

AVOYELLES PARISH POLICE JURY
REGULAR SESSION, held in the meeting Room in the Courthouse, Marksville, La
Tuesday, February 14, 2023

The Police Jury of the Parish of Avoyelles, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session, in the Meeting Room, Courthouse, Marksville, La, on Tuesday, February 14, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

There were present: Mark Borrel, Bobby Bordelon, Jacob Coco, Kirby Roy, McKinley Keller, Darrell Wiley, Clyde Benson, John Earles, Rayford Laborde- Avoyelles Parish Planning Commission; Joseph Frank- Director, Jacob Guillory- Engineer Pan American, Kevin Bordelon, Jenny Falls, Twyla Lemoine, Jimmy Landry, Jonathan Gaspard- Assistant District Attorney, Piazza- Legislative Aide, District Attorney Charles Riddle, Mary Treuting, J.B. Treuting, Judge Spruill, Ronald Coco, Amy Guidry, Billy Lacombe, Teryl St. Romain and Halette Spears

Absent were: Glenn McKinley

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance by McKinley Keller, followed by invocation led by District Attorney Charles Riddle.

Roll call by Secretary-Treasurer.

On motion by Darrell Wiley, seconded by Mark Borrel, to adopt the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on January 5, 2023, printed in the “Weekly News”, and mailed to all Jurors. On vote, the motion carried.

On motion by Jacob Coco, seconded by Bobby Bordelon, to accept the minutes of the Tourist Commission Meeting held January 10, 2023, as presented. On vote, the motion carried.

On motion by Darrell Wiley, seconded by Jacob Coco, to accept the Financial Report given by the Assistant Secretary Treasurer at the Committee Meeting on Thursday, February 9, 2023. On vote, the motion carried.

District Attorney Charles Riddle presented a proposal as a long term multi-faceted solution to the opioid issue in the parish. The proposal requests \$35,000.00 per year to fund drug court. Drug Court provides minimal services to help those addicted. The funding will allow to expand services to improve quality of treatment for clients.

Halette Spears- Presented a proposal on behalf of Drug Court requesting \$30,000.00 per year to help off set expenses relate to the operation of drug court. She explained the cost of testing for Kratom has doubled, participants are tested bi-weekly, but she would like to include weekend testing and sweat patches. Drug Court testing currently costs \$2,500.00 per month. If the funds are approved Ms. Spears would like to use the funds to hire two part-time employees to help monitor participants to further improve drug court success rates.

Judge Kerry Spruill told those in attendance drug court is a great program with a very high success rate and applauded Ms. Spears for a job well done.

Billy Lacombe who represents The Faith House Domestic Violence Shelter is a program funded by the state to provide physical location for victims of domestic abuse caused by some form of addiction. The proposed request is \$40,000.00 per year to fund services that are essential for treatment. The program serves 8 parish across Louisiana. Ms. Lacombe said a plan is place for a 64-bed, secured housing in the parish. She is hoping her request is approved to expand services to victims of violence and sexual assault.

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Teryl St. Romain voiced concern for the condition of Levi Gremillion Road. A discussion between Mr. St. Romain, Civil Works Director Kevin Bordelon and Jurors ensued. Mr. St. Romain stressed the importance of maintaining drainage and stated he had evidence of Malfeasance in Office because a public employee failed to perform their job duties. Kevin Bordelon stated Mr. St. Romain is correct, but that operator was no longer employed. Kevin Bordelon informed the Jury he drove thru Levi Gremillion on Friday and had no problem. Juror Bobby Bordelon asked Kevin is if anyone is assigned to follow-up behind motor graders, Kevin said that was impossible, but he and other Superintendents drive parish roads daily. President Roy told the audience when he started on the Jury there were seven motor grader operators, we know have four. Juror John Earles stated the issue is rain causing water to pool on roads. President Roy asked Kevin if he could follow-up with operators after grading roads, he said if timing allowed, but could not make promises since they run all week as weather permits and they are in different districts. Juror Jacob Coco stated Barron Lane holds water, some driveways have no culverts and requested Kevin attend a Town hall meeting to discuss installing.

On motion by Danny Benson, seconded by Mark Borrel, to award Infrastructure Grant Management & Residential Buyout/Elevation Program Administration Service for FEMA funded projects to Rapides Area Planning Commission. On vote, the motion carried.

On motion by Mark Borrel, seconded by Darrell Wiley, to accept the resignation of Jessica Bryant from the La. Human Service District Board. On vote, the motion carried.

On motion by Mark Borrel, seconded by Jacob Coco, to appoint Jennifer Chenevert to the La. Human Service District Board. On vote, the motion carried.

On motion by Bobby Bordelon, seconded by McKinley Keller, to table item number fifteen. On vote the motion carried.

On motion by Bobby Bordelon, seconded by Mark Borrel, to add Henry Powell as Agent of Record for Health Insurance. On vote, the motion carried.

On motion by Bobby Bordelon seconded by Jacob Coco, and upon recommendation by the Planning Commission to approve the Cocoville Estates, pending a punch list. On vote, the motion carried.

On motion by John Earles, seconded by Jacob Coco to approve Riviere property division as recommended by the Planning Commission. On vote, the motion carried.

On motion by Clyde Benson, seconded by Bobby bordelon to add approval of other properties/subdivisions. On vote, the motion carried.

On motion by Bobby Bordelon, seconded by Jacob Coco to approve the subdivision of Cody Coco and Charles Oger Rental Property as recommended by the Planning Commission. On vote, the motion carried.

On motion by John Earles, seconded by Darrell Wiley, to award Roadway Improvements to Diamond B Construction Company in the amount of \$780,300.00 contingent upon concurrence of award by Facility Planning and Control. On vote, the motion carried.

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On motion by Mark Borrel, seconded by Darrell Wiley, granting authority to the Secretary-Treasurer to pay all bills and waive a reading of the whole. On vote, the motion carried.

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

s/Kirby Roy
President

s/Jamey M.Wiley
Secretary-Treasurer

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