

Jennings, Louisiana
November 13, 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. LaBouve led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Phillip Abshire III with Langley, Williams & Co, LLC, presented the FY2022 Audit.

It was moved by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Mr. Adams, and carried, to go into Executive Session for Legal Discussion in connection with Employee Benefit Contract issues.

The motion was made by Mr. Chad Woods, seconded by Mr. Donald Woods, and carried, to return to Regular Session.

It was moved by Ms. Myers, seconded by Mr. Fruge, and carried, to allow the District Attorney office employees to join the Police Jury group health insurance policy, to send a letter of connection to insurance companies and to obtain quotes from other companies.

Mr. LaFargue reported the Finance Committee meeting was held on November 12, 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 Mr. Cormier, and carried, to pay the following bills, to wit:

• GENERAL FUND	\$ 36,325.08
• COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE	745.00
• 911	4,310.28
• CRIMINAL COURT	6,920.00
• OPIOID ABATEMENT	0.00
• COURTHOUSE MAINTENANCE	5,554.37
• SPECIAL REVENUE	35,688.83
• SECTION 8	0.00
• PARISH ROAD	0.00
• SUB ROAD DISTRICT #1	17,518.71
• SPECIAL WARD, ROAD & BRIDGE	107,720.71
• ROAD SALES TAX DISTRICT #1	433,648.44
• REGIONAL CONSOLIDATED JAIL	42,828.59
• FIRE DISTRICT #1	0.00
• FIRE DISTRICT #2	7,411.23
• FIRE DISTRICT #3	3,133.71
• FIRE DISTRICT #4	19,016.49
• FIRE DISTRICT #5	5,337.85
• FIRE DISTRICT #6	0.00
• FIRE DISTRICT #7	0.00

It is the recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve a loan to Fire District No. 6 in the amount of \$30,000.00 to be paid back in January, 2025.

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

Additionally, the Finance Committee recommends accepting an estimate from J & J Exterminating in the amount of \$1,774.00 for termite treatment and annual renewal fee of \$312.00 for 911.

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

Further, the Finance Committee made the recommendation to approve an estimate from Double J Fencing in the amount of \$3,500.00 to repair a fence at the 911 tower.

It was moved by Mr. LaFargue, seconded by Mr. Chad Woods, and carried, to accept the recommendation of the Committee.

It is the recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve an estimated from Concept Seating in the amount of \$6,534.20 for four (4) 24-hour chairs for 911.

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

The Finance Committee recommends reimbursing Thomas Hotard for his Notary bond and filing fees in the amount of \$140.00.

It was moved by Mr. LaFargue, seconded by Mr. LaBouve, and carried, to accept the recommendation of the Committee.

Finally, the Finance Committee made the recommendation to approve the purchase of a trailer with two (2) 7,000 lb. axles from Thib's in the amount of \$6,056.24 to be paid with Special Revenue funds.

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

The motion was made by Mr. Chad Woods, seconded by Mr. Donald Woods, and carried, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on October 9, 2024, as written and submitted.

Mr. Adams made the motion, seconded by Ms. Myers, and carried, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting held on October 30, 2024, as written and submitted.

It was moved by Mr. LaFargue, seconded by Mr. Adams, and carried, to accept the resignation of Mr. Kenneth Daniel from the Airport Commission Board and to further send a Letter of Appreciation to Mr. Daniel.

The motion was made by Mr. Fruge, seconded by Mr. Chad Woods, and carried, to appoint Chris Angelle to the Airport Commission Board to fulfill the unexpired term of Kenneth Daniel, with a term to expire 12/31/27.

Mr. LaBouve made the motion, seconded by Mr. LeJeune, and carried, to appoint Landon Daigle to the Tourist Commission Board as Coshatta Tribe of LA representative with a term to expire 09/30/27, to fulfill the unexpired term of Tammy Broussard.

It was moved by Mr. LaFargue, seconded by Mr. LaBouve, and carried, to appoint Shelby Lafosse to the Tourist Commission Board as Town of Welsh representative with a term to expire 09/30/27, to fulfill the unexpired term of Bengt Lindell.

The motion was made by Mr. Fruge, seconded by Ms. Myers, and carried, to appoint Kayla Doga to the Tourist Commission Board as Hotel representative with a term to expire 09/30/25, to fulfill the unexpired term of Buffina Crochet.

Mr. Fruge made the motion, seconded by Mr. LeJeune, and carried, to appoint Dennis Hebert to the Fire District No. 2 Board to fulfill the unexpired term of Shane Bolles, who has moved out of the district, with a term to expire 12/31/25.

It was moved by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Mr. Adams, and carried, to reappoint Julie Berry, Arthur Matte, Horace Naquin Jr., and Dale Landry to the Hospital Service District No. 1 Board with terms to expire 11/10/29. It was noted that Mr. Chad Woods abstained from voting on the matter.

The motion was made by Mr. Fruge, seconded by Mr. Adams, and carried, with Mr. Chad Woods abstaining, to accept the resignation of Carl Benoit from the Hospital Service District No. 1 Board and to further send a Letter of Appreciation for his service.

Mr. LeJeune made the motion, seconded by Mr. LaFargue, and carried, to appoint Ronnie Petree to the Hospital Service District No. 1 Board to replace Carl Benoit, with a term expiring 11/10/29. Mr. Chad Woods abstained from voting on the matter.

It was moved by Mr. LeJeune, seconded by Mr. Fruge, and carried, to declare surplus a 1986 Mack Fire Truck bearing VIN# 1M2AH144C7GM001236 and a 1984 Mack Fire Truck bearing VIN# 1M2A114C8FM002264 for Fire District No. 6.

Mr. Donald Woods made the motion and seconded by Mr. Peterson, to approve Task Order 002-2024-108 from Bluewing Civil Consulting in connection with the Courthouse Bathroom and Adjoining Rooms Renovation.

The motion was made by Mr. Cormier, seconded by Mr. LaBouve, and carried, to approve Invoice #2024-JD-0003 from Beazley & Longo Shelter Design in connection with Project #2024003 Jeff Davis Parish Animal Shelter.

It was moved by Mr. LaFargue, seconded by Mr. Adams, and carried, to adopt the following Resolution, to-wit:

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE POLICE JURY FOR JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH, STATE OF LOUISIANA APPROVING AND ADOPTING A COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN FOR JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH.

WHEREAS, Louisiana Law 1950 Revised Statutes Title 33: Part IV Sections 101 through 119, as amended establishes the basic framework for public planning by local government units in Louisiana; **AND**

WHEREAS, the purpose and task of the Comprehensive Master Plan is to identify, develop, plan, and implement selected priority programs and projects needed and wanted for the parish; **AND**

WHEREAS, it is recognized the community, parish and region must work cooperatively and in collaboration to network and leverage limited public resources for many common objectives; **AND**

WHEREAS, the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury is desirous of utilizing federal, state and local network opportunities to achieve programs and projects identified in the Jefferson Davis Parish Comprehensive Master Plan; **AND**

WHEREAS, the Police Jurors have outreached to citizens and business owners in the parish to consider recommendations for short and long-term development and evaluation; **AND**

WHEREAS, the Police Jury has determined the economic advancement of Jefferson Davis Parish would be best served with a coordinated Comprehensive Master Plan; **AND**

WHEREAS, the Police Jury has advertised and held a Public Hearing on the proposed Comprehensive Master Plan for the purpose of soliciting public comments and recommendations on (insert date) _____; **AND**

WHEREAS, the Police Jury provided fifteen days for public comment following the Public Hearing from (insert date) _____ through (insert date) _____ and received no major objections:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH POLICE JURY THAT THE JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHBIT A AND MADE A PART OF THIS RESOLUTION IS HEREBY APPROVED AND ADOPTED.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH POLICE JURY THAT THE ADOPTED JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN IS TO BE RECORDED WITH THE JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH CLERK OF COURT WITH ANY SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENTS THERETO.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH POLICE JURY THAT THE ADOPTED JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN IS TO BE FORWARDED TO THE SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION FOR INFORMATION AND REFERENCE WITH ANY SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENTS THERETO.

THIS RESOLUTION BEING APPROVED AND ADOPTED ON THE 13th DAY OF November, 2024.

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

RESOLUTION

A resolution approving the holding of an election in Gravity Drainage District No. 6 of Jefferson Davis Parish, Louisiana, on Saturday, March 29, 2025, to authorize the renewal of a special tax therein.

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Gravity Drainage District No. 6 of Jefferson Davis Parish, Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of Gravity Drainage District No. 6 of Jefferson Davis Parish, Louisiana (the "District"), adopted a resolution on October 15, 2024, calling a special election in the District on Saturday, March 29, 2025, to authorize the renewal of a special tax therein; and

WHEREAS, the governing authority of the District has requested that this Police Jury, acting as the governing authority of the Parish of Jefferson Davis, State of Louisiana, give its consent and authority for the District to hold the aforesaid election, and in the event that the election carries to continue to levy and collect the special tax provided for therein; and

WHEREAS, as required by Article VI, Section 15 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974, it is now the desire of this Police Jury to approve the holding of said election and in the event that the election carries, to authorize the District to continue to levy and collect the special tax provided for therein;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Police Jury of the Parish of Jefferson Davis, State of Louisiana, acting as the governing authority of said Parish, that:

SECTION 1. In compliance with the provisions of Article VI, Section 15 of the constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974, and in accordance with the request of the Board of Commissioners of Gravity Drainage District No. 6 of Jefferson Davis Parish, Louisiana, this Police Jury hereby approves the holding of an election in the District, on Saturday, March 29, 2025, at which election there will be submitted the following proposition, to-wit:

PROPOSITION
(MILLAGE RENEWAL)

Shall Gravity Drainage District No. 6 of Jefferson Davis Parish, Louisiana (the "District"), be authorized to continue to levy and collect a tax of 5.73 mills on all property subject to taxation within the District (an estimated \$185,000 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for a period of 10 years, beginning with the year 2026 and ending with the year 2035, for the purpose of maintaining, constructing and improving drainage works within the District, title to which shall be in the public?

SECTION 2. In the event the election carries, this Police Jury does hereby further consent to and authorize the District to continue to levy and collect the special tax provided for therein.

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 13th day of November, 2024.

The motion was made by Mr. LeJeune, seconded by Mr. LaBouve, and carried, to approve Jeff Davis Parish's first payment in the amount of \$1,450.00 in connection with their membership of the Co2 Alliance.

It was moved by Mr. Fruge, seconded by Mr. Chad Woods, and carried, to authorize the Secretary to advertise in connection with semi-annual supplies.

Mr. LaFargue made the motion, seconded by Ms. Myers, and carried, to authorize the Secretary to advertise in connection with Code Enforcement Contract Services.

The motion was made by Mr. Buller, seconded by Mr. LaBouve, and carried, to approve the placement of a security/streetlight on Hwy 383 at the border of Settlers Trace Subdivision and one at the border of Harper Ranch Subdivision to be paid with Division Three funds.

After discussion, Ms. Myers made the motion, seconded by Mr. LeJeune, and carried, to amend the item to specify that the addition of streetlights is necessary to ensure proper lighting for the safety of school bus pick-up and drop-off.

Mr. LaBouve made the motion, seconded by Mr. LaFargue, and carried, to approve Payment Request No. 1 from Shannon Smith Construction in the amount of \$9,000.00 in connection with the Lacassine Fire Station Addition to be paid out of Fire District No. 3 funds.

The motion was made by Ms. Myers, seconded by Mr. Fruge, and carried, to approve payment of Invoice #11315 in the amount of \$54,311.61 to Guillotte Brothers Inc., for Farm Supply and Duhon Road Drainage Improvements.

It was moved by Mr. Fruge, seconded by Mr. LaBouve, and carried, to approve payment of Invoice \$4072-1 to Pelican Roofing Company in the amount of \$83,376.09 in connection with the Arena Roof Repair to be paid out of ARPA funds.

Mr. LaFargue made the motion, seconded by Mr. Buller, and carried, to approve the Contract Amendment No. 1 of the Master Services Agreement with DCMC Partners extending the period of performance through January 11, 2026, contingent on Legal Counsel approval, and to further authorize the President to sign.

The motion was made by Mr. Cormier, seconded by Mr. Fruge, and carried, to accept the low bid received from Larry Grayson & Son Trucking LLC in connection with #67 limestone.

Mr. Chad Woods made the motion, seconded by Mr. Donald Woods, and carried, to authorize the installation of a weather station at the Jeff Davis Parish Police Jury Lake Arthur Yard.

It was moved by Mr. Chad Woods, seconded by Mr. Donald Woods, and carried, to approve the surplus of a 2000 International Tanker bearing VIN# 1HSHCAAR0YH237914 for Fire District No. 4, authorize entering into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Vermilion Parish Police Jury for the sale of this unit for

\$10,000.00 and further authorize the President and Secretary to sign all necessary documents.

The motion was made by Mr. Chad Woods, seconded by Mr. Peterson, and carried, to approve the surplus of a 2000 Freightliner Tanker bearing VIN# 1FVXJFBB0YHF70100 for Fire District No. 4, authorize entering into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Town of Gueydan for the sale of this unit for \$15,000.00 and further authorize the President and Secretary to sign all necessary documents.

