

AVOYELLES PARISH POLICE JURY
REGULAR SESSION
Tuesday, January 12, 2021

The Police Jury of the Parish of Avoyelles, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session, in the Meeting Room of the Parish Courthouse, on Tuesday, January 12, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. at the LSU Ag Center in Mansura

There were present: Kirby Roy, Mark Borrel, Glenn McKinley, John Earles, Bobby Bordelon, Jacob Coco, Charles Jones, McKinley Keller

Also present were: Kevin Bordelon, Civil Works Director; Ron Bordelon, Pan American Engineers; Jonathan Gaspard, Assistant District Attorney; Charles Riddle, District Attorney, Laura Gaspard, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer; Joseph Frank, Director of Homeland Security; Alissa Piazza Tassin, Attorney for Med Express; Jeff Poe, Acadian Ambulance, Ryan Qubedeaux, Avoyelles Parish Sheriff's Office, Mayor John Lemoine, City of Marksville, Mike Gremillion, City of Marksville, Frank Havard, City of Marksville, Rayford Laborde, Tyler Martin Med Express; James Cole- Roy O. Martin and residents/landowners of Bayou Des Sot Road

Absent were: Elzie Bryant - participated by telephone

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America by McKinley Keller, and opening prayer, led by Charles Jones.

Roll call by Secretary-Treasurer.

District Attorney Charles Riddle opened the floor for nominations for Vice-President.

On motion by Jacob Coco , seconded by Glenn McKinley, nominations are hereby closed.

On motion by Bobby Bordelon, seconded by Charles Jones, John Earles is hereby nominated as Vice President for 2021. On vote, the motion carried.

District Attorney Charles Riddle opened the floor for nominations for President.

On motion by Bobby Bordelon , seconded by Jacob Coco, nominations are hereby closed.

On motion by Charles Jones, seconded by Elzie Bryant, Kirby Roy is hereby nominated as President for 2021. On vote, the motion carried.

On motion by Charles Jones, seconded by Glenn McKinley, to accept the financial report offered by the Secretary/Treasurer (budget to actual and cash balances). On vote, the motion carried.

On motion by Bobby Bordelon, seconded by Charles Jones, to adopt the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on December 15, 2020 as printed in the "Weekly News" and mailed to all Jurors. On vote, the motion carried.

On motion by Glenn McKinley, seconded by McKinley Keller, to adopt the minutes of Avoyelles Commission of Tourism Meeting held on December 7, 2020 as printed in the "Weekly News" and mailed to all Jurors. On vote, the motion carried.

On motion by Charles Jones, seconded by Bobby Bordelon to enter into executive session to discuss Rachal v. Avoyelles Parish Police Jury & Acadian Ambulance v Avoyelles Parish Police Jury. On vote the motion carried.

Upon the public attendees returning to the meeting room, on motion by Jacob Coco, seconded by John Earles to return to regular session. On vote, the motion carried.

Delegates:

Blake Knoll- 1st Insurance. Blake discussed insurance premiums and the reduction in premiums since 2017.

Michael Gremillion, Frank Havard, and Mayor John Lemoine- Inquired as to the requests for payment of autopsies. Mayor Lemoine asked for the Revised Statute that indicates all municipalities are responsible for.

The parish shall pay the fees for all mental or physical examinations or investigations, commitments, interdiction, court attendance, or testimony and a just fee or remuneration for attending parish prisoners.

R.S. 13:5706

C.(1) When a death occurs and the death appears to have been due to natural causes, the coroner of the parish of domicile of the deceased shall be responsible for any investigation into the cause and manner of death and for any examination of the body or autopsy.

(2) When a death occurs and a crime or accident is suspected, the coroner of the parish where the crime or accident occurred shall be responsible for any investigation into the cause and manner of death and for any examination of the body or autopsy.

(3) It shall be the duty of the coroner who makes the final investigation to release the body for burial.

D.(1) The parish or municipality in which the deceased was domiciled, in the case of a death due to natural causes, or the parish or municipality in which the accident or crime occurred, in the case of a death due to other than natural causes, shall pay the coroner's fees and any necessary fees for the investigation and the cost of any autopsy including the cost of transporting the body. However, if the coroner of the parish in which the death occurred initially viewed the body or investigated the death, the fees for such viewing or investigation shall be paid to him by the parish or municipality in which the death occurred.

(2) When a natural death occurs outside the parish of domicile, the coroner of the parish where the death occurs shall forward all information from the initial investigation to the coroner of the parish where the decedent was domiciled. The coroner of the parish of domicile shall complete all the necessary documents, including the death certificate.

