

Jennings, Louisiana
October 9, 2024

The Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury met in a Regular 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	WAYNE FRUGE	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
	District 5	OWEN CORMIER	District 12
MELVIN ADAMS	District 6	BILL LABOUVE	District 13
STEVE EASTMAN	District 7		

BEN BOUDREAUX, Administrator; LANCE PERSON, Legal Counsel

Absent: TIM MCKNIGHT, District 5

The meeting was called to order by President Steve Eastman. Mrs. Gary gave the Invocation and Mr. LaFargue led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Eastman requested a motion to amend the agenda to add discussion on an auto claim.

Mr. LaFargue made the motion, seconded by Mr. LaBouve, and carried, to amend the agenda to add discussion on auto claim.

A Public Hearing was held to receive comments in connection with the 2025 – 5 Year and Annual Plan for the Section 8 Housing Assistance Program. There were no Public Comments.

It was moved by Mr. Buller, seconded by Mr. Donald Woods, and carried, to approve the 2025 – 5 Year and Annual Plan for the Section 8 Housing Assistance Program.

The Police Jury resolved itself into the Board of Review to receive public comments in connection with adoption of the assessed values for the tax year 2024. No comments were received.

The Police Jury received written appeals from the following:

1. National Oilwell Varco, Assessment No. 1100003638
2. GTP Infrastructure I, LLC, Assessment No. 1902011009
3. GTP Infrastructure I, LLC, Assessment No. 1200006959
4. GTP Infrastructure I, LLC, Assessment No. 1100005690
5. Crown Castle South, LLC, Assessment No. 1500000539
6. Crown Castle Towers 05, LLC, Assessment No. 1600001011.
7. Crown Castle Towers 06-02, LLC, Assessment No. 1102014001
8. Crown Communication Inc., Assessment No. 1200002120
9. Crown Communication, Inc., Assessment No. 1660003900
10. Crown Communication, Inc., Assessment No. 1030000960
11. Pinnacle Towers Acquisition, LLC, Assessment No. 1800003901
12. Pinnacle Towers Acquisition, LLC, Assessment No. 1800003900

The motion was made by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Ms. Myers, and carried, to uphold the values of the Assessor.

President Eastman opened the floor for Public Comments in connection with adopting the millage rates on the 2024 tax roll. No Public Comments were received.

Mr. LaFargue made the motion, seconded by Mr. Cormier, and carried, to adopt the following Resolution, to-wit:

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following millage(s) are hereby levied on the 2024 tax roll on all property subject to taxation by the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury:

MILLAGE

GENERAL FUND

Constitutional	2.01 mills & 4.02 mills
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SPECIAL TAXES

Cooperative Extension	.94 mills
Sub Road Dist #1	10.37 mills
Road Dist #10	11.33 mills
Road Dist #11	11.50 mills
Road Dist #12	10.20 mills
Fire Dist #1	9.84 mills
Fire Dist #1 Special	10.49 mills
Fire Dist #2	11.04 mills
Fire Dist #3	4.85 mills
Fire Dist #3 Special	3.59 mills
Fire Dist #4	6.99 mills
Fire Dist #4 Special	5.00 mills
Fire Dist #5	5.15 mills
Fire Dist #5 Special	5.14 mills
Fire Dist #5 Special #2	10.00 mills
Fire Dist #6	8.71 mills
Fire Dist #6 Special	5.56 mills
Fire Dist #7	9.54 mills

MAINTENANCE TAX

Courthouse & Jail 2.53 mills

BONDS

Fire Dist #6 Bond 4.00 mills

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proper administrative officials of the Parish of Jefferson Davis, State of Louisiana, be and they are hereby empowered, authorized, and directed to spread said taxes, as hereinabove set forth, upon the assessment roll of said Parish for the year 2024, and to make the collection of the taxes imposed for and on behalf of the taxing authority, according to law, and that the taxes herein levied shall become a permanent lien and privilege on all property subject to taxation as herein set forth, and collection thereof shall be enforceable in the manner provided by law.

The foregoing resolution was read in full, the roll was called on the adoption thereof, and the resolution was adopted by the following votes:

YEAS: Donald Woods, Chad Woods, Marcus Peterson, Kori Myers, Melvin Adams, Wayne Fruge, David LeJeune, Byron Buller, Butch LaFargue, Owen Cormier, Bill LaBouve

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Tim McKnight

Mr. LaFargue reported that the Zoning Commission held a Public Hearing on Wednesday, October 2, 2024 at 5:30 PM. The Committee received comments in connection with a rezoning request from JayVon Muhammad for a Commercial Kitchen for special events, farm to table meals, birthday parties with a petting zoo and other small events. After receiving comments from the public, the committee voted to deny the rezoning request.

