

Jennings, Louisiana  
May 29, 2024

The Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury met in Special Session on the above date, in the Police Jury Meeting Room of the Sidney Briscoe Building located at 304 North State Street, Jennings, LA., at 5:00 P.M.

The following members were present:

DONALD WOODS	District 1		District 8
CHAD WOODS	District 2	DAVID LEJEUNE	District 9
MARCUS PETERSON	District 3	BYRON BULLER	District 10
KORI MYERS	District 4	BUTCH LAFARGUE	District 11
TIM MCKNIGHT	District 5	OWEN CORMIER	District 12
MELVIN ADAMS	District 6	BILL LABOUVE	District 13
STEVE EASTMAN	District 7		

LANCE PERSON, Legal Counsel

Absent: WAYNE FRUGE, District 8

The meeting was called to order by President J. Steven Eastman. Mrs. Gary gave the Invocation, and Mr. Peterson led the Jury in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Eastman reviewed the revised Economic Development District timeline. He requested Alex Guillory email the revised EDD map to all Police Jurors for review and accuracy.

Mr. Adams made the motion, seconded by Mr. Donald Woods, and carried, to adopt the following Proclamation, to-wit:

**PROCLAMATION HONORING  
THE EDUCATIONAL SUCCESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF  
DR. RUTH LOUISE RAY JACKSON**



**Whereas**, Dr. Ruth Louise Ray Jackson, is a former resident of Jennings, LA and the daughter of the late Jefferson Davis Parish School Board educators, Robert and Ruby Ray.

**Whereas**, Dr. Ruth Louise Ray Jackson, is a 1989 graduate of Jennings High School. With a stellar performance throughout her high school year, and good ACT score, Dr. Jackson was able to apply for early admissions. At only 16 years old, skipping her 12<sup>th</sup> grade year, she became an undergraduate English Education major at Southern University and A&M College.

**Whereas**, Dr. Jackson went on to earn her bachelor's degree in secondary education and her master's degree in administration and supervision from Southern University and A&M College. Dr. Jackson would later earn her Ph.D. in education and human resource studies from Colorado State University.

**Whereas**, Dr. Jackson was a former principal at Plaquemine High School and Assistant Professor at Louisiana State University- Shreveport. She also served in several leadership roles at Langston including Dean of the School of Education and Behavioral Sciences and Vice President of Academic Affairs and Interim President of Langston University.

**Whereas**, on April 15, 2024, the Office of Public Relations announced that the Oklahoma A&M Board of Regents appointed Dr. Ruth Louise Ray Jackson as the 17<sup>th</sup> President of Langston University, being the second female president since the university's inception in 1897.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury does hereby commend **DR. RUTH LOUISE RAY JACKSON** on her educational success and professional achievements. We urge all citizens of our great parish to join us in recognizing the dedication and hard work of Dr. Ruth Louise Ray Jackson and may her story of success and dedication be an inspiration to others of how hard work and dedication can achieve great things.

Thus done and signed in Jennings, Louisiana on this 29th day of May, 2024.

The motion was made by Mr. Chad Woods, seconded by Mr. Cormier, and carried, to approve the proposal from Beazley and Longo in connection with scope and fees for the Animal Shelter and authorize DCMC to move forward with preparation of the contract.

It was moved by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Mr. LaBouve, and carried, to approve contracts in connection with the 2024 Debris Removal and Monitoring Projects and to further authorize the President to sign.

Mr. Donald Woods made the motion, seconded by Mr. Buller, and carried, to go into Executive Session.

The motion was made by Mr. LeJeune, seconded by Mr. McKnight, and carried, to return to Special Session.

There was no action taken resulting from Executive Session.

President's Report:

President Eastman discussed the Asphalt Zipper lease/purchase of the equipment.

Engineer's Report:

Alex Guillory reported bids were opened earlier today for the Farm Supply Road project. One bid was received from R. E. Heidt Construction which is being reviewed.

The motion was made by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Ms. Myers, and carried, to authorize the Executive Committee to approach Metal Plate Galvanizing to request participation in funding the 25% State Capital Outlay match for the project.

Committee Reports:

Finance: Chairman Butch LaFargue reported on a meeting held on Thursday, May 23, 2024. The Committee discussed the salaries of the Jurors, reviewed the Parish's finances and recommends passing the following Ordinance to increase the Police Jury salaries to \$1,250.00 per month and increase the President's salary to \$1,650.00 per month. It is the recommendation of the Committee to move forward with the process by advertising the proposed Ordinance twice in the Legal Journal and setting the Public Hearing date for June 12, 2024.

**ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

WHEREAS, the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury is empowered to adopt amendments and revisions of its ordinances by Louisiana Revised Statutes;

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 33:1233 authorizes each parish governing authority in Louisiana organized under the police jury system of government to raise the salary of police jurors by ordinance;

WHEREAS, the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury is desirous of exercising said power;

WHEREAS, the Police Jury endeavors to increase the salary to \$1,250.00 per month; and,

WHEREAS, the Police Jury has previously approved the President of the Police Jury to receive an additional \$400.00 per month above each Police Juror, and the Police Jury intends to codify the increased pay for the President in this ordinance and based on the new salary of the Police Jury; now therefore:

BE IT ORDAINED by the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury, and it is hereby ordained by the same:

As permitted by La. R.S. 33:1233, the salary due and payable to each Police Juror shall be \$1,250.00 per month. Also pursuant to the authority in La. R.S. 33:1233, the President of the Police Jury shall receive four hundred dollars more per month than the salary for members of the Police Jury, or \$1,650.00 per month.

THUS DONE AND PASSED BY THE POLICE JURY OF JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH, LOUISIANA, on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

Mr. LaFargue made the motion, seconded by Mr. Chad Woods, and carried, to accept the Committee's recommendation.

Additionally, the Finance Committee recommends approving the additional payment of \$7,262.49 to Everbridge, which is not covered by the EMPG grant or the 20% match previously approved, to be paid out of Special Revenue fund.

