

Jennings, Louisiana  
October 11, 2023

The Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury met in a 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		District 9
MARCUS PETERSON	District 3	BYRON BULLER	District 10
KORI MYERS	District 4		District 11
TIM MCKNIGHT	District 5	OWEN CORMIER	District 12
MELVIN ADAMS	District 6		District 13
STEVE EASTMAN	District 7		

LANCE PERSON, Legal Counsel

Absent: CURT GULLORY, District 9; BUTCH LAFARGUE, District 11;  
CHAD TALBOT, District 13.

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

Mr. Marceaux reported the Finance Committee meeting was held on Monday, October 9, 2023, at 7:00 A.M. All bills were reviewed and declared in order with the Committee recommending approval.

It was moved by Mr. Marceaux, seconded by Mr. Woods, and carried, to pay the following bills, to wit:

• GENERAL FUND	\$ 45,467.84
• COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE	2,322.73
• E911 & 911 WIRELESS	70.97
• CRIMINAL COURT	6,375.00
• COURTHOUSE MAINTENANCE	3,957.71
• SUB ROAD DISTRICT #1	9,024.74
• SPECIAL WARD, ROAD & BRIDGE	53,704.71
• REGIONAL CONSOLIDATED JAIL	58,958.08
• FIRE DISTRICT #1	21,931.86
• FIRE DISTRICT #2	9,740.99
• FIRE DISTRICT #3	8,309.79
• FIRE DISTRICT #4	40,822.81
• FIRE DISTRICT #5	9,036.75
• FIRE DISTRICT #6	3,451.41

Additionally, the Finance Committee recommends contributing \$3,000.00 of Region 7 funds towards the PJA 2024 Convention.

The motion was made by Mr. Marceaux, seconded by Mr. Buller, and carried, to accept the Committee's recommendation.

It is the recommendation of the Finance Committee to upgrade the Courthouse and E911 Door Access Control system at a one-time set up cost of \$2,000.00 per building and a monthly fee of \$10.00 per month per door to be paid with each respective fund.

Mr. Marceaux made the motion, seconded by Mr. Peterson, and carried, to accept the recommendation of the Committee.

The Finance Committee recommends accepting the quote received from AR Plumbing Solutions in the amount of \$19,712.00 to change out a 65-gallon commercial water heater and replace corroded pipe, valves, and unions at the Courthouse.

It was moved by Mr. Marceaux, seconded by Mr. Woods, and carried, to accept the Committee's recommendation.

Additionally, the Finance Committee recommends allowing all parish municipalities the use of the aerial photos on the GIS system at no additional cost unless Eagleview charges an additional fee.

Mr. Marceaux made the motion, seconded by Mr. Fruge, and carried, to accept the Committee's recommendation.

It is the recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve the purchase of a sound bar to place on the television in the meeting room at a cost of not to exceed \$200.00.

The motion was made by Mr. Marceaux, seconded by Mr. Woods, and carried, to accept the recommendation of the Committee.

The Finance Committee recommends approval of the purchase of the Lightning Law Software for the Regional Jail contingent upon Legal Counsel and Legal System approval to be paid with Jail funds.

It was moved by Mr. Marceaux, seconded by Mr. Peterson, and carried, to accept the Committee's recommendation.

Finally, the Finance Committee reviewed budget-to-actual comparisons on all funds. No funds required amending.

President Eastman opened the floor for Public Comments in connection with adopting the millage rates on the 2023 tax roll. No Public Comments were received.

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

**RESOLUTION**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following millage(s) are hereby levied on the 2023 tax roll on all property subject to taxation by the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury:

**MILLAGE**

**GENERAL FUND**

Constitutional 2.05 mills & 4.10 mills

**SPECIAL TAXES**

Cooperative Extension	.96 mills
Sub Road Dist #1	10.46 mills
Road Dist #10	11.18 mills
Road Dist #11	11.74 mills
Road Dist #12	10.70 mills
Fire Dist #1	9.98 mills
Fire Dist #1 Special	9.64 mills
Fire Dist #2	11.42 mills
Fire Dist #3	5.12 mills
Fire Dist #3 Special	3.53 mills
Fire Dist #4	7.08 mills
Fire Dist #4 Special	5.29 mills
Fire Dist #5	5.19 mills
Fire Dist #5 Special	5.18 mills
Fire Dist #5 Special #2	10.45 mills
Fire Dist #6	8.76 mills
Fire Dist #6 Special	5.59 mills
Fire Dist #7	9.80 mills

**MAINTENANCE TAX**

Courthouse & Jail 2.58 mills

**BONDS**

Fire Dist #6 Bond 4.00 mills

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proper administrative officials of the Parish of Jefferson Davis, State of Louisiana, be and they are hereby empowered, authorized, and directed to spread said taxes, as hereinabove set forth, upon the assessment roll of said Parish for the year 2023, and to make the collection of the taxes imposed for and on behalf of the taxing authority, according to law, and that the taxes herein levied shall become a permanent lien and privilege on all property subject to taxation as herein set forth, and collection thereof shall be enforceable in the manner provided by law.