A Public Hearing was held to receive comments on the proposed zoning request. Tina Verret who resides at 19107 Raoul Road had questions about the zoning. She was not able to attend the prior hearing.

It was moved by Mr. LaBouve, seconded by Mr. LaFargue, and carried, to deny the rezoning request.

Mr. LaFargue reported the Finance Committee meeting was held on October 7, 2024, at 7:00 A.M. All bills were reviewed and declared in order with the Committee recommending approval.

It was moved by Mr. LaFargue, seconded by Ms. Myers, and carried, to pay the following bills, to wit:

• GENERAL FUND	\$ 50,690.28
• COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE	2,868.99
• E911 & 911 WIRELESS	56,253.74
• CRIMINAL COURT	6,655.00
• OPIOID ABATEMENT	0.00
• COURTHOUSE MAINTENANCE	14,745.24
• SPECIAL REVENUE	0.00
• SUB ROAD DISTRICT #1	31,290.84
• SPECIAL WARD, ROAD & BRIDGE	125,817.94
• ROAD SALES TAX DISTRICT #1	178,218.24
• REGIONAL CONSOLIDATED JAIL	154,639.02
• FIRE DISTRICT #1	2,093.88
• FIRE DISTRICT #2	0.00
• FIRE DISTRICT #3	11,146.01
• FIRE DISTRICT #4	2,979.34
• FIRE DISTRICT #5	3,781.26
• FIRE DISTRICT #6	0.00

It is the recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve the increase to the Road Foremen's pay scale as discussed retroactive to October 1, 2024.

The motion was made by Mr. LaFargue, seconded by Mr. Chad Woods, and carried, to accept the recommendation of the Committee.

Additionally, the Finance Committee recommends approval of a quote in the amount of \$29,973.68 for upgrading cameras at the jail to be paid with Regional Jail funds.

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

Let the record reflect that the Finance Committee reviewed budget-to-actual comparisons on all funds as required.

The motion was made by Mr. LeJeune, seconded by Mr. Cormier, and carried, to approve the minutes of the rescheduled September 11, 2024 Regular Meeting held on September 25, 2024, as written and submitted.

Mr. Chad Woods made the motion, seconded by Mr. LaBouve, and carried, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting held on September 17, 2024, as written and submitted.

It was moved by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Ms. Myers, and carried, to approve entering into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana to set up a mobile Shower/Laundry trailer on the Fairgrounds property to provide hygiene services to the public.

The motion was made by Ms. Myers, seconded by Mr. Adams, and carried, to adopt the following Resolution, to-wit:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development published the final annual Fair Market Rents (FMR's) for Jefferson Davis Parish,

WHEREAS, the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury Section 8 Program uses the published FMR's as a guide to establish FMR's per bedroom size for the Housing Choice Voucher Program; and

WHEREAS, the FMR's are used to calculate the housing assistance payment (HAP) that the Section 8 Program pays to the owner on behalf of the family leasing the unit; and

WHEREAS, the FMR's directly affects the amount of subsidy a family will receive and the amount of rent that will be paid by the tenant; and

WHEREAS, the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury Section 8 Program must also determine that its annual budget for the Housing Choice Voucher Program will support the established FMR's and

WHEREAS, the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury Section 8 Program must also ensure that the program participants will be able to find safe, decent, and affordable units within the program's jurisdiction within the FMR's established which are as follows;

Bedroom Size	FMR 2025
Efficiency	\$ 657.00
1 Bedroom	\$ 690.00
2 Bedroom	\$ 903.00
3 Bedroom	\$ 1,265.00
4 Bedroom	\$ 1,516.00

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Jefferson Davis Parish Police jury in a duly convened regular session on the 9th day of October, 2024, that the Fair Market Rents as set forth above will be effective November 1, 2024.

