. Dukes  
President