The foregoing resolution was read in full, the roll was called on the adoption thereof, and the resolution was adopted by the following votes:

YEAS:	Donald Woods, John Marceaux, Marcus Peterson, Kori Myers, Tim McKnight, Melvin Adams, Wayne Fruge, Byron Buller, Owen Cormier
NAYS:	None
ABSTAINED:	None
ABSENT:	Curt Guillory, Butch LaFargue, Chad Talbot

Mr. Cormier made the motion, seconded by Mr. McKnight, and carried, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on September 13, 2023, as written and submitted.

It was moved by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Mr. Adams, and carried, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting held on September 27, 2023, as written, and submitted.

A Public Hearing was held on Wednesday, October 4, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. to receive Public Comments in connection with obtaining views on the housing and community development needs of Jefferson Davis Parish and to discuss the submission of an application for funding under the State of Louisiana FY 2024-2025 CDBG program. No comments were received. A Public Information Sheet was given to all present and discussed.

The motion was made by Mr. Buller, seconded by Mr. Fruge, and carried, to adopt the following Resolution, to-wit, as well as authorize the President to sign Bluewing Civil Consulting contract:

#### **RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury has retained Bluewing Civil Consulting, LLC of Lafayette, LA for administrative and engineering services in connection with an application for funding for a LCDBG 2024-2025 Public Facility Grant and

WHEREAS, Parish officials are committed to this project and aware of its value to the community infrastructure;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury, by way of this resolution does hereby commit to partial funding for this project in accordance with the following: **\$60,280** for Administrative Services, **\$77,175** for Engineering Services, and **\$29,000** for additional services which includes Construction Inspection & Testing (if needed). These costs are to be paid from local funds for the LCDBG 2024-2025 Street Improvements Grant should the project get funded.

The above resolution was unanimously approved and adopted at the Special Meeting of the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2023.

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

#### **RESOLUTION**

**ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH STATE OF LOUISIANA OFF SYSTEM BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM.**

WHEREAS, the code of Federal Regulations as enacted by the United States Congress mandates that all structures defined as bridges located on all public roads shall be inspected, rated for safe load capacity and posted in accordance with the National Bridge

Inspection Standards and that an inventory of these bridges will be maintained by each state; and

WHEREAS, the responsibility to inspect, rate, and load post those bridges under the authority of Jefferson Davis Parish in accordance with those Standards is delegated by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development to Jefferson Davis Parish,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Police Jury of Jefferson Davis Parish, Louisiana, (herein referred to as Parish) convened in Regular Session on the 11th day of October, 2023, that it does hereby certify to the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (herein referred to as the DOTD) that for the period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023:

1. The Parish has performed and will continue to perform all interim inspections on all Parish-owned or maintained bridges in accordance with the National Bridge Inspection Standards;
2. All bridges owned or maintained by the Parish have been structurally analyzed and rated by the Parish as to the safe load capacity in accordance with AASHTO Manual for Maintenance Inspection of Bridges. The load posting information that has been determined by the LA DOTD for all bridges where the maximum legal load under Louisiana State law exceed the load permitted under the operational rating, as determined above, has been critically reviewed by the Parish. Load posting information has been updated by the Parish to reflect all structural changes and obsolete structural ratings or any missing structural ratings;
3. All Parish-owned or maintained bridges which require load posting or closing are load posted or closed in accordance with the table in the DOTD Engineering Directives and Standards Manual Directive No. 1.1.1.8. All DOTD supplied load posting information concerning a bridge has been critically reviewed by the Parish Engineer prior to load posting; and
4. All bridges owned or maintained by the Parish are shown on the attached list in the format specified by the LA DOTD. Corrections to date supplied to the Parish by the LA DOTD are noted.

These stipulations are prerequisites to participation by the Parish in the Off-System Bridge Replacement Program.

This resolution was considered upon motion by Mr. Marceaux, being seconded by Mr. McKnight, and was adopted by the following vote:

YEAS: Mr. Woods, Mr. Marceaux, Mr. Peterson, Ms. Myers, Mr. McKnight, Mr. Adams, Mr. Fruge, Mr. Buller, Mr. Cormier

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Guillory, Mr. LaFargue, Mr. Talbot

ABSTAINING: None

And the resolution was declared adopted on this, the 11<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2023.

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

**RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development published the final annual Fair Market Rents (FMR's) for Jefferson Davis Parish,

WHEREAS, the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury Section 8 Program uses the published FMR's as a guide to establish FMR's per bedroom size for the Housing Choice Voucher Program; and

WHEREAS, the FMR's are used to calculate the housing assistance payment (HAP) that the Section 8 Program pays to the owner on behalf of the family leasing the unit; and

WHEREAS, the FMR's directly affects the amount of subsidy a family will receive and the amount of rent that will be paid by the tenant; and

WHEREAS, the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury Section 8 Program must also determine that its annual budget for the Housing Choice Voucher Program will support the established FMR's and

WHEREAS, the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury Section 8 Program must also ensure that the program participants will be able to find safe, decent, and affordable units within the program's jurisdiction within the FMR's established which are as follows;

Bedroom Size	FMR 2024
Efficiency	\$ 635.00
1 Bedroom	\$ 672.00
2 Bedroom	\$ 822.00
3 Bedroom	\$ 1,158.00
4 Bedroom	\$ 1,387.00

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 October, 2023, that the Fair Market Rents as set forth above will be effective October 1, 2023.

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

**RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development published the final annual Fair Market Rents (FMR's) for Jefferson Davis Parish,

WHEREAS, the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury Section 8 Program uses the published FMR's as a guide to establish FMR's per bedroom size for the Housing Choice Voucher Program; and

WHEREAS, the Section 8 Program may establish Payment Standards anywhere between 90 and 110 percent of the published FMR without obtaining HUD approval; and

WHEREAS, the Payment Standards are used to calculate the housing assistance payment (HAP) that the PHA pays to the owner on behalf of the family leasing the unit; and

WHEREAS, the Payment Standard set by the Section 8 Program affects the amount of subsidy a family will receive and the amount of rent that will be paid by the tenant; and

WHEREAS, the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury Section 8 Program must also determine that its annual budget for the Housing Choice Voucher Program will support the established payment standard; and

WHEREAS, the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury Section 8 Program must also ensure that the program participants will be able to find safe, decent, and affordable units within the program's jurisdiction within the standards established; and

WHEREAS, the Jefferson Davis Parish Section 8 Program has determined the Payment Standard shall be 100% for all bedroom size units.

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 October, 2023, that the Fair Market Rents as set forth above will be effective October 1, 2023.

It was moved by Ms. Myers, seconded by Mr. Cormier, and carried, to approve a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement Between the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury and the LSU Ag Center in connection with usage of the Fairgrounds facilities.

The motion was made by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Mr. McKnight, and carried, to approve an Agreement for Adjudicated Property Sale Services between the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury and Derek Bisig in connection with selling adjudicated property.

Mr. Cormier made the motion, seconded by Mr. Fruge, and carried, to accept the recommendation of Bluewing Civil Consulting to award the bid in the amount of \$72,115.04 to L & R Construction for Three Mile Road Bridge repair.

It was moved by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Mr. Cormier, and carried, to approve Change Order No. 1 in connection with the 2022 Road Improvement Project.

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 2420**

AN ORDINANCE to remove the stop sign at the intersections of East Gallagher and North Gallagher.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE POLICE JURY OF JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH, LOUISIANA that:

The stop sign at the intersection of East Gallagher and North Gallagher shall be removed.

THUS DONE AND PASSED BY THE POLICE JURY OF JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH, LOUISIANA, on this 11<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2023.

The motion was made by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Mr. McKnight, and carried, to accept the low bid received from Dale Leger in the amount of \$27,300.00 for replacement of the Police Jury Annex roof.

It was moved by Mr. Woods, seconded by Mr. Fruge, and carried, to reappoint Ivy Woods to the Industrial Development Board with a term expiring October 9, 2024.

Mr. Peterson made the motion, seconded by Mr. Adams, and carried, to reappoint Ronnie Petree and Gerald Theunissen to the Industrial Development Board with terms expiring October 9, 2028.

The motion was made by Mr. Fruge, seconded by Mr. Buller, and carried, to reappoint Gerald Gary to the Water District No. 4 Board with a term expiring October 14, 2027.

It was moved by Mr. Fruge, seconded by Mr. Buller, and carried, to authorize the placement of 150 Tons of Gravel on Doise Road from Hwy 26 to Elton Drive to be paid with Division Two funds.

Mr. Cormier made the motion, seconded by Mr. Buller, and carried, to authorize the placement of 210 Tons of Gravel on Bourque Road to be paid with Division Three funds.

It was moved by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Ms. Myers, and carried, to adopt the 3-Year State Capital Outlay Plan as follows:

1. Jeff Davis Regional Storage Facility
2. Farm Supply Road Paving
3. Parishwide Road & Bridge Improvement Project
4. Lacassine Sewer Collection & Treatment
5. Roanoke Sewer Collection