Mr. LaBouve made the motion, seconded by Mr. Adams, and carried, to adopt the following Resolution, to-wit:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development published the final annual Fair Market Rents (FMR's) for Jefferson Davis Parish,

WHEREAS, the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury Section 8 Program uses the published FMR's as a guide to establish FMR's per bedroom size for the Housing Choice Voucher Program; and

WHEREAS, the Section 8 Program may establish Payment Standards anywhere between 90 and 110 percent of the published FMR without obtaining HUD approval; and

WHEREAS, the Payment Standards are used to calculate the housing assistance payment (HAP) that the PHA pays to the owner on behalf of the family leasing the unit; and

WHEREAS, the Payment Standard set by the Section 8 Program affects the amount of subsidy a family will receive and the amount of rent that will be paid by the tenant; and

WHEREAS, the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury Section 8 Program must also determine that its annual budget for the Housing Choice Voucher Program will support the established payment standard; and

WHEREAS, the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury Section 8 Program must also ensure that the program participants will be able to find safe, decent, and affordable units within the program's jurisdiction within the standards established; and

WHEREAS, the Jefferson Davis Parish Section 8 Program has determined the Payment Standard shall be 100% for all bedroom size units.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Jefferson Davis Parish Police jury in a duly convened regular session on the 9th day of October, 2024, that the Fair Market Rents as set forth above will be effective November 1, 2024.

It was moved by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. LeJeune, and carried, to adopt the 3-Year State Capital Outlay Plan and to further authorize the Administrator to make final edits to applications before submittal on November 1.

The motion was made by Mr. Fruge, seconded by Mr. LeJeune, and carried, to adopt the following Resolution, to-wit:

RESOLUTION

A Resolution granting Benjamin Boudreaux, Administrator of the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury, the authority to sign all checks and documents.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury, State of Louisiana, that Benjamin Boudreaux, Administrator of the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury, be and is hereby granted full authority to sign all Police Jury checks and documents on behalf of the Police Jury.

BE IT RESOLVED, that this grant of authority is continuing in nature and shall not be revoked except by proper action taken by the Police Jury.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this grant of authority is intended to confer the signing authority upon Benjamin Boudreaux in order to maintain the Police Jury's ability to operate without interruption.

This Resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS:	Mr. Donald Woods, Mr. Chad Woods, Mr. Peterson, Ms. Myers, Mr. Adams, Mr. Fruge, Mr. LeJeune, Mr. Buller, Mr. LaFargue, Mr. Cormier, Mr. LaBouve
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	Mr. McKnight

And the Resolution was declared adopted on this, the 9th day of October, 2024.

Mr. Donald Woods made the motion, seconded by Mr. Buller, and carried, to reappoint Ivy Woods to the Industrial Development Board with a term to expire October 9, 2025.

It was moved by Mr. LaBouve, seconded by Mr. Fruge, and carried, to reappoint Michael Moreaux and Timothy Guinn Sr. to the Industrial Development Board with terms to expire October 9, 2027.

President Eastman requested Public Comments on the proposed Ordinance. There were no Public Comments.

Mr. LeJeune made the motion, seconded by Mr. Buller, and carried, to adopt the following Ordinance, to-wit:

ORDINANCE NO. 2453

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 13, Sec. 13-29.4, Four way stop signs on parish roads.

AN ORDINANCE to install Four-Way Stop Signs at the intersections of Elton Drive and Doise Rd.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE POLICE JURY OF JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH, LOUISIANA that:

Four Way Stop Signs shall be installed at the intersections of Elton Drive and Doise Road.

This Ordinance having been submitted to a Roll Call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Mr. Donald Woods, Mr. Chad Woods, Mr. Peterson, Ms. Myers, Mr. Adams, Mr. Fruge, Mr. LeJeune, Mr. Buller, Mr. LaFargue, Mr. Cormier, Mr. LaBouve

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. McKnight

THUS DONE AND PASSED BY THE POLICE JURY OF JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH, LOUISIANA, on this 9th day of October, 2024.

President Eastman requested Public Comments on the proposed Ordinance. There were no Public Comments.

The motion was made by Mr. LeJeune, seconded by Mr. Buller, and carried, to adopt the following Ordinance, to-wit:

ORDINANCE NO. 2454

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 13, Sec. 13-29.5, Three-way stop signs on parish roads.

AN ORDINANCE to install Three-Way Stop Signs at the intersection of Bornsdall Road and Kennedy Road by placing stop signs on Kennedy Road running east and west and one stop sign on Bornsdall Road to the north side of Kennedy.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE POLICE JURY OF JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH, LOUISIANA that:

Three-Way Stop Signs shall be installed at the intersection of Bornsdall Road and Kennedy Road by placing stop signs on Kennedy Road running east and west and one stop sign on Bornsdall Road to the north side of Kennedy.

This Ordinance having been submitted to a Roll Call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Mr. Donald Woods, Mr. Chad Woods, Mr. Peterson, Ms. Myers, Mr. Adams, Mr. Fruge, Mr. LeJeune, Mr. Buller, Mr. LaFargue, Mr. Cormier, Mr. LaBouve

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. McKnight

THUS DONE AND PASSED BY THE POLICE JURY OF JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH, LOUISIANA, on this 9th day of October, 2024.