(3) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, when a death occurs at any state operated health care or treatment facility, any fee paid by the parish governing authority for the viewing and investigation of a body shall be reimbursed by the state. However, this shall not relieve the parish governing authority of the obligation to promptly pay the fee upon being billed therefor.

E. When a death occurs and the death was due to natural causes, the coroner's fees and expenses, including the cost of transporting the body, shall be paid by the municipality in which the deceased was domiciled or by the parish if the deceased was domiciled in the parish outside of a municipality. When a death occurs and the death was due to other than natural causes, the coroner's fees and expenses including the cost of transporting the body shall be paid by the municipality in which the crime or accident occurred or by the parish if the crime or accident occurred in the parish outside of a municipality.

F. Nothing herein shall be construed as prohibiting the payment by the parish or municipality of all necessary or unavoidable expenses certified by the coroner.

With unanimous consent and no objection from the audience, on motion by John Earles, seconded by Charles Jones to allow Alissa Piazza Tassin- Attorney for Med Express added to the agenda as a delegate. On vote, the motion carried. Mrs. Tassin requested the Parish approve a permit and adopt a resolution to revoke, rescind, and vacate a resolution dated July 14, 2009, granting the Avoyelles Parish Sheriff the authority to contract for ambulance services within the jurisdiction of Avoyelles Parish.

Ryan Quebedeaux- Avoyelles Parish Sheriff's Office indicated Sheriff Dauzat is working on a plan for ambulance service rotation.

The matter was tabled pending further discussion, and inviting all parties to attend.

On motion by Bobby Bordelon, seconded by Charles Jones, to rescind a motion made on December 15, 2020 "in exchange for forgiving 2017-2019 autopsy arrearage, the parish will demand and seek payment from municipalities for 2020, further, authorizing the District Attorney to pursue legal action to recover any unpaid monies owed to the parish for FY 2020. Beginning 2021 all appropriate municipalities will be billed directly from the Coroner for any autopsies and transportation charge."

On motion by Bobby Bordelon, seconded by Charles Jones, pursuant to R.S. 13:5706, the Avoyelles Parish Police Jury seeks collection from municipalities for arrearage owed for autopsies and transportation fees. Further authorizing the District Attorney to proceed with filing suit to recover monies owed. On vote, the motion carried.

On motion by Jacob Coco, seconded by Bobby Bordelon, to rescind a motion made on December 15, 2020 "re-appoint Sheila Callihan as Constable of Ward 7."

On motion by Jacob Coco, seconded by Bobby to appoint Sheila Callihan Constable of Ward 7 effective January 1, 2021 until qualifying. Qualifying period January 20-22, 2021. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Charles Jones, seconded by Mark Borrel, authorizing the president to sign the audit engagement from Kolder, Slaven & Company. On vote, the motion carried.

On motion by Mark Borrel, seconded by Charles Jones, authorizing Pan American to proceed as Engineering Firm for the Courthouse Elevator Project. On vote, the motion carried.

On motion by Mark Borrel, seconded by Charles Jones, the Avoyelles Parish Police Jury approves a local match of \$75,000 (25%) capital outlay funds for the elevator modernization. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Mark Borrel, seconded by John Earles, to accept Little River Bridge as complete. On vote, the motion carried.

On motion by Mark Borrel, seconded by Charles Jones, to accept E. Bryant Road Bridge as complete. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Glenn McKinley, seconded by McKinley Keller, to approve the Health Unit contract with Executone. \$8,937.73, to be paid from Health Unit funds. On vote, the motion carried.

On motion by Jacob Coco, seconded by Bobby Bordelon, to read and accept the Memoriam of Congressman-Elect, Luke Letlow. On vote, the motion carried.

On motion by Bobby Bordelon, seconded by Jacob Coco to pay Moreau's Material Yard Invoices. On vote, the motion carried.

On motion by Bobby Bordelon, seconded by Jacob Coco authorizing Road District No. 2 Round 6 Project, not to exceed \$630,000.00. On vote, the motion carried.

On motion by Glenn McKinley, seconded by Charles Jones, approving the Veteran's Affairs Office move from the Senior Center in Marksville to the LSU Ag Center in Mansura. On vote, the motion carried.

On motion by John Earles, seconded by Charles Jones to hold a public hearing on February 9, 2021 to hear public comments in regards to adopting a parish wide Road Use Ordinance. On vote, the motion carried.

On motion by John Earles, seconded by Charles Jones, the Avoyelles Parish Police Jury does hereby grant authority to the Secretary-Treasurer to pay all bills and to waive a reading of the whole. Motion carried.

There being no further business, on motion by Bobby Bordelon, seconded Jacob Coco, the meeting adjourned.

s/Kirby Roy
President

s/Jamey M. Wiley
Secretary-Treasurer

PUBLISH:

WN-JANUARY 21