

PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICE JURY OF THE PARISH OF BEAUREGARD, STATE OF LOUISIANA TAKEN AT A SPECIAL MEETING, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2024.

The Police Jury of the Parish of Beauregard, State of Louisiana, met in Special Session on Tuesday October 15, 2024, at four (4:00) o'clock AM.

Roll Call Attendance, there being present: Police Jurors: Michael E. Harper, Eddie Ware, James Hillebrandt, Jeffery Meadows, Jerry Shirley, Elizabeth Montgomery, and Nelson Morgan

There being absent: Ernest Dickeson, Jr., Shanel Handy, and Kelly Bailey

1. The Police Jury of the Parish of Beauregard was duly convened as the governing authority of said Parish by Michael E. Harper, President.
2. Elizabeth Montgomery gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC NOTICE

October 15, 2024  
SPECIAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that there will be a Special Meeting held by the Beauregard Parish Police Jury, located at 201 W. 2nd Street, DeRidder, LA 70634, on Tuesday October 15, 2024, 4:00 PM., in the Police Jury Meeting Room to transact business of the Police Jury in Special Session according to the following agenda:

4:00 P.M.

1. Roll Call
2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance
3. Public Participation
4. Discussion and approval of Ratcliff Recovery Services change order PCO #7 in the amount of \$173,782.80.
5. Discussion and approval to award the Texas Eastern Railroad Improvement work for RC Paving, Inc in the amount of \$159,446.30.
6. Discussion and approval to adopt the millage rates due to a clerical error within the admin office.

<b>District</b>	<b>Adjusted Rate</b>
Health Unit	2.300
Library	7.450
War Memorial	1.190
South Beau Rec Dist.	9.570
Fire Dist. 2	6.460
Road 1	24.360
Road 2	4.830
Road 3	5.320
Road 4	31.450
Road 5	18.840
Road 6	21.560
Road 7	30.920
Road 8	26.460
General Alimony	3.880
Exempted Municipalities	1.940

## 7. Adjourn

BY ORDER OF THE PRESIDENT  
PRESIDENT MICHAEL E. HARPER

MARGARET LYONS  
PARISH SECRETARY  
337-463-7019

3. Mike Harper asked if there was anyone in the audience who wanted to participate in the public participation section. An offer to speak was extended to Erin Chesnutt, Director of the Library. She declined and there was no one else who asked to speak.
4. Discussion and approval of Ratcliff Recovery Services change order PCO #7 in the amount of \$173,782.80.

Mike Harper reminded the Police Jury that Ratcliff Recovery Services had been working on the abatement of the old First Baptist Church building which also suffered a partial collapse in one section of the building.

Damon Cooley stated he will try to get clarification on calls he made today. The portion of the building that collapsed had pretty much been abated. Hepa vacuuming had not been done to get the dust and material out. Bags were stored in the area that collapsed(not in the Sanctuary. The change order is due to the portion of the building that collapsed has to be disposed of as regulated as asbestos because it wasn't completely clean. That's an additional cost for disposal. Equipment has to be brought in to remove this portion of the building. The equipment was brought in 1 - 2 ½ weeks ago to have it onsite. The Sanctuary was put on hold but is also part of the process.

Beth Montgomery ask why the Police Jury is being charged extra to clean this up when they were going to remove it anyway, because it was in the original bid?

Damon Cooley responded, his understanding is because it changed the scope of work when this portion of the building collapsed. The collapsed building was not cleaned. Asbestos and dust was not removed from the interior of the building therefore, it's not disposed of in the same manner. It's regulated now because it wasn't completely cleaned on the inside of the building.

Doug Hillebrandt asked if the Police Jury is being charged for an extra disposal fee? We shouldn't be paying for labor again. In other words, they bid on it to take it out. I can understand if there was an abundance of disposal to get rid of.

Damon Cooley responded, my understanding in conversations is that this is an additional cost and they took that into

account. The labor and other things were taken into account.

OB Morgan asked if there are any options.