President Eastman requested Public Comments on the proposed Ordinance. There were no Public Comments.

It was moved by Mr. LaFargue, seconded by Ms. Myers, and carried, to adopt the following Ordinance, to-wit:

ORDINANCE NO. 2455

AN ORDINANCE to Amend Chapter 10, Article II, Sec 10-19, Qualifications for permit by omitting (a) 1 as shown below:

a) In determining whether a permit shall be issued, the police jury shall give weight and due regard, among other things, to:

(1) That the public convenience and necessity require the proposed additional ambulance service, as determined by the police jury after recommendation of the police jury ambulance regulatory committee.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE POLICE JURY OF JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH, LOUISIANA that:

Chapter 10, Article II, Sec 10-19, Qualifications for permit shall now omit (a)1.

This Ordinance having been submitted to a Roll Call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Mr. Donald Woods, Ms. Myers, Mr. Adams, Mr. LaFargue, Mr. Cormier, Mr. LaBouve

NAYS: Mr. Chad Woods, Mr. Peterson, Mr. Fruge, Mr. LeJeune, Mr. Buller

ABSENT: Mr. McKnight

THUS DONE AND PASSED BY THE POLICE JURY OF JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH, LOUISIANA, on this 9th day of October, 2024.

President Eastman requested Public Comments on the proposed Ordinance amending Chapter 10 Health and Sanitation, Article II Ambulances, Section 10-16.1 Limited Licenses. There were no Public Comments.

Mr. LaFargue made the motion and seconded by Ms. Myers, to adopt the Ordinance, to-wit:

There was a Roll Call vote as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Myers, Mr. Adams, Mr. LaFargue, Mr. Cormier, Mr. LaBouve

NAYS: Mr. Donald Woods, Mr. Chad Woods, Mr. Peterson, Mr. Fruge, Mr. LeJeune, Mr. Buller.

The results of the Roll Call vote were five (5) Approvals and six (6) Disapprovals. Therefore, the Ordinance did not pass.

The motion was made by Mr. Fruge, seconded by Mr. Chad Woods, and carried, to authorize the Administrator to coordinate with the three (3) parish water districts to obtain a list of their needs in reference to the \$2.78 million in Federal Funds from Senator Cassidy.

It was moved by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Mr. LeJeune, and carried, to adopt the Comprehensive Master Plan for Jefferson Davis Parish to submit to the Southwest Louisiana Regional Planning Commission.

Mr. Chad Woods made the motion, seconded by Mr. Adams, and carried, to submit Final Change Order No. 7 as revised and approved by Bluewing Civil Consulting to the contractor for signature and to further authorize the President to sign final documents in connection with the 2022 Road Improvement project.

The motion was made by Mr. Chad Woods, seconded by Mr. LaBouve, and carried, to approve the payment of Bluewing Civil Consulting Invoice 222001-2022-00020 in the amount of \$36,674.51 in connection with the 2022 Road Improvement project to be paid with Road Sales Tax District No. 1 funds.

It was moved by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Mr. Fruge, and carried, to approve a quote from Thib's Outdoor for the purchase of a 5' x 10' Mini Dump Trailer at a cost of \$6999.00 to be paid with Special Revenue funds.

After discussion, Mr. Buller made the motion, seconded by Mr. LeJeune, and carried, to amend the purchase to change to a 5,000 lb axle at a maximum additional cost of \$2,500.00

Mr. Fruge made the motion, seconded by Mr. Peterson, and carried, to approve a quote from Thib's Outdoor for two (2) Scag Cheetah II 72" Mowers at a total cost of \$24,798.00 for the Fairgrounds to be paid with Special Revenue funds.

The motion was made by Mr. LaBouve, seconded by Mr. Cormier, and carried, to authorize the purchase of two (2) Ford F750 Dump Trucks from Courtesy Automotive under State Contract in the amount of \$116,999.00 each to be paid with Special Revenue funds.

It was moved by Mr. LeJeune, seconded by Mr. Buller, and carried, to approve a quote from Coastal Culvert for two (2) 30' x 36" metal arched pipes at a cost of \$5,340.00 for Liberty Cemetery Road to be paid with Division Two funds.

Mr. Fruge made the motion, seconded by Mr. LeJeune, and carried, to approve a quote from Thib's Outdoor for a trailer to haul the second excavator at a cost of \$19,910.25 to be paid with Special Revenue funds.

