

Tallulah, Louisiana
August 14, 2023

The Madison Parish Police Jury met in regular session and convened at the Courthouse Building, Tallulah, Louisiana on Monday, August 14, 2023, 4:00 p.m.

President Sanders called the meeting to order and Juror Hughes gave the invocation. The roll call followed the announcement of a quorum. The following members were present at roll call:

District 1 Jerry Hicks
District 2 Absent
District 3 Dave Wilson
District 4 Johnny Hughes
District 5 Jane Sanders

Visitors: F. Saldana, D. Perry T. Michell C. Norris, M. Williams, J. Davis

A Public Comments Period held at the beginning of the meeting to allow for comments on agenda items received no comments.

President Sanders requested the approval of the Consent Agenda (approval of July 10th minutes, July Building Report, Garbage/Sewer Report, June/July Financial Reports and the Outstanding Invoice Report). A motion was made by Mr. Hicks, seconded by Mr. Wilson to approve the consent agenda. No further discussion. Motion passed.

The president expressed concerns regarding the condition of the old health unit. She also asked that no trespassing signs be posted.

Dr. Perry appeared before the board to update them on the hospital. He stated that demolition of the old building would be completed in September. The new hospital was progressing smoothly with patients receiving the quality care needed.

Mr. Hughes offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Hicks, to approve the request to pay outstanding invoices with available funds or as funds become available. No further discussion. Motion passed.

The jurors were informed of the interest earned on T-Bills for the Courthouse and Jail, Health Unit and the Garbage Funds.

The first payment of \$32,866.84 from the Opioid Abatement Settlement was received. The first two years are combined because of how the timing worked out for Louisiana's settlement share, and years 3 through 18 will be less. Also, the payments overtime are not even because of different settling defendants' payment schedules, and because of attorney fee payments that come out of the first seven years.

The secretary gave a report on the status of the ARP (SLT-9646), Port Road and the LATCF grants.

Mr. Hughes offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Hicks, to approve the Secretary's Report. No further discussion. Motion passed.

Each juror gave a report of concerns in their district.

Following a discussion of the need for additional personnel in the Public Works Department, Mr. Hicks offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Hughes, to advertise for three laborers and one truck driver. A roll call vote resulted in the following:

District 1	yes
District 2	no
District 3	yes
District 4	yes
District 5	yes

No further discussion. Motion carried.

After a lengthy discussion on equipment, Mr. Hicks offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Wilson, to authorize the superintendent to look into pricing the cost of the following equipment for future purchase: 5 pickup trucks, 2 flat bed trucks, tractor, bushhog, front end loader, asphalt machine, roller and sweeper. A roll call vote resulted in the following:

District 1	yes
District 2	no
District 3	yes
District 4	yes
District 5	yes

No further discussion. Motion carried.

The superintendent recommended that the individuals that just obtained their CDL received a 5% increase effective the next pay period. Mr. Hicks offered the motion, seconded by Mr. Hughes to grant those individuals the increase. A roll call vote resulted in the following:

District 1	yes
District 2	no
District 3	yes
District 4	yes
District 5	yes

No further discussion. Motion carried.

At the request of Miss Sims, the jury was asked to adopt the proposed Tallulah Connectivity plan in partnership with LSU AgCenter. It was noted that the documents can continue to be changed based on community and partner input. Mr. Hughes offered the motion to adopt the plan, that was seconded by Mr. Wilson. No further discussion. Motion passed.

Mr. Hughes asked if Mr. Wilson could serve as an alternate on the Louisiana Watershed Committee for Madison. He then offered the needed motion and seconded by Mr. Hicks. No further discussion. Motion passed.

Mr. Saldana expressed comments on Public Works employees.

Mr. J. Davis appeared before the jurors to announce his candidacy for State Representative.

There was no discussion of correspondence.

Mr. Hughes offered a motion to adjourn.

/s/ Margaret Dew
Secretary/Treasurer

/s/ Jane Sanders
President