

MARCH 23, 2004
RACELAND, LOUISIANA

STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH OF LAFOURCHE

THE LAFOURCHE PARISH COUNCIL PUBLIC WORKS AND SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE, PARISH OF LAFOURCHE, STATE OF LOUISIANA, WAS SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2004, FOLLOWING THE SPECIAL LAFOURCHE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULED TO BEGIN AT 6:00 P.M., IN THE COUNCIL ROOM AT THE LAFOURCHE PARISH COUNCIL BARRIOS CENTER, 1612 HWY. 182, SUITE 100, RACELAND, LOUISIANA.

Mark Atzenhoffer , Chairman, stated that the Public Works and Solid Waste Committee was ready for the transaction of business at 6:27 P.M.. Proceedings of the meeting were called to order with the following:

PRESENT: Mr. Tyrone Williams
Mr. Mike Delatte–Co-Chair
Mr. Michael Matherne
Mr. Tommy Lasseigne
Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer–Chairman
Mr. Lindel Toups
Mr. L. Phillip Gouaux, II
Mr. Brent Callais
Mr. Daniel Lorraine

ABSENT: None

A motion was offered by Mr. Lindel Toups, seconded by Mr. Brent Callais, and *carried* to deviate from the agenda and move to the 2/3 Agenda by a vote of nine (9) yeas and zero (0) nays.

2/3 AGENDA

The first item (1) on the 2/3 Agenda was a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss litigation pertaining to the lawsuit entitled, Lafourche Parish Council et al vs. #97953, Charles R. Banta, III et al. A motion was offered by Mr. Brent Callais , seconded by Mr. Lindel Toups, and *carried* by a vote of nine (9) yeas and zero (0) nays.

Next, a motion was offered by Mr. Tommy Lasseigne, seconded by Mr. Phillip Gouaux, and *carried* to return from Executive Session. A **motion** was offered by Mr. Brent Callais, seconded by Mr. Lindel Toups, and *carried* to authorize District Attorney Camille A. Morvant, II to act on the Council's behalf regarding the pending litigation by a vote of nine (9) yeas and zero (0) nays.

The next item (2) on the 2/3 Agenda was a motion to discuss any outstanding accounts payables which are not involved in pending litigation. Mr. Tommy Lasseigne commented on the

David Heck Supreme Court decision and its arbitration award regarding the Rita project. He also commented on attorney fees not included in pending litigation and negotiations with Lloyd Lunceford. President Randolph mentioned that the administration will ask the Council to authorize the appropriation of the necessary funds for each issue.

A motion was offered by Mr. Lindel Toups, seconded by Mr. Brent Callais, and *carried* that the committee return to the regular agenda by a vote of nine (9) yeas and zero (0) nays.

PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE

Chairman Atzenhoffer asked if anyone from the public wished to address the committee. Hearing none, he moved to the next item.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The first item (1) on the agenda was a presentation of a report regarding the canals/ditches that were dug in each Councilmatic District and the equipment used to dig the canal/ditch. Ray Cheramie presented a handout with the information to the committee for their review. Chairman Atzenhoffer suggested that any questions be addressed at the next full council meeting. Mr. Daniel Lorraine discussed the issue of utilizing the equipment between all districts fairly and asked that the Parish President address this issue. Mr. Cheramie mentioned that there are only 3 excavators to be shared by the nine districts and asked that Mr. Lorraine give the Public Works Department time to show that they will be fair to all districts. Mr. Lorraine replied that work orders he submitted for ditches to be dug were not yet taken care of. He said that the equipment he was referring to was the 2 bobcats, not the excavators, and added that they were being used to clean the road side ditches in only certain areas.

MOTIONS

The next item (2) on the agenda was a motion to submit Ellen DeCuir Mobile Home Park (3) mobile home spaces, District 8, Ward 10, to be presented before the March 25, 2004, Planning Commission meeting. Chairman Atzenhoffer announced that Mr. Michael St. Martin nor Pat Matherne were at the meeting. A **motion** was offered by Mr. Brent Callais and seconded by Mr. Tommy Lasseigne to defer items (2) through (5) until the next Public Works & Solid Waste committee meeting but to still allow these items to go before the Planning Commission. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the process of submitting subdivisions to the Planning Commission. The motion was *withdrawn* by both Mr. Callais and Mr. Lasseigne. A **motion** was offered by Mr. Brent Callais and seconded by Mr. Lindel Toups to submit item (2) to the Planning Commission requesting that the Planning Commission defer taking any action on this item until an explanation could be given at the next Public Works & Solid Waste committee meeting. The committee *approved* the motion by a vote of nine (9) yeas and zero (0) nays.

The next item (3) on the agenda was a motion to submit Legendre's Bon Vivant Subdivision (13) lots, District 2, Ward 1, to be presented before the March 25, 2004, Planning Commission meeting. A motion was offered by Mr. Mike Delatte and seconded by Mr. Lindel Toups. The committee *approved* the motion by a vote of nine (9) yeas and zero (0) nays.

The next item (4) on the agenda was a motion to submit Re-division of Lot 10A-1 and 10A-2

being a portion of Lot 10 of White Rose Plantation, Addendum No. 1 (2) lots, District 4, Ward 4, to be presented before the March 25, 2004, Planning Commission meeting. Mr. Toups stated that it should be District 6. A motion was offered by Mr. Lindel Toups and seconded by Mr. Phillip Gouaux. The committee *approved* the motion by a vote of nine (9) yeas and zero (0) nays.

The next item (5) on the agenda was a motion for a variance request on the Re-division of Lot 10A-1 and 10A-2 being a portion of Lot 10 of White Rose Plantation, Addendum No. 1. The variance is being requested for Lot 10A-2 for the minimum lot size requirements. The reason for the request is that there will be no sewer discharge from this lot since the property will be used for billboard advertising. A motion was offered by Mr. Lindel Toups and seconded by Mr. Mike Delatte. The committee *approved* the motion by a vote of nine (9) yeas and zero (0) nays.

The next item (6) on the agenda was a motion to enter into discussion concerning the digging of a lateral ditch near the Choctaw Volunteer Fire Department in order to help the water flow from the Choctaw Road to the new pump. Mr. Mike Delatte mentioned that this work could be done using in-kind services, not costing the parish any money.

The next item (7) on the agenda was a motion to enter into discussion concerning the installing of flood gates at the corner of the St. James Canal and Bayou Onion. Mr. Mike Delatte discussed the flood problem in the area and the need for these flood gates to assist in minimizing the flooding of Sugar ridge and the Chackbay/Choupic area. He added that Ray Cheramie said that welders are available to work on the project. Mr. Delatte then referred to the injunction which does not allow the cleaning/digging of ditches but mentioned that the parish will be meeting with the Corps and the EPA on April 18, 2004 to solve this problem. A **motion** was offered by Mr. Mike Delatte, seconded by Mr. Lindel Toups, and *carried* allowing materials to be purchase for the construction of the flood gates.

The next item (8) on the agenda was a motion to enter into discussion concerning the placing of culverts from the Choctaw Road to the main force drainage canal located near the super port pipeline. Mr. Mike Delatte stated that these culverts have already been purchased but have not yet been installed. He added Mr. Bill Taylor has agreed to give the parish a needed right-of-way. Mr. Delatte requested that David Poincon assist in getting any necessary information regarding this right-of-way.

The next item (9) on the agenda was a motion to enter into discussion concerning the Highway Exchange Program on Highway 652 and Highway 653. Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer mentioned that both of these highways, which cross Hwy 90, have overpasses that go over them. He discussed the issue of keeping the overpasses separate from Highway 652 and Highway 653 in the Highway Exchange Program so that the state could continue to maintain the overpasses. President Randolph addressed the issue, saying that the parish could negotiate with DOTD. A **motion** was offered by Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer, seconded by Mr. Phillip Gouaux , and *carried* to allow the administration to negotiate with DOTD regarding the Highway Exchange Program on Highway 652 and Highway 653, whereas, the overpasses are excluded from the program and continue to be maintained by the state by a vote of eight (8) yeas and one (1) nay, being that of Mr. Lindel Toups.

The next item (10) on the agenda was a motion to enter into discussion concerning the Town of Golden Meadow's request to use the parish road grader. Mr. Daniel Lorraine mentioned that the mayor of the Town of Golden Meadow sent a letter, dated March 3, 2004, to Ray Cheramie

requesting the use of the parish road grater. Chairman Atzenhoffer requested that Mr. Lorraine give a copy of the letter to the Council Clerk. A motion was offered by Mr. Daniel Lorraine, seconded by Mr. Mike Delatte, and *carried* requesting the administration to allow the Town of Golden Meadow to use the parish road grater by a vote of nine (9) yeas and zero (0) nays.

The next item (11) on the agenda was a motion to enter into discussion concerning the mosquito abatement program. Mr. Brent Callais inquired from the Parish President the status of the parish's current mosquito abatement program. President Randolph stated that money is budgeted for the program, which is not in effect. She added that this issue was discussed with several firms but no decision has yet been made and that once a plan is chosen, it will be brought before the council. President Randolph mentioned that the program, which is budgeted at a cost of \$350,000 and has varying levels, would cost \$450,000. Mr. Daniel Lorraine suggested that once a plan is chosen, that the public be given the opportunity to express their opinions on the pros and cons of the program. President Randolph said that the parish faces a dilemma of also protecting those who have a problem with the spraying.

The next item (12) on the agenda was a motion to enter into discussion concerning the possibility of contracting work to clean roadside ditches. Mr. Brent Callais mentioned that there is a back log of work orders from the previous administration at the Region D Barn that need to be taken care of before any work orders from this council/administration can be processed. He said that he was told that it will not be until November until the back log is completed so suggested using contract workers. Mr. Lindel Toups suggested letting the barn employees work overtime on Fridays, instead of hiring engineering firms. A discussion ensued regarding both suggestions and the need to find a solution for the problems with the road side ditches. A **motion** was offered by Mr. Brent Callais, seconded by Mr. Michael Matherne, and *carried* that a letter be sent through the Parish President or Department of Public Works to all contractors/engineers in the parish asking how much they would charge per foot to clean out a road side ditch and an outfall canal by a vote of nine (9) yeas and zero (0) nays.

The next item (13) on the agenda was a motion to enter into discussion requesting the Department of Public Works to submit to each Council member an accurate up-to-date list of all streets in the parish system. Mr. Brent Callais said that the parish is entering Phase 4 of the RSTD project and has requested this information since the parish has several different lists of roads that are considered to be in the parish system. A **motion** was offered by Mr. Brent Callais and seconded by Mr. Daniel Lorraine requesting the Department of Public Works to submit to each Council member an accurate up-to-date list of all streets in the parish system. Mr. Phillip Gouaux announced that Mr. Terry Arabie had the accurate up-to-date list, which was presented to the committee. The motion was *withdrawn* by both Mr. Callais and Mr. Lorraine.

The next item (14) on the agenda was a motion to enter into discussion concerning the process of how work orders are filed. Mr. Brent Callais suggested that the councilmen be able to rank, from 1-10, the priority of the job on the work order which could assist in processing the work orders quicker. He mentioned that some work orders may have a higher priority than those that are received at an earlier date.

RESOLUTIONS

The next item (15) on the agenda was a resolution requesting the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development to clean out the culverts and catch basins crossing Louisiana Highway 1 located at West 202nd Street. A motion was offered by Mr. Daniel Lorraine, seconded by Mr. Phillip Gouaux, and *carried* to **adopt** said resolution by a vote of nine (9) yeas and zero (0) nays.

RES. NO. 04-024 DOTD CLEAN CULVERTS WEST 202ND STREET

OTHER BUSINESS

The next item on the agenda was any other business. Mr. Lindel Toups mentioned that Mr. Jack Culver, General Manager of Coastal Amphibious Services, was cutting trees from Lockport to Matthews free of charge and suggested that a letter be sent thanking him for his services. A **motion** was offered by Mr. Lindel Toups, seconded by Mr. Phillip Gouaux, and *carried* authorizing the Administration to look into hiring Mr. Jack Culver to dig the 40 Arpent Canal by a vote of nine (9) yeas and zero (0) nays.

Next, Mr. Phillip Gouaux discussed the Highway Exchange Program, describing a nameless road on LA 1 in Larose that is in deplorable condition that was a service road built by the state to construct a bridge. He added that since this road is used by the shipyard industry, residents, and a fire station, that the parish consider overlaying this road as a priority, stating that it would cost approximately \$18,000. A **motion** was offered by Mr. Phillip Gouaux and seconded by Mr. Brent Callais to include this road in President Randolph's negotiation of the Highway Exchange Program. Mr. Gouaux clarified that he wants the Exchange Program to pay for the cost of overlaying the road. Mr. Daniel Lorraine suggested that the road may get paved quicker if the parish get permission from the state to use monies from RSTD 2. An **amendment** was offered by Mr. Phillip Gouaux, seconded by Mr. Daniel Lorraine, and *carried* that if permission is granted by the state, that the parish be allowed to overlay the road using available monies from RSTD 2 by a vote of nine (9) yeas and zero (0) nays. The committee *approved* the motion as amended by a vote of nine (9) yeas and zero (0) nays.

ADJOURN

On motion by Mr. Phillip Gouaux and seconded by Mr. Mike Delatte and with no further business the Lafourche Parish Council Public Works and Solid Waste Committee of March 23, 2004, is adjourned at 7:36 pm.

**MARK ATZENHOFFER, CHAIRMAN
LAFOURCHE PARISH PUBLIC WORKS
AND SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE**

**SHEILA B. BOUDREAUX, COUNCIL CLERK
LAFOURCHE PARISH**