The motion was made by Mr. Donald Woods, seconded by Mr. Chad Woods, and carried, to adopt the following Resolution, to-wit:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, in 1959, Morgan Plantation, Inc., dedicated to the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury certain property as a right-of-way for public use of roads, as shown on the original plat of survey of the Morgan Shores Subdivision in Section 21, Township 11 South, Range 3 West, dated July 1, 1959, recorded in Conveyance Book 234, at page 321, under File #255423 of the records of the Clerk of Court of Jefferson Davis Parish, and

WHEREAS, in 1965, the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury passed Ordinance 500, which revoked and set aside the acceptance of the 1959 donation from Morgan Plantation, Inc., and abandoned the right-of-way for public use of roads, at which time the property reverted back to the ownership of the landowners at that time, and

WHEREAS, in 1989, the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury passed a resolution which attempted to ratify the original donation and stated that the right-of-way had not been abandoned, and

WHEREAS, because the right-of-way had been abandoned in 1965, and was owned by the landowners thereafter, the 1989 resolution could have no effect on the property, and the property remains abandoned and owned by the surrounding landowners.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury that the property dedicated by Morgan Plantation, Inc., to the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury, shown on the original plat of survey of the Morgan Shores Subdivision in Section 21, Township 11 South, Range 3 West, dated July 1, 1959, recorded in Conveyance Book 234, at page 321, under File #255423 of the records of the Clerk of Court of Jefferson Davis Parish, **has been abandoned by the Police Jury and owned by the surrounding landowners since 1965.**

This Resolution was declared adopted on this, the 9th day of October, 2024.

It was moved by Mr. LeJeune, seconded by Mr. Buller, and carried, to approve placing a turnaround at the end of Donald Road at an estimated cost of \$10,000.00 to be paid with Road Sales Tax District No. 1 funds.

Discussion was held regarding an auto claim. No action was taken.

President's Report

President Eastman informed the Jury regarding the Advisory Committee holding a Welcome reception for the new Administrator. It has been scheduled for January 14, 2025 at 5:30 pm at Bayou Rum. There is no cost to the Police Jury.

A meeting was held with Roby Dyer, Region 5 Regional Director of the Governor's Office of Rural Development to request assistance in obtaining funding.

Water & Sewer Commission No. 1 is in the process of having plans drawn up for the water plant in Lacassine.

A Co2 Commission has been established among several parishes, and they have requested our participation through a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement.

The motion was made by Mr. Buller, seconded by Mr. LeJeune, and carried, to approve entering into a CEA with the Co2 Commission.

A Burn Ban has been implemented effective immediately.

Administrator's Report

Mr. Boudreaux expressed his appreciation for approval of the equipment needed for the in-house roadwork. Progress is ongoing.

Additionally, he will be working to ensure that the Capital Outlay projects are submitted by the November 1 deadline.

The asphalt trailers are still on order so quotes for an asphalt trailer service will be obtained.

ARPA funds will no longer be needed for the Hazard Mitigation projects match.

Engineer's Report

Alex Guillory with Bluewing Civil Consulting reported that the tentative start date for the Farm Supply Road Asphalt project to begin is October 21. A Notice to Proceed has been issued.

An update was given on the final cost of the 2022 Road Improvement project, which came in under budget.

Water District No. 4 has asked him to develop proposals for capital outlay and the water sector projects.

Committee Reports

E911: Mr. Peterson reported an E911 Committee meeting was held on October 2, 2024. The Committee made the recommendation to approve the job description of the 911 Supervisor and to further advertise for the position.

It was moved by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Mr. Buller, and carried, to proceed with advertising in the Legal Journal and on Indeed.

Office Policy: Mr. Fruge reported an Office Policy Committee meeting was held on October 8, 2024. The Committee recommends adopting the proposed changes made by the Administrator. This includes changes to the Policy Manual, specifically changes to Hours and Payroll Practices (using transition schedule), Vacation, and Sick, as well as the Proposed Road Crew Pay Scale. It was noted that interviews will be conducted prior to the proposed road crew pay scale being implemented.

The motion was made by Mr. Fruge, seconded by Mr. Peterson, and carried, to accept the Committee's recommendation.

There being no further business to come before the Jury, it was moved by Mr. Donald Woods, seconded by Mr. Peterson, and carried, to adjourn the meeting.

/s/ J. Steven Eastman
PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

/s/ Rebecca S. Gary
SECRETARY

November 13, 2024
DATE APPROVED