

BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY
BENTON, LOUISIANA
MINUTES
January 18, 2006
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The Bossier Parish Police Jury met in regular and legal session on this 18th day of January, 2006, at 2:00 p.m., in the Police Jury Meeting Room, Bossier Parish Courthouse, Benton, Louisiana. The Vice President, Mr. Jerome Darby, called the meeting to order. The invocation was given by Mr. Eddy Shell and the pledge of allegiance was led by Mr. Jesse Williams. The Secretary-Treasurer, Ms. Cheryl Martin, called the roll, with Mr. Rogers absent, as follows:

Mr. William Altimus	Mr. Winfred Johnston
Mr. Rick Avery	Mr. Hank Meachum
Mr. Jimmy Cochran	Mr. Henry Mitchell
Mr. Brad Cummings	Mr. Jeff Rogers, absent
Mr. Jerome Darby	Mr. Eddy Shell
Mr. Wayne Hammack	Mr. Jesse Williams

Others present were Mr. Bill Altimus, Parish Administrator; Mr. Patrick Jackson, Parish Attorney, Mr. Joe E. "Butch" Ford, Jr., Parish Engineer; Ms. Cheryl Martin, Secretary-Treasurer.

Motion was made by Mr. Shell, seconded by Mr. Johnston, to adopt the minutes of the December 7, 2005 regular meeting, as published. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Cochran, to adopt the minutes of the December 21, 2005 regular meeting, as published. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Hammack, seconded by Mr. Cochran, to nominate Mr. Jerome Darby as President of the Bossier Parish Police Jury for the year 2006. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to nominate Mr. Winfred Johnston as Vice President of the Bossier Parish Police Jury for the year 2006. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Hammack, seconded by Mr. Williams, to amend the agenda to add Ms. Evodna Springer and Mr. Derek Reynolds. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Jo Trichell requested that she be added to the agenda regarding the condition of certain property in her neighborhood that is in violation of property standards. The property is located in Mr. Williams' district, and he is to address this matter with Ms. Trichell.

Mr. Kenneth Weaver, Bossier Parish Sheriff's Department, discussed a request of the Sheriff's Department for an additional maintenance employee at the parish jail facilities. He stated that with the completion of the maximum security jail and the near completion of training facilities at the corrections complex, the workload for the current maintenance man has increased. Mr. Weaver stated that the Sheriff's Department will split salary and benefits costs for the additional employee equally with the police jury, in accordance with the current contract. **Motion was made by Mr. Cummings, seconded by Mr. Shell, to refer this matter to the Building and Grounds Committee for review. Motion carried unanimously.** Mr. Hammack requested information on the numbers of hours the current employee spends at each facility.

Mr. Weaver discussed the need for a dentist office for the jail facilities. He stated that the cost to equip a dental office is approximately \$20,962, and advised that the Sheriff's Department will split this cost equally with the police jury. Mr. Ford, Parish Engineer, stated that there is space available for the dentist office at the maximum security facility. He recommended that Coyle Engineering Co., Inc. be asked to review the matter. **Motion was made by Mr. Hammack, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to approve the purchase of equipment needed to establish a dental office at the maximum security jail, and to allow Coyle Engineering Co., Inc., to review the proposal. Motion carried unanimously.** Mr. Cummings requested an estimate of all costs involved in the proposal.

Mr. Jackson, Parish Attorney, advised of a proposal to enter into a contract with doctors from LSU Hospital for the provision of physician services at the corrections facilities. He stated that the proposed agreement would reduce the current costs for physician services. **Motion was made by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Meachum, to enter into a contract with LSU Health Center for the provision of physician services at parish corrections facilities, and to authorize the President to execute all necessary documents. Motion carried unanimously.**

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on this 18th day of January, 2006, that Jerome Darby, President, be and is hereby authorized to execute on behalf of the Bossier Parish Police Jury, all necessary documents in connection with a contract with LSU Health Center for the provision of physician services at parish corrections facilities.

The resolution was offered by Mr. Altimus, seconded by Mr. Meachum. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 18th day of January, 2006.

CHERYL G. MARTIN
SECRETARY-TREASURER

JEROME DARBY, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Mr. Derek Reynolds, 211 Colonel Burt, Benton, LA, expressed opposition to the proposed travel center/truck stop to be located on LA Highway 3 south of Benton. He stated that he has been involved in the gaming industry, and stated that gambling is addictive and he does not want this type of business in the community.