Mr. Fruge made the motion, seconded by Mr. LaBouve, and carried, to approve payment of Invoice #1 from RCP in the amount of \$10,500.00 in connection with Project 2024007 Asphalt Distribution Services.

It was moved by Mr. LaFargue, seconded by Mr. Donald Woods, and carried, to adopt the following Resolution, to-wit:

RESOLUTION

A resolution amending the FY 2024 Budget for the
Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury.

WHEREAS, the Louisiana State Legislature has mandated that political subdivisions of the State of Louisiana, amend their 2024 budget to more accurately reflect the Revenues and Expenditures.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury, in session convened on this 13th day of November, 2024, that it does hereby amend the budget for the year 2024.

The motion was made by Mr. Fruge, seconded by Mr. Buller, and carried, to approve a request from Water District No. 4 to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Jeff Davis Parish Police Jury to contribute ARPA or Federal Funds to support Water District No. 4 Capital Improvements in the amount of \$415,123.39.

Mr. Cormier made the motion, seconded by Mr. LaBouve, and carried, to approve the placement of 2,500 Tons of road material on various roads in Division Three.

It was moved by Mr. Buller, seconded by Mr. LaFargue, and carried, to adopt the following Resolution, to-wit:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the State of Louisiana, Division of Administration, Local Government Assistance, awards annual funding for projects through the Community Development Block Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury has been invited to submit an application to the FY 2025 LCDBG Public Facilities (PF) program; and

WHEREAS, the Engineer's cost estimate for the project is \$523,916 over the Grant amount and Admin and Engineering Costs; and

WHEREAS, Parish officials are committed to this project and aware of its value to the community infrastructure;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury hereby commits partial funding for the project for the construction overage in the amount of \$523,926 to be paid with ARPA funds or local funds.

The above resolution was unanimously approved and adopted at the Regular Meeting of the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury on the 13th day of November 2024.

The motion was made by Mr. Donald Woods, seconded by Mr. LaBouve, and carried, to go into Executive Session in connection with a Legal discussion regarding Employee Disciplinary Policies.

Mr. LaBouve made the motion, seconded by Mr. Chad Woods, and carried, to return to Regular Session. No action was taken.

President's Report

President Eastman requested a motion to grant the Administrator authority to research obtaining property and casualty insurance quotes to attempt to reduce costs.

It was moved by Mr. LaFargue, seconded by Mr. Fruge, and carried, to grant the Administrator authority to research obtaining property and casualty insurance quotes to reduce insurance costs.

Senator Cassidy announced \$1.7 million for Louisiana for Road Safety projects from his Infrastructure Law. We have been awarded a grant in the amount of \$400,000.00 to develop a comprehensive safety action plan for Elton, Fenton, Jennings, Welsh, and Lake Arthur. The Police Jury may apply for matching funds through LITA Corp.

There may be a Special Meeting on Wednesday, November 20, 2024, for the purpose of a presentation on the new Tax Reform. An Office Policy Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 20, 2024. Additionally, a Special Meeting will be held on December 18, 2024.

President Eastman requested a motion to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Marines Toys for Tots for use of the William E. Broussard Multipurpose Building to hand out toys to children in the parish.

Mr. Adams made the motion, seconded by Mr. Peterson, and carried, to enter into the CEA with Marines Toys for Tots as stated.

The motion was made by Mr. LaFargue, seconded by Ms. Myers, and carried, to name the road going through Houssiere Park as Houssiere Park Lane.

Administrator's Report

Mr. Boudreaux reported on the availability of grants through DOTD for the purpose of striping roads.

Additionally, he requested approval to purchase new microphones to be placed at every seat and an upgraded mixer for the purpose of improving the recorded meetings at an approximate cost of \$9,000.00 in addition to the electrical installation.

It was moved by Mr. Fruge, seconded by Mr. Adams, and carried, to approve the purchases as stated.

Calcasieu Parish will be having a Planning and Zoning Board meeting next week to discuss items including solar energy. Ben will attend this meeting.

Bid openings for the Animal Shelter will take place on December 9, 2024 at 1:00 PM with a Pre-Bid meeting held on November 25, 2024 at 11:00 AM.

An update was provided on the Road project and Arena Back Canopy project.

Engineer's Report

Alex Guillory with Bluewing Civil Consulting reported that the Farm Supply Road Asphalt project is almost completed.

He met with Thomas at the Regional Jail Facility to go over the Jail Sealing Project.

Committee Reports

There were no Committee Reports.

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

December 11, 2024
DATE APPROVED