Damon Cooley suggests if it's not approved, it will stall the project. They have equipment there and is paying a fee for it. They had equipment that was in the collapsed section of the building that's included in the estimate provided to you.

Jeffery Meadows states their equipment is not our problem.

Mike Harper commented, "I would think they have insurance to cover these types of mishaps."

Eddie Ware feels they should've had a representative present considering the amount of money requested on the change order.

Mike Harper says he echoes what's already been discussed. I don't understand when they're abating an area, why they don't remove the material out of the area because it sounds like they were using the area as storage.

Damon Cooley says in his understanding, they might abate for 2-3 days and accumulate this and sit it to the side. They have a washing process that they go through before putting it in the dumpsters. It collects for several days and then they shut down for a couple of days to dispose it in the dumpsters.

Mike Harper asks legal counsel if the motion can be modified to include the reimbursement by FEMA through Rostan?

David Morgan responded in saying "you certainly could" make that a contingency. The question is, without Ratcliff here, knowing whether or not they will proceed with the project. They have a contract to finish the building. So nothing should stop them from continuing with the Sanctuary and doing everything around that so it shouldn't halt the progress.

Beth Montgomery states she would like more information as to why the Police Jury is being billed for the additional expense.

David Morgan advises the questions the Police Jury has will be shared with Ratcliff Recovery Services and will ask them to come to the next meeting or share their response in writing.

A motion was made by Eddie Ware to table until more information is provided. Jeffery Meadows seconded the motion. No one opposed. Motion carried.

- Discussion and approval to award the Texas Eastern Railroad Improvement work to RC Paving, Inc in the amount of \$159,446.30.

Damon Cooley advises the issues with the crossings south of Hwy 190. This would be to extend the ramps on each side of the tracks to get the trucks safely without hanging up. The construction for the job was estimated at \$188,000. The low bid we received is for \$159,446.30 by RC Paving. Confirming all is to be used from Road District #6 budget.

Mike Harper asked there's grant specifically for railroad crossings we saw several months ago. Did we pursue that?

Damon Cooley responded no.

Andrea Couch commented, we did not because it was a Federal Grant and we did not have enough time to get that information turned in. It was a 57 page application that requires engineering information. It was too much and we didn't have enough time.

Mike Harper asked if RC Paving was the only bidder.

Damon Cooley responded, Apeck Construction was about \$20,000 higher.

A motion was made by Eddie Ware to accept the bid by RC Paving, Inc. for \$159,446.30. James Hillebrandt seconded the motion. No one opposed. Motion carried.

- Discussion and approval to adopt the millage rates due to a clerical error within the admin office.

District	Adjusted Rate
Health Unit	2.300
Library	7.450
War Memorial	1.190
South Beau Rec Dist.	9.570
Fire Dist. 2	6.460
Road 1	24.360
Road 2	4.830
Road 3	5.320
Road 4	31.450
Road 5	18.840
Road 6	21.560
Road 7	30.920
Road 8	26.460
General Alimony	3.880
Exempted Municipalities	1.940

Mike Harper asks if these are the previous rates as they were?

Damon Cooley responded yes.

Mike Harper states, because of an error, they won't be able to roll forward.

Damon Cooley responded yes.

Mike Harper asks, so this basically holds it at the rate we already have.

Damon Cooley responded, that's correct.

Mike Harper asks if anyone would like to discuss this item.

Eddie Ware states, there's nothing we can do to change it. Was there a time frame on it?

Damon Cooley states there is a deadline on it and once it's past that date, you can't go back and change it.

Mike Harper states, there's advertising requirements and several things.

Beth Montgomery asks, until when.

Jeffery Meadows responds, for another year.

Mike Harper asks didn't we have a similar hiccup last year with the advertisement?"

Margaret Lyons nodded yes.

A motion was made by Jerry Shirley to accept the adopt the millage rates. Seconded by Eddie Ware. No one opposed. Motion carried.

## 7. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Jerry Shirley and seconded by Elizabeth Montgomery.

---

MARGARET LYONS  
PARISH SECRETARY

---

MICHAEL E. HARPER  
PRESIDENT