On December 21, 2005, the police jury approved the application of RMH Properties, LLC, to the Benton-Parish MPC for a zoning amendment to change the zoning classification of a tract of land located on the east side of Highway 3

south of Benton High School from R-A, Residence Agriculture District, to B-3, Community Business District, to allow development of a travel center/truck stop. A public hearing was held and there was no opposition.

Ms. Evodna Springer, 179 Old Palmetto Road, Benton, also expressed opposition, advising that she is concerned that a travel center/truck stop will lower property values. She stated that she also has concerns regarding environmental issues and video poker. Ms. Springer stated that the large trucks utilizing the facility will increase traffic, and stated that some of these trucks carry hazardous materials which could endanger students attending nearby Benton High School and Benton Middle School. She stated that the public was not made aware that a truck stop was being considered.

Mr. Sean Hintz stated that he is a resident of Benton and is also concerned about the environmental impact. He stated that the proposed truck stop could become a meeting place for school kids.

Mr. R. W. Brown, 2657 Vanceville Road, Bossier City, stated that Bossier Parish does not need this type of business and advised that he is concerned that traffic safety issues.

Mr. Jeff Wyatt, 911 Mallard Bend, Bossier City, stated that the future economic development of this area of the parish will be adversely affected by the location of a truck stop here.

Mr. Ryan Gatti, 5624 Lakeside Drive, Bossier City, stated that he understands that public hearings on this matter were held, but asked if there is anything that can be done to allow the police jury to rehear this matter and possibly reverse its decision. Mr. Gatti stated that concerned residents would like the opportunity to voice their opposition.

Mr. Jackson, Parish Attorney, stated that five public hearings were held on this proposal and there was no opposition heard at any of these hearings. He stated that notice of the public hearings was published in the Bossier Press Tribune four times and that a sign advising of the proposed zoning change has been located on the property for 90 days. Mr. Jackson stated that at this point, the police jury has no constitutional or statutory authority to rehear this matter. He further stated that the police jury cannot prohibit gambling and stated that the citizens of the parish voted to keep video poker in Bossier Parish. Mr. Jackson stated that the Louisiana Gaming Control Board regulates gaming in the state, and advised that up to 50 video poker machines are allowed in a truck stop. He stated that all public notice requirements were met and/or exceeded, and stated that the police jury is required to make a decision after due notice. Mr. Jackson stated that at this point, it would be unlawful for the police jury to reverse its decision.

Mr. Robert Gatti, 910 Mallard Bend, Bossier City, stated that the police jury should serve as watchmen for the parish.

In response to a question by Ms. Janie Kelly, Caplis Sligo Road, Mr. Jackson advised that individual citizens may voice their concerns to the Louisiana Gaming Control Board.

Mr. Jeff Wyatt requested that the developer be required to provide some type of buffer zone between the proposed truck stop and nearby Magnolia Chase Subdivision.

No action was taken by the police jury, and its approval of the application of RMH Properties, LLC, for a zoning amendment will stand.

Ms. Martin announced the public hearing to consider approval of the subdivision of a tract of land owned by T.A. Beauregard located at 1674 Old Plain Dealing Road, in Sections 1 and 2, Township 20 North, Range 14 West, Bossier Parish, LA. Mr. Ford stated that the property owner wants to sell two acres from a larger tract and advised that the proposal has been approved by the Benton-Parish MPC. There being no opposition, **motion was made by Mr. Johnston, seconded by Mr. Cummings, to approve the proposed subdivision of a tract of land located at 1674 Old Plain Dealing Road, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

Motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to schedule a public hearing on February 15, 2006, to consider the application of Atkins-Sonnier Family Land, LLC, to the Benton-Parish MPC for a zoning amendment to change the zoning classification of a tract of land located on the south side of Magnolia Chase Boulevard, Bossier Parish, LA, from R-A, Residential Agriculture District, to R-1, Single Family Residence District, for residential subdivision development. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Williams, to schedule a public hearing on February 15, 2006, to consider the application of Festervan Farms to the Benton-Parish MPC for a zoning amendment to change the zoning classification of a tract of land located on the East side of Highway 3, Bossier Parish, LA, from R-A, Residential Agriculture District, to B-2, Community Business District, for commercial development. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Shell, seconded by Mr. Williams, to schedule a public hearing on February 1, 2006, to consider approval of the plat of the Island Park Boulevard Street Dedication, located in Section 15, Township 17, Range 13 West, Bossier Parish. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Shell, seconded by Mr. Williams, to schedule a public hearing on February 1, 2006, to consider approval of the plat of the proposed development of Island Park Subdivision, Unit No. 1, located in Section 15 and Projected Section 16, Township 17, Range 13 West, Bossier Parish. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Shell, seconded by Mr. Williams, to schedule a public hearing on February 1, 2006, to consider approval of the plat of the proposed development of Island Park Garden Homes, Unit No. 1, located in Section 15, Township 17, Range 13 West, Bossier Parish. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Shell, seconded by Mr. Williams, to schedule a public hearing on February 1, 2006, to consider approval of the plat of the proposed development of Island Park Garden Homes, Unit No. 2, located in Section 15, Township 17, Range 13 West, Bossier Parish. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Shell, seconded by Mr. Williams, to schedule a public hearing on February 1, 2006, to consider approval of the plat of the proposed development of Island Park Town Homes, Unit No. 1, located in Section 15, Township 17, Range 13 West, Bossier Parish. Motion carried unanimously.

A meeting of the Bossier Parish Property Standards Board was convened by the President. Ms. Martin announced the condemnation hearing to consider condemnation of property at 1398 Linton Road, Bossier Parish, LA. The property owner, Ms. Betsy Ludlam, was present. Mr. Williams stated that the property has been cleaned up and is now in compliance with property standards regulations. **Motion was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Cummings, to take no further action in this matter and to consider this issue closed. Motion carried unanimously.**

Ms. Martin announced the condemnation hearing to consider condemnation of property at 299 Ranchtown Road, Elm Grove, LA. Mr. Meachum stated that some work has been done, but additional work is needed. He stated that the property owner has requested 60 days to complete the clean up. **Motion was made by Mr. Meachum, seconded by Mr. Cummings, to proceed with the condemnation of property at 299 Ranchtown Road, Elm Grove, LA, and to request the Sheriff's Department to issue a citation to the property owner. Motion carried unanimously.**

Ms. Martin announced the condemnation hearing to consider condemnation of property at 1110 Bellevue Road, Bossier Parish, LA. Mr. Mitchell stated that some work has been done, but recommended that the property be condemned. **Motion was made by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Williams, to proceed with condemnation of property at 1110 Bellevue Road, and to request the Sheriff's Department to issue a citation to the property owner. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Cummings reported on meeting of the Health and Sanitation Committee regarding garbage collection service in the parish, advising that a dumpster has been placed in Plain Dealing to assist residents temporarily until the matter is resolved. He stated that a representative of a garbage collection service company in Arkansas will be present at the February 1, 2006 regular meeting for discussion.

Mr. Ford, Parish Engineer, presented a response from the Bossier Parish School Board regarding a request for funding from Bossier Parish Technical School. Mr. Cochran requested that this matter be tabled to allow him to determine what items the school needs. **Motion was made by Mr. Cochran, seconded by Mr. Shell, to table a request for funding from Bossier Parish Technical School, to allow Mr. Cochran the opportunity to meet with school officials to determine what items are needed. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Ford advised of a letter to the local legislative delegation advising of the police jury's future needs and the proposed transportation plan.

Mr. Ford reported that Standard and Poor's Ratings Services has affirmed its A+ rating on Bossier Parish's sales tax revenue debt.

Motion was made by Mr. Cummings, seconded by Mr. Hammack, to adopt resolutions providing that the Bossier Parish Police Jury will pay administrative costs associated with the East Benton Subdivision sewer improvements project and the East Benton Subdivision street improvements project to be funded through the FY2006 - FY2007 Louisiana Community Development Block Grant Program. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION ADDRESSING ADMINISTRATIVE ASPECTS OF THE PROPOSED FY 2006 - FY 2007 LOUISIANA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Bossier Parish Police Jury is desirous of submitting an application to the State of Louisiana, Division of Administration for funding under the FY 2006 - FY 2007 LCDBG program for street improvements; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to pay all administrative costs associated with the implementation of the LCDBG program to receive one bonus point, should funding become available;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Bossier Parish Police Jury has hired the administrative consulting firm of GNF Management Company, Inc., to assist in the preparation of said application for the fee of \$1,400.00. An additional fee of \$35,000.00 will be paid to the administrative consulting firm of GNF Management Company, Inc., for subsequent program administration of the LCDBG program. All fees are contingent upon funding of the project by the State of Louisiana, Division of Administration under the FY 2006 or the FY 2007 LCDBG program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Bossier Parish Police Jury has agreed to utilize local funds to pay the above contract amount and all other administrative costs associated with the preparation and implementation of the FY 2006 - FY 2007 LCDBG program.

