

Jennings, Louisiana  
March 11, 2020

The Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury met in Regular Session on the above date, in the Police Jury Meeting Room of the Sidney Briscoe Building located at 304 North State Street, Jennings, LA., at 5:00 P.M.

The following members were present:

DONALD WOODS	District 1	WAYNE FRUGE	District 8
JOHN MARCEAUX	District 2	CURT GUILLORY	District 9
MARCUS PETERSON	District 3	BYRON BULLER	District 10
KORI MYERS	District 4	BUTCH LAFARGUE	District 11
	District 5	OWEN CORMIER	District 12
	District 6	CHAD TALBOT	District 13
STEVE EASTMAN	District 7		

DAVID BRUCHHAUS, Legal Counsel

Absent: TIM MCKNIGHT, District 5, MELVIN ADAMS, District 6

The meeting was called to order by President Donald Woods. Mrs. Gary gave the Invocation, and Mr. Eastman led the Jury in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Guillory reported that the Finance Committee met on Monday, March 9, 2020, at 7:00 A.M. All bills were reviewed and declared in order with the Committee recommending approval.

The motion was made by Mr. Guillory, seconded by Mr. Fruge, and carried, that the following bills be paid, to wit:

• GENERAL FUND	\$ 20,898.26
• COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE	815.04
• E911 & 911 WIRELESS	22,414.67
• CRIMINAL COURT	78,214.33
• COURTHOUSE MAINTENANCE	7,747.45
• SPECIAL REVENUE	1,967.57
• SECTION 8	1,500.00
• SUB ROAD DISTRICT #1	45,049.23
• SPECIAL WARD, ROAD & BRIDGE	148,962.00
• RD SALES TAX DIST 1	322.46
• REG CONSOLIDATED JAIL TAX	64,723.91
• FIRE DISTRICT #1	250.09
• FIRE DISTRICT #2	7,316.84
• FIRE DISTRICT #3	6,210.81
• FIRE DISTRICT #4	6,603.91
• FIRE DISTRICT #5	4,802.53
• FIRE DISTRICT #6	6,651.49
• FIRE DISTRICT #7	46.00

Mr. Peterson made the motion, seconded by Mr. Cormier, and carried, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on February 26, 2020, as written and submitted.

It was moved by Mr. Eastman, seconded by Mr. Buller, and carried, to adopt the following Resolution, to-wit:

### RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, the Article VII, Section 3 of the Louisiana Constitution provides that local sales and use taxes are to be collected by a single collector in each parish, and;

**WHEREAS**, Article VII, Section 3 also provides for the use of parish commission or one of the local political subdivisions to serve as the single parish collector of local sales and use taxes, and;

**WHEREAS**, the authority to “collect” local sales and use taxes has been determined by the Courts to include the authority to administer the collection, including making decisions as to when to audit persons or businesses thought to be unlawfully evading taxation or, in some cases, collecting sales taxes on the transactions and failing to fully remit them to the local collector;

**WHEREAS**, School Boards serve as the single parish collector of local sales and use taxes in over thirty (30) parishes, and;

**WHEREAS**, pre-filed in the 2020 Regular Session is HB 428 and HB 581, which proposes to amend the LA Constitution to allow the Legislature to repeal the authority of local governments to control the collection of local sales taxes and place that authority with the State, a concept often referred to as State Central Collection;

**WHEREAS**, State Central Collection would have the State taking possession of local tax revenues, withholding an administrative fee, then disbursing the balance down to the School Board or other local taxing authority;

**WHEREAS**, State Central Collection poses too great a risk that local education tax dollars will not be promptly disbursed or that the administrative fee withheld by the State may become a means of resolving State fiscal issues;

**WHEREAS**, repealing or diminishing the Constitutional authority for local collection of local sales and use taxes will impair the ability of those local collectors to perform the necessary function of auditing vendors to ensure compliance with the legal obligation to collect and remit local sales taxes;

**WHEREAS**, given the vital role that the proper, effective, and efficient collection of local sales and use taxes plays in the operation of school districts and the education of children, the Louisiana School Boards Association has always fought any efforts to repeal, reduce, or constrain the authority of the local collector to collect local sales and use taxes, regardless of who has offered the proposal;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury in a duly convened session on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020 voted to urge and request the Louisiana Legislature, and in particular the Legislative Delegation of Jefferson Davis Parish to oppose HB 428 and HB 581 and any other Legislative effort to reject any proposal to repeal or impair local sales and use taxes;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Parish of Jefferson Davis, by action of its duly elected governing authority, does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Legislature, and in particular the Legislative Delegation of Jefferson Davis parish to reject any Proposal that repeals, reduces, or constrains the authority of the local collector to collect local sales and use taxes;

**FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be provided to each member of the Legislative Delegation of Jefferson Davis Parish, and the Governor of the State of Louisiana.

Thus done and signed this 11<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

The motion was made by Mr. LaFargue, seconded by Mr. Guillory, and carried, to adopt the following Resolution, to-wit:

#### **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the 52<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the National Fair Housing Law, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, is an occasion for all Americans – individually and collectively – to rededicate themselves to the principle of freedom from housing discrimination whenever it exists; and

**WHEREAS**, this law guarantees each citizen the critical, personal element of freely choosing a home; and

**WHEREAS**, a fair housing law has been passed by the State of Louisiana, and implementation of the law requires the positive commitment, involvement, and support of each of our citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the departments and agencies of the State of Louisiana are to provide leadership in the effort to make fair housing not just an idea, but an ideal for all our citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, barriers that diminish the rights and limit the options of any citizen to freely choose a home will ultimately diminish the rights and limit the options of all.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Jefferson Davis Parish Police jury in a duly convened regular session on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020, hereby proclaims April 2020, as FAIR HOUSING MONTH for the parish of Jefferson Davis.

Mr. Peterson made the motion, seconded by Mr. LaFargue, and carried, to adopt the following Resolution, to-wit:

#### **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the week of April 13 – April 18, 2020 has been designated as National Community Development Week. The Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury has been a participant in the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program which funds public infrastructure, economic development, and housing programs in this community, and

**WHEREAS**, in this community and communities throughout the nation, forty-four years of Community Development Block Grant Program funding has developed a strong relationship between this local government and its residents, principally those of low-to-moderate income, and

**WHEREAS**, this community recognizes that the Community Development Block Grant Program is a partnership of federal, state, and local government and community and business efforts, and that the services funded by the CDBG Program relies heavily on the dedication and good will of our combined efforts.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that during *National Community Development Week 2020*, this community will give special thanks and recognition to all participants whose hard work and devotion to the neighborhoods, and their low-and moderate-income residents help ensure the quality and effectiveness of the Community Development Block Grant Program, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this community, along with the service providers and others whose names are appended to this resolution, hereby petition the U.S. Congress and Administration to recognize the outstanding work being done locally and nationally by the Community Development Block Grant Program, and of its vital importance to the community and to the people who live in its lower income neighborhoods, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be conveyed to the appropriated elected and appointed officials of the federal government and that this community's name be added to the roll of those committed to the preservation and full funding of the Community Development Block Grant Program and maintenance of its essential features over the course of the next session of Congress.

It was moved by Mr. Marceaux, seconded by Mr. Cormier, and carried, to authorize the payment of Pay Request No. 4 in the amount of \$34,875.00 in connection with the Lake Arthur Yard project to be paid out of Division One funds.

The motion was made by Mr. Marceaux, seconded by Mr. Peterson, and carried, to ratify the action of the Agenda Committee in approving for Division One: one (1) 36" x 40' pipe for Grand Marais at a cost of \$1,854.40, one (1) 24" x 40' pipe for Grand Marais at a cost of \$1,241.60, and one (1) 60" x 40' pipe for Grand Marais at a cost of \$4,044.40.

Mr. Guillory made the motion, seconded by Mr. Talbot, and carried, to ratify the action of the Agenda Committee in approving for Division Two: one hundred (100) Tons of #57 Limestone for Linscomb Road.

It was moved by Mr. Buller, seconded by Mr. Guillory, and carried, to ratify the action of the Agenda Committee in approving for Division 2-1: ballast and LED lighting for the Fenton Shop at a cost of \$1,860.00 and one hundred forty (140) Tons of #610 Limestone for Rostrum Road.

The motion was made by Mr. Marceaux, seconded by Mr. Peterson, and carried, to approve for Division One: one (1) 54" x 52' pipe at a cost of \$5,826.04 for Richard Road, two (2) 48" x 38' pipes at a cost of \$8,188.24 for Dugas Road, and one (1) load of cold mix for the Lake Arthur yard.

Mr. Buller made the motion, seconded by Mr. Fruge, and carried, to approve for Division 2-1: five hundred twenty (520) Tons of #57 Limestone for various roads and eighty (80) Tons of #610 Limestone for various roads.

It was moved by Mr. LaFargue, seconded by Mr. Cormier, and carried, to approve for Division Three: outside lighting on the buildings at the Welsh yard at a cost of \$1,258.00 and one (1) 24" x 36' pipe at a cost of \$1,297.44 for Frey Road.

#### Committee Reports

There were no Committee Reports.

There being no further business to come before the Jury, it was moved by Mr. Talbot, seconded by Mr. LaFargue, and carried, to adjourn the meeting.

Donall Woods  
PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

Rebecca Gary  
SECRETARY

March 25, 2020  
DATE APPROVED