The resolution was offered by Mr. Cumming, seconded by Mr. Hammack. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 18th day of January, 2006

CHERYL G. MARTIN
SECRETARY-TREASURER

JEROME DARBY, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

RESOLUTION

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The resolution was offered by Mr. Cumming, seconded by Mr. Hammack. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 18th day of January, 2006

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Mr. Ford advised that the following road projects are being considered for addition to the 2006 Road Program; Bellevue Road, Wemple Road Extension, Arthur Ray Teague Parkway Extension, Linton Road, Sligo Road and the Marlena Street Extension.

Motion was made by Mr. Johnston, seconded by Mr. Shell, to authorize parish work crews to demolish and remove an old house on property owned by Bossier Parish Emergency Services District located directly behind their facility in Plain Dealing. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ford advised that the estimated cost to add restrooms, doors and electrical service to the temporary building at the Bodcau Shooting Range is \$6,455.00. He stated that the Sheriff's Department will provide labor and the police jury will provide the materials. Mr. Ford stated that funds for the project will be taken from the Parks and Recreation Fund if available. He stated that State approval of the water/sewer system at the shooting range is pending, and recommended approval of the proposed improvements subject to the State's approval of the water and sewer system. **Motion was made by Mr. Johnston, seconded by Mr. Williams, to approve an expenditure of approximately \$6,455 for improvements to the temporary building at the Bodcau Shooting Range subject to State approval of the sewer and water system at the facility. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Ford presented an update on the courthouse renovation/addition project, advising that the parking lot is complete.

Motion was made by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Cummings, to establish a 30 mile per hour speed limit on the straight section of Modica Lott Road, and a 15 mile per hour speed limit in the curve. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 4082

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE SPEED OF VEHICLES ON MODICA LOTT ROAD LOCATED OFF SWAN LAKE ROAD, IN SECTION 11, TOWNSHIP 18 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST, BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA, AND PROVIDING THE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF.

SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED by the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session convened on this 18th day of January, 2006, that from and after the effective date of this ordinance, it shall be unlawful for any person to operate or drive a vehicle upon Modica Lott Road, located off Swan Lake Road, in Section 11, Township 18 North, Range 13 West, Bossier Parish, Louisiana, as follows:

Straight roadway sections shall be posted at 30 miles per hour and the curve shall be posted at 15 miles per hour.

SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, etc., that all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

The ordinance was offered by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Cummings. Upon unanimous vote, it was duly adopted on this 18th day of January, 2006.

CHERYL G. MARTIN
SECRETARY-TREASURER

JEROME DARBY, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY

Mr. Avery advised of a request from Airline High School for a contribution of \$2,500 for the purchase of red rock for the baseball field. **Motion was made by Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Cummings, to approve a \$2,500 contribution to Airline High School from discretionary recreational funds, to be divided among Mr. Avery, Mr. Cummings and Mr. Mitchell. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Williams advised of complaints regarding the condition of property at 5414 Amber Circle, and requested that the property be inspected for possible violation of property standards regulations.

Motion was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Shell, that the following jurors will contribute discretionary recreational funds to the Benton High School sports program as noted:

Mr. Williams - \$9,000 regular and matching funds

Mr. Johnston - \$1,000 matching funds

Mr. Mitchell - \$1,000

Mr. Cummings, Mr. Avery, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Hammack and Mr. Shell - \$500 each

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Shell asked the status of the proposed extension of Arthur Ray Teague Parkway south to Sligo Road. Mr. Ford advised of a meeting with Congressman McCreary regarding this issue, and stated that the proposed extension will provide an access road to the visitors center which is to be constructed by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

Mr. Johnston advised of a request from Plain Dealing High School for a contribution of \$3,108.02 for football equipment, and stated that he will contribute the funds from his recreational discretionary funds. Mr. Darby stated that he will contribute \$1,000 of the requested amount.

There being no further business to come before the Bossier Parish Police Jury in regular and legal session on this 18th day of January, 2006, the meeting was adjourned by the President at 4:00 p.m.

CHERYL G. MARTIN
SECRETARY-TREASURER

JEROME DARBY, PRESIDENT
BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY