

AGENDA
ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2014 @ 6:00 P.M.
OLD CITY MARKET, 131 W. BELLEVUE ST.
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & INVOCATION by Councilman Jerry Red

III. ROLL CALL

IV. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

V. CONDOLENCES

VI. PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

- Introduction of newly elected Eunice City Court Judge Terry Hoychick given by Councilman Gary Courville & Councilman Jimmie Edwards

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting:

December 17, 2014

VIII. PARISH PRESIDENT'S REPORT

IX. NEW BUSINESS:

*Items passed through committee.

1. Approval of plat for West Ridge Subdivision, Developer; Robert Feucht, Location; Shelly Drive located off of Highway 190 in Eunice.
2. Accept all information provided by Mr. Rhyn Duplechain, St. Landry Parish Tax Assessor for the taxing districts in the parish.
3. Advertise for an appointment to Fire District No. 3 to fulfill the remaining term of Pamela Jackson set to expire 01-01-2016.
4. Advertise for two appointments to Ward Two Gravity Drainage District No. 1 that are currently held by Robert Fox & Ronald Dugas. This is a four year term from 03-05-2015 to 03-05-2019.
5. Vote for one appointment to the St. Landry Agriculture Arena Authority to serve a five year term from 01-18-2015 to 01-18-2020. The applicants are William J. (Bill) Fontenot & Cynthia M. Fontenot.
6. Vote for two appointments to the St. Landry Parish Waterworks District No. 2 (Rural) to serve a four year term from 01-01-2015 to 01-01-2019. Seeking reappointment are Linic Richard & Bobby Richard and new applicant is Rose Benoit.
7. Reappoint Jerry Wayne Soileau and James Kennison to Fire District No. 2 to serve a two year term from 01-01-2015 to 01-01-2017.
8. Vote for two appointments to Fire District No. 5 to serve a two year term from 01-01-2015 to 01-01-2017. Seeking reappointment is Lester Bergeron and the new applicants are Perry L. Jones and Ryan M. Dupre'.

9. Vote for three appointments to Fire District No. 6 to serve a two year term from 01-01-2015 to 01-01-2017. Seeking reappointment are Rodges Richard, Gilbert Guillory & Joseph Donald Popillion. New applicant is Marlene Fisher.
10. Parish President Bill Fontenot shall provide in the 2015 Budget; the financial note for the Delta Grand and the source of the monies used to pay for the insurance coverage on the parish's buildings.
11. The Board of Directors for Fire District No. 3 shall address or send a written letter to the Council requesting new polling locations for their district's fire stations.
12. Parish President Bill Fontenot shall write a letter to Cleco Energy requesting no limbs or trees are placed in Bayou Boeuf.
13. Parish President Bill Fontenot shall provide a report to the Council on the status of increasing safety warnings for Country Ridge Road and raised markings shall be placed on the road.
14. Research if there is any kind of funding available for the Veterans Funeral Honor Guard and also have Attorney Lance Pitre research other parishes with similar organizations and how they are funded.
15. Vote for two appointments to the St. Landry Economic Development (SLED) to serve a three year term from 12-31-2014 to 12-31-2017. Seeking reappointment are Charles Aguillard & Paul LaPorte. New applicants are Clay Bradford Jackson, Kenneth J. Marks, Gregory J. Doucet and Marlene Fisher.
16. Attorney Lance Pitre shall research the current status of the members for the St. Landry-St. Martin Hospital Service District. Advertisement for one appointment to this board to serve a six year term from 03-04-2015 to 03-04-2021 shall be tabled until clarity is provided to the Council. This seat is currently held by Kenneth Quebedeaux.
17. Request the amended budget for the year 2014 is provided at the next Administrative Finance Committee Meeting on February 4, 2015.

X. SPECIAL BUSINESS:

*Items not passed through committee.

1. A Resolution authorizing the filing of an application with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development for a grant under 49 CFR 5311, Non-Urbanized Area Formula Program and/or 49 CFR 5309, Discretionary Capital Program.

WHEREAS, the Secretary of Transportation and Development is authorized to make grants for mass transportation projects;

WHEREAS, the contract for financial assistance will impose certain obligations upon the applicant;

WHEREAS, it is required by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development in accord with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, that in connection with the filing of an application for assistance that it will comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the U.S. Department of Transportation requirements there under; and

WHEREAS, it is the goal of the Applicant that minority business enterprise be utilized to the fullest extent possible in connection with this project, and that definitive procedures shall be established and administered to ensure that minority businesses shall have the maximum feasible opportunity to compete for contracts when procuring construction contracts, supplies, equipment, or consultant and other services:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by St. Landry Parish Government:

1. That the Parish President is authorized to execute and file an application on behalf of St. Landry Parish Government Community Action Agency the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, to aid in the financing of operating and/or capital assistance projects pursuant to the Rural Public Transit Program, 49 CFR 5311 and/or the Discretionary Capital Program, 49 CFR 5309.

2. That the Parish President is authorized to execute and file with such applications an assurance or any other document required by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development effectuating the purposes of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended.
3. That the Parish President is authorized to furnish additional information as the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development may require in connection with the application or the project.
4. That the Parish President is authorized to set forth and execute affirmative minority business policies in connection with the project's procurement needs.
5. That the Parish President is authorized to execute grant contract agreements on behalf of St. Landry Parish Government Community Action Agency with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development for aid in the financing of the operating or capital assistance projects.
6. This resolution is applicable for a period of one year unless revoked by the governing body and copy of such revocation shall be furnished to the DOTD.
(Parish President Bill Fontenot and Parish Government Administration)

XI. ORDINANCES TO BE INTRODUCED:

None.

XII. ORDINANCES TO BE ADOPTED:

- **ORDINANCE NO. 2014-020**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE ST. LANDRY PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES TO AMEND ORDINANCE 2005-0009

Amend Ordinance No. 2005-0009 to include the following street(s):

17. Jennings Road, Council District No. 2.

Amend Ordinance 2005-0009 of the Parish Ordinances titled “An Ordinance of the St. Landry Parish Code of Ordinances to Establish Rules and Regulations for Erection and Maintenance of Speed Bumps as a Traffic Control Device within the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana” to add the following section:

Streets and Roads to have Speed Bumps Installed:

1. Belmont Drive, Opelousas.
2. The paved portion of Jesse B. Road, Church Point, LA.
3. Thelma Drive, Sunset, LA.
4. Petite Rue De Landon
5. Alexis Drive.
6. Pavy Road
7. Tecumseh Loop
8. Perry Drive.
9. Thibodeaux Street, from the 238 Block of Thibodeaux Street to the 534 Block of McClelland Drive.
10. Chardonnay Drive.
11. Mahogany Drive.
12. OG Track, District 5.
13. Garnet Drive: from 139 Garnet Drive to 266 Garnet Drive.
14. Flag Station Road.
15. Zinfandel Drive, Council District No. 11.
16. Olivier Road, Council District No. 1.
- 17. Jennings Road, Council District No. 2.**

- **ORDINANCE NO. 2014-021**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE ST. LANDRY PARISH CODE ORDINANCES TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 2011-013; AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE VETERAN'S MEMORIAL PARK BOARD OF CONTROL

Sec. I: Authority to establish Veteran's Memorial Park:

St. Landry Parish Government authorizes the establishment of the Veteran's Memorial Park; to wit:

The governing authority of St. Landry Parish, hereby creates, establishes, equips, maintains, operates, and supports the Veteran's Memorial Park in the Parish of St. Landry.

St. Landry Parish Council authorizes the establishment of a Veteran's Memorial Park by resolution dated June 15, 2011; to wit:

#8 – A motion was made by Jay Guidry, seconded by Glenn Stout, to accept the donation of property by Bobby Dupre for the purpose of the location for a Veteran's Memorial Project. Votes were: YEAS: Leon Robinson, Fekisha Miller Matthews, Kenneth Vidrine, Ronald Buschel, Hurlin Dupre, Albert Hollier, Pam Gautreau, Glenn Stout, Dexter Brown, Jay Guidry, Jimmie Edwards, Gary Courville. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. Motion was adopted the 20th day of July, 2011.

Sec. II: Board of Control:

St. Landry Parish Government establishes the Board of Control for the Veteran's Memorial Park; to wit:

“The governing authority of the parish shall, by ordinance, create a board of control for the Veteran's Memorial Park, appoint five citizens of the parish or the territory of the ward affected to serve for terms of one, two, three, four, and five years, and their successors shall be appointed for terms of five years. The parish president shall be a member ex-officio of the board of control of the Veteran's Memorial Park. In case of a vacancy for any cause whatever, it shall be filled by the governing authority of the parish for the unexpired term.” (LSA R.S. 33:4643.)

Sec. III: Functions of the board of control:

St. Landry Parish Government establishes the functions of the Board of Control for the Veteran's Memorial Park; to wit:

“The board of control shall meet and organize immediately after the appointment of its members and at least annually thereafter, and elect one member president, another vice-president, another secretary and another treasurer, whose duties shall be those customarily exercised by such officers. The board of control may establish rules and regulations for its own government, and for the operation and maintenance of the Veteran's Memorial Park. The board shall be in charge of the management of the affairs of the memorial, hire employees, and fix their salaries, provided that it shall not contract for a longer period than one year.” (LSA R.S. 33:4644.)

Sec. IV: Charges for use of space; gifts:

St. Landry Parish Government establishes charges for use of space; gifts for the Veteran's Memorial Park, to wit:

The board of control may receive unconditional gifts. All moneys collected or received by the board of control shall be turned over to Parish Government to be disbursed for the benefit of the Veteran's Memorial Park.

Sec. V: Purpose:

To establish and operate a park - a quiet, protected place onto itself, a place of education, a place of hope, a place of peace, serenity and beauty, a place for all of us.

The Board of Control shall adopt rules and regulations to ensure the appropriate and respectful use of the Veteran's Memorial Park in accordance with this stated purpose.

Sec. VI: Statement of Intent:

The St. Landry Parish Government wishes to honor all veterans of war from the Parish of St. Landry. Therefore, the St. Landry Parish Government hereby establishes the Board of Control for the Veteran's Memorial Park in honor of all veterans of all wars from St. Landry Parish and for the use and enjoyment of the citizens of the Parish of St. Landry.

XIII. RESOLUTIONS TO BE ADOPTED:

None.

XIV. COMMITTEE MINUTES

**ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2014 @ 6:00 P.M.
OLD CITY MARKET, 131 W BELLVUE ST
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA**

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Pam Gautreau.

Roll call: PRESENT: Pam Gautreau, Alvin Stelly, Gary Courville, Leon Robinson, Jimmie Edwards, Ronald Buschel and Hurlin Dupre, Ex-Officio.

1. Public Works Report:
 - a) Approval of plat for West Ridge Subdivision, Developer; Robert Feucht, Location; Shelly Drive located off of Highway 190 in Eunice.
2. A motion was made by Councilman Gary Courville, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards to forward to the next regular meeting; approval of plat for West Ridge Subdivision, Developer; Robert Feucht, Location; Shelly Drive located off of Highway 190 in Eunice.
Votes Were: YEAS: Leon Robinson, Jimmie Edwards, Ronald Buschel, Alvin Stelly, and Gary Courville. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried.
3. A motion was made by Councilman Ronald Buschel, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards to forward to the next regular meeting; accept the information provided for the taxing districts in the parish.
Votes Were: YEAS: Leon Robinson, Jimmie Edwards, Ronald Buschel, Alvin Stelly, and Gary Courville. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried.
4. Chairwoman Pam Gautreau addressed agenda item 7; Information for the specific use of funds which are generated from the trail ride permits. (tabled from the last meeting)
 - a) Parish President Bill Fontenot informed the Committee the monies generated from the trail rides go into the general fund.
5. A motion was made by Councilman Ronald Buschel, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards to forward to the next regular meeting; advertise for an appointment to Fire District No. 3 to fulfill the remaining term of Pamela Jackson set to expire 01-01-2016.
Votes Were: YEAS: Leon Robinson, Jimmie Edwards, Ronald Buschel, Alvin Stelly, and Gary Courville. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried.
6. A motion was made by Councilman Ronald Buschel, seconded by Councilman Alvin Stelly to forward to the next regular meeting; advertise for two appointments to Ward Two Gravity Drainage District No. 1 that are currently held by Robert Fox & Ronald Dugas. This is a four year term from 03-05-2015 to 03-05-2019.
Votes Were: YEAS: Leon Robinson, Jimmie Edwards, Ronald Buschel, Alvin Stelly, and Gary Courville. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried.

7. Chairwoman Pam Gautreau addressed agenda item 10; St. Landry Parish Agriculture Arena Authority. (Chairwoman Pam Gautreau)
 - a) Chairwoman Pam Gautreau placed this item on the agenda because there is an appointment that needs to be made to the board. She questioned what the roles are of these since Parish Government obtained the building.
Parish President Bill Fontenot answered the board is an advisory committee of five people who are usually involved in agriculture events such as horse riding and roping and also 4-H.
Chairwoman Pam Gautreau questioned if this committee gives advisement for the use the grounds and Parish President Bill Fontenot answered yes for the Ag Arena itself but not the grounds.
8. A motion was made by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilman Gary Courville to forward to the next regular meeting; one appointment to the St. Landry Agriculture Arena Authority to serve a five year term from 01-18-2015 to 01-18-2020. The applicants are William J. (Bill) Fontenot & Cynthia M. Fontenot.
Votes Were: YEAS: Leon Robinson, Jimmie Edwards, Ronald Buschel, Alvin Stelly, and Gary Courville. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried.
9. A motion was made by Councilman Ronald Buschel, seconded by Councilman Alvin Stelly to forward to the next regular meeting; two appointments to the St. Landry Parish Waterworks District No. 2 (Rural) to serve a four year term from 01-01-2015 to 01-01-2019. Seeking reappointment are Linic Richard & Bobby Richard and new applicant is Rose Benoit.
Votes Were: YEAS: Leon Robinson, Jimmie Edwards, Ronald Buschel, Alvin Stelly, and Gary Courville. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried.
10. A motion was made by Councilman Ronald Buschel, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards to forward to the next regular meeting; reappoint Jerry Wayne Soileau and James Kennison to Fire District No. 2 to serve a two year term from 01-01-2015 to 01-01-2017.
Votes Were: YEAS: Leon Robinson, Jimmie Edwards, Ronald Buschel, Alvin Stelly, and Gary Courville. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried.
11. Chairwoman Pam Gautreau addressed agenda item 14; Two appointments to Fire District No. 5 to serve a two year term from 01-01-2015 to 01-01-2017. Seeking reappointment are Andrew Degenhardt and Lester Bergeron. New applicants are Perry L. Jones and Ryan M. Dupre'.
 - a) Chairwoman Pam Gautreau informed the committee, Andrew Degenhardt withdrew his application and the board is recommending Lester Bergeron for reappointment.
12. A motion was made by Councilman Ronald Buschel, seconded by Councilman Alvin Stelly to forward to the next regular meeting; two appointments to Fire District No. 5 to serve a two year term from 01-01-2015 to 01-01-2017. Seeking reappointment is Lester Bergeron and the new applicants are Perry L. Jones and Ryan M. Dupre'.
Votes Were: YEAS: Leon Robinson, Jimmie Edwards, Ronald Buschel, Alvin Stelly, and Gary Courville. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried.
13. Chairwoman Pam Gautreau addressed agenda item 15; Reappoint Rodges Richard, Gilbert Guillory & Joseph Donald Popillion to Fire District No. 6 to serve a two year term from 01-01-2015 to 01-01-2017.
 - a) Chairwoman Pam Gautreau informed the Committee the Council's Office received another application before the deadline from Marlene Fisher.
14. A motion was made by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilman Alvin Stelly to forward to the next regular meeting; vote for three appointments to Fire District No. 6 to serve a two year term from 01-01-2015 to 01-01-2017. Seeking reappointment are Rodges Richard, Gilbert Guillory & Joseph Donald Popillion. New applicant is Marlene Fisher.
Votes Were: YEAS: Leon Robinson, Jimmie Edwards, Ronald Buschel, Alvin Stelly, and Gary Courville. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried.
15. Chairwoman Pam Gautreau addressed agenda item 16; Adopted 2015 Budget. (Chairwoman Pam Gautreau)
 - a) Chairwoman Pam Gautreau asked Parish President Bill Fontenot if the Delta Grand's note has been retired and Parish President Bill Fontenot would have to review this but it should be getting

close to this time. Chairwoman Pam Gautreau commented to the fact that it wasn't listed in the budget and questioned how the note would be paid and Parish President Bill Fontenot will review this.

b) Chairwoman Pam Gautreau questioned the insurance for the majority of the buildings in the parish and what funds are paying for this coverage. Parish President Bill Fontenot believes they had discussed this the last time but he does not have this information present. They do have general liability which covers all of the buildings which is necessary. Chairwoman Pam Gautreau asked if the monies that pay for the insurance is taken from their dedicated source and if it is being paid out of the general fund. Parish President Bill Fontenot answered the monies are in the general fund which is supplemented by the buildings that hold events which generate these monies. Chairwoman Pam Gautreau said to Parish President Bill Fontenot this is not reflected in the budget and Parish President Bill Fontenot responded it might not be detailed but it probably is. He offered to give her a report showing this information and Chairwoman Pam Gautreau said it should be included in the budget and it is not.

c) Chairwoman Pam Gautreau referred to Parish President Bill Fontenot's comment that he cut \$90,000 from the Delta Grand in expenses therefore there should have been an excess in \$90,000 listed in the Delta Grand fund. Chairwoman Pam Gautreau questioned how soon the Delta Grand's note can be provided since it was not included in the budget and Parish President Bill Fontenot answered just a few days.

16. A motion was made by Councilman Ronald Buschel, seconded by Councilman Alvin Stelly to forward to the next regular meeting; Parish President Bill Fontenot shall provide in the 2015 Budget; the financial note for the Delta Grand and the source of the monies used to pay for the insurance coverage on the parish's buildings.

Votes Were: YEAS: Jimmie Edwards, Ronald Buschel, Alvin Stelly, and Gary Courville. NAYS: Leon Robinson. ABSENT: None. Motion carried.

17. Chairwoman Pam Gautreau addressed agenda item 17; Department heads for Parish Government. (Chairwoman Pam Gautreau)

a) Chairwoman Pam Gautreau referred to page thirteen of the Home Rule Charter under Section 4-01; General Provisions. Section (A) states the president shall appoint, direct, and supervise the heads of all departments and parish engineers, except as otherwise provided in the charter, to serve at the president's pleasure, and the appointments shall be subject to council approval. Section (B) states the president shall fix the salaries of the appointed department heads subject to the council's approval. Chairwoman Pam Gautreau referred to numerous department heads that were never approved by the Council nor their salaries. But when the request was made before the budget was adopted to include the salaries, they were never provided.

Parish President Bill Fontenot referred to the two department heads that are and were approved by the council which are the Public Works Director and Finance Director.

Chairwoman Pam Gautreau questioned the approval of the Director of the Animal Shelter, Executive Director for the Community Action Agency and the Director for the Delta Grand and if they were not department heads.

Parish President Bill Fontenot responded they are vision heads or section heads but not department heads. Chairwoman Pam Gautreau said these positions are in charge of budgets and supervision but are not considered department heads and Parish President Bill Fontenot said correct.

18. Chairwoman Pam Gautreau addressed agenda item 18; Discuss living quarters for fire fighters at Substation Fire District locations. (Chairwoman Pam Gautreau)

a) Chairwoman Pam Gautreau said it was brought to her attention there are possibly families living in the fire district's sub stations and there were issues from the last election therefore there is a request for new polling locations.

Councilman Ronald Buschel commented there are two request for new polling locations in his area and they have addressed this a large number of times already. There is no other location available in Whiteville or Beggs for a new polling location. The only public building in this area is a fire station which is more than adequate to have one or two people or however number of people who are supposed to be living there and also hold the election in the garage section for the fire trucks.

Palmetto moves the fire trucks out of the building which is where the voting takes place. Whiteville and Beggs can do this same procedure especially if there are intentions to move in persons permanently to live. Now the building is serving no other purpose but just awaiting a fire to take place. This same issue was already discussed concerning the elementary school in Washington. A considerable amount of voters were lost when the polling location was moved to Beggs because the travel was considered too far. They just approached the state commissioner for the two polling

locations in the sub stations which were approved because there is no other place available. He offered a motion for Parish President Bill Fontenot to write the board of directors of Fire District No. 3 stating the request for new polling locations is not causable.

b) Councilman Timmy Lejeune asked Fire Chief for Fire District No. 3, who was present at the meeting, Mr. Ray Mendenhall if he knew about this matter and Chief Mendenhall answered he made the request. Councilman Timmy Lejeune requested Chief Mendenhall to provide the Council with more details for his request. Chief Mendenhall explained during Election Day, safety problems are created for the fire department. Those stations are manned and there are no families living in the fire stations. Whiteville is a manned station and Beggs will become the same in approximately two months. The Frilot Cove station which is unmanned right now does have a fire fighter residing in the station. When he is off-duty, he makes runs in this area so it's not a family in the station but rather an off-duty officer. They do not have the resources to man this station at the current time so this is why there is an off-duty officer who lives there. The voting does cause problems with the fire station. It hinders their ability especially in Coteau and Washington to perform their job because these are manned stations that have a lot of activity. When there is the number of people voting at the stations and they are making their runs, verification is needed that the public is out of harm's way which is a safety issue. Whether they decide to move the location or not, this would be the Council's decision but it is his recommendation. Councilman Timmy Lejeune asked if Mr. Mendenhall notified his board of this situation and Chief Mendenhall answered he did not. Chief Mendenhall said during the last election, there were many problems between the electioneers and the stations. He was on the phone with the person from the elections which was tying up their phone lines to find out where the public could vote. It was a constant battle trying to keep the emergency phone lines open so he made the phone call and said it was time to move.

Councilman Timmy Lejeune asked what the board said but Mr. Mendenhall did not inform them of this. Chief Mendenhall said they got on the phone with the person in charge of the election. This person phoned Mr. Mendenhall asking what problems had occurred. Two of the fire fighters do work with the election monitoring machines. One of the fire fighters informed them of the problems and that is when the suggestion was made that maybe a new location should be seeked.

c) Councilman Leon Robinson questioned if Chief Mendenhall knows of any other polling location that could be used and Chief Mendenhall said he does not know because the electioneer did say they would take care of it. Chief Mendenhall did tell the electioneer they are aware in Beggs and Whiteville, there is no other place. If the polling location has to stay in these areas, they are willing to do that.

Councilman Ronald Buschel said it is not possible to move the location in Beggs because there is already a polling precinct at the elementary school in Washington. This leaves the situation that there is no other location because it is rural St. Landry Parish. In the past, the Police Jury did build locations throughout the parish but they did not have phones, water or bathrooms. The federal government then claimed this had to be discontinued because a location has to have these resources. As far for the telephone lines, the Police Jury passed a resolution the Registrar of Voters would have cellular phones available to use. He informed Chief Mendenhall that during the election, the fire trucks can be parked outside for that one day and there is no reason why these locations cannot be used. He expressed concern if the polling location was to change, they would lose a lot of voters and anger a large amount as well. Chief Mendenhall agreed with Councilman Ronald Buschel but there are too many issues occurring. Councilman Ronald Buschel made a motion to have Chief Mendenhall contact the board of Fire District No. 3 then the board shall contact the Council.

d) Councilman Wayne Ardoin questioned which fire stations have persons living there and Chief Mendenhall answered Frilot Cove and Grand Prairie. Councilman Wayne Ardoin questioned if a whole family is living in Frilot Cove and Chief Mendenhall answered not a family. Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated it was a fact there was a family living in Frilot Cove because the sheriff's office was called one night regarding an incident. Chief Mendenhall said to Councilman Wayne Ardoin that is why they are no longer there yes sir. Councilman Wayne Ardoin said they were living there and that is his point and Chief Mendenhall agreed. Councilman Wayne Ardoin said Councilman Huet Dupre who is not present, stated one of his constituents called him regarding a sheriff's deputy having to be called to the station one night and Chief Mendenhall agreed to this statement. Councilman Wayne Ardoin questioned if a family resides in a fire station, this should be a safety concern as well. Chief Mendenhall said this was a probationary fire fighter who was made permanent and was from Natchez, Mississippi. He was new to the area so they allowed him to stay in the station temporarily till they could find a home.

e) Councilman Wayne Ardoin questioned if the Coteau station has one truck and Chief Mendenhall answered there are two trucks. Councilman Wayne Ardoin questioned why they couldn't park the trucks outside like Councilman Ronald Buschel suggested and also use cellular phones. Councilman Wayne Ardoin said in Councilman Ronald Buschel's area, the fire station was built to help the

residents with fire protection but also to solve a polling problem. Chief Mendenhall said the electioneers do not want to hold the election in the garage but in the station which is part of the problem. Councilman Wayne Ardoin questioned how many fireman are at this location and Chief Mendenhall answered two.

f) Councilman Jerry Red said to Chief Mendenhall Fire District No. 3 is funded by tax payers and he thinks it's a big concern to allow a family to live in those quarters. He thinks once the people hear they allowed a family to live in the station even though they transferred from Mississippi, it will create a problem. He also thinks since this is paid by the tax payers, it should have not been allowed. Chief Mendenhall said correct but they were paying their own bills. Councilman Jerry Red pointed to the fact they were still staying on tax payer's property and Chief Mendenhall said that is correct. Chief Mendenhall said it did create a problem and this is why they are no longer there. They also explained to the citizens in the area they would have better fire protection coverage. The residents in this area were then pleased with the situation. Councilman Jerry Red understands this but there is still a liability and everything else that comes along.

g) Councilman Dexter Brown basically understands the point about the fire trucks because he had to change a polling location in his area, Shuteston. If the trucks are parked outside when it rains, they have to lay the hoses out the next day. Chief Mendenhall explained there is a lot more than goes into the request of changing locations. Councilman Dexter Brown agreed because the traffic was a concern with the trucks parked outside and nowhere to park. Chief Mendenhall agreed because the fire trucks were becoming blocked in from voters parking on the grounds.

h) Councilman Dexter Brown asked where are the closet church and school in the Whiteville area and Chief Mendenhall answered there is a church approximately a mile and an half down the road. Councilman Ronald Buschel pointed to the fact the Registrar of Voters and state department do not think voting precincts should not be in churches. Councilman Ronald Buschel explained in his district, he lives approximately one-hundred yards north of Bayou Waxia. There was an accident that occurred when a gentleman once ran into the bayou. Everyone was trying to help the man from drowning and Fire District No. 3 came to this scene and started counting the pilings under the bridge. They divided the pilings in half and the gentleman was on the other side so they left. He can't say he has good relations with Fire District No. 3. Also monies were taken from north St. Landry Parish when the people took Transco from their area and half of the monies were split between Fire District's 2 and 3. This has left the north end of the parish with nothing left to tax. Chief Mendenhall said to Councilman Ronald Buschel this was before he was chief and Councilman Ronald Buschel strongly responded he didn't care if it came on the Mayflower. Councilman Ronald Buschel said to Chief Mendenhall there is also a board of directors in place that are supposed to be looking out for the welfare of the public but he didn't approach his board. The board has not stated anything in this matter and he again repeated his motion. The motion is for Fire District No. 3's board to write a letter or address the Council with the request of new polling locations. This is the reason why the board was created and further explained to Chief Mendenhall not him but his board because he is just an employee. The board should have been there for the meeting and he is sure if they would have been asked, they would have been present. At least one or two members should have been present and they would have if they were asked because he knows them personally. Councilman Ronald Buschel moved for the matter to be tabled and no action taken on any new polling location.

19. A motion was made by Councilman Ronald Buschel, seconded by Councilman Alvin Stelly to forward to the next regular meeting; the Board of Directors for Fire District No. 3 shall address or send a written letter to the Council requesting new polling locations for their district's fire stations. Votes Were: YEAS: Leon Robinson, Jimmie Edwards, Ronald Buschel, Alvin Stelly, and Gary Courville. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried.
20. Chairwoman Pam Gautreau addressed agenda item 19; Discuss any other business properly brought before this committee.
 - a) Councilman Ronald Buschel informed Parish President Bill Fontenot Cleco installed a high voltage line in the Whiteville area to service more of these residents. Trees and limbs were cut down in the process and thrown in Bayou Boeuf causing blockage. Parish President Bill Fontenot requested a resolution and Councilman Ronald Buschel offered a motion. Parish President Bill Fontenot asked when was Cleco's most recent action and Councilman Ronald Buschel estimated two weeks ago.
 - b) Councilman Dexter Brown informed Parish President Bill Fontenot over the weekend, west of Richard Road off of Highway 357, there is a road called Gemstone Road. If persons were to follow a global positioning system (GPS) to Howard Road, the GPS would direct them down Gemstone Road. Gemstone Road is currently a gravel/mud road where on two occasions heavy equipment was

needed to remove the vehicles from getting stuck. He questioned how this could be avoided in the future or suggested posting a sign with this verbiage. Parish President Bill Fontenot offered to contact 911 to see if there is a solution that can be made.

Attorney Lance Pitre informed Parish President Bill Fontenot there are signs posted on Industrial Lane in Eunice warning drivers of this.

Councilman Leon Robinson informed Parish President Bill Fontenot about the speed bumps on McNeese Street and Plantation Road.

Parish President Bill Fontenot asked Ms. Candice Elkins, employee for St. Landry Parish E-911, for advice on the GPS matter.

Ms. Elkins informed the Council there were situations with the GPS units and map quest that have given incorrect roads. They haven't specifically asked the companies to offer a different route but it is possible. A written letter was sent to one of the companies who provide map files to GPS manufacturers like Magellan Systems, TomTom and Garmin. Companies such as Data Tech and Navtec compile mapping data and sale this to the GPS manufacturers. What they have done several times in the past is written a letter to these companies requesting placement of the correct road in the right location. Since they do their own mapping, they were able to send them this information and it was resolved rather quickly. She offered to send these request for the Council on behalf of St.

Landry Parish E-911. Also she informed the Council, the eighteen-wheeler trucks traveling to the Wal-Mart Distribution on Highway 182 were directed to travel south on Robert Bihm Lane which is located in a subdivision. They were able to rectify this situation a couple of years ago.

Council Chair Hurlin Dupre referred to Midway Lane where these drivers were also driving down and thanked Ms. Elkins and the 911 staff for correcting this situation.

Councilman Alvin Stelly has the same problem on Seven Arpents Road in his district. He had to phone Mr. Tim Marks requesting help for drivers who were getting stuck and it was discussed at the last meeting. Parish President Bill Fontenot said there was an issue with high-wheel trucks and Councilman Alvin Stelly corrected him by stating this was on Old School Road. Councilman Alvin Stelly said on Seven Arpents Road there is no gravel on the road and even the mail man does not want to travel down it. Parish President Bill Fontenot said this was not a GPS problem but rocks need to be placed.

c) Chairwoman Pam Gautreau asked the Committee if everyone received a copy of the letter regarding placing slippery when wet signs on Country Ridge Road.

Councilman Wayne Ardoin provided the Public Works Committee as well as Mr. Fontenot with a copy of the letter. Mr. Sylvester who is one of his constituents contacted him during the holidays. He expressed concern that someone had hit the guard rails again in front of his home. Mr. Sylvester lives in the most curved portion of Country Ridge Road and was inquiring again about the signs being posted. Councilman Wayne Ardoin is requesting Mr. Tim Marks to post these signs as a cautionary measure.

Parish President Bill Fontenot thanked Councilman Wayne Ardoin for the copy of the letter and he would say the thing missing is a response to Mr. Sylvester which he takes responsibility for. He did speak with Mr. Sylvester and they did add a guard rail and have repaired it also and placed numerous reflectors. Most of Mr. Sylvester's concern was a vehicle going off the road and running into his home. It has not been reported to him that any vehicles have hit the rail since and Mr. Sylvester does have his number.

Councilman Wayne Ardoin said Mr. Sylvester reported to the sheriff's office over the holiday that someone hit the rail with the person's license plate number but there was no severe damage to the rail.

Parish President Bill Fontenot said there is a sturdy rail there and also signs but to put up a slippery when wet sign maybe not needed because the road is in good condition. The law says drivers are responsible for controlling their vehicle when driving under those conditions. There are many roads in the parish with sharp curves and he does not know if they will post slippery when wet signs. The accident reports will be reviewed to see if this road is any different from the other roads in the parish that have sharp curves.

Councilman Wayne Ardoin did request when they put up the last guard rail to also put raised markings but Mr. Marks said it was not feasible which is understandable. He expressed concern for Mr. Sylvester's home being protected from any faulty drivers.

Parish President Bill Fontenot thinks to place the markings on the center of the road would be more productive than posting a slippery when wet sign. Councilman Wayne Ardoin requested for Parish President Bill Fontenot to have the markings placed and Parish President Bill Fontenot agreed.

d) Chairwoman Pam Gautreau asked Parish President Bill Fontenot for an update on the paving of the roads. She has been receiving phone calls about Clarence Cormier Road and Chretien Point Road and when are they expected to be repaved.

Parish President Bill Fontenot answered they are in the process of being paved within a contract that has numerous miles. If pipe has been replaced and patching has been done, paving is not far behind. He believes pipe has not been changed yet on Clarence Cormier Road but the contractor is headed that way. It is also winter time which is no fault to anyone but this will happen for both roads.

Chairwoman Pam Gautreau asked if production should be expected in a month and Parish President Bill Fontenot answered as soon as they get good weather.

Councilman Ronald Buschel commented about the calls he has received since they started black topping the roads saying they never thought we would do it. They are getting a great response from the public on repairing the roads.

Parish President Bill Fontenot appreciates the partnership with Councilman Ronald Buschel's Public Works Commission and the parish's Public Works Department.

Sheriff Bobby Guidroz who was present at the meeting interjected by applauding the efforts of the Parish President and Council for accomplishing the road program. They worked together which is important because it is not a "one man band". He again applauds them on what they have been through and what they are doing now. He receives the complaints on speeders which is understandable but congratulated them on a job well done.

21. A motion was made by Councilman Ronald Buschel, seconded by Councilman Alvin Stelly to forward to the next regular meeting; Parish President Bill Fontenot shall write a letter to Cleco Energy requesting no limbs or trees are placed in Bayou Boeuf.
Votes Were: YEAS: Leon Robinson, Jimmie Edwards, Ronald Buschel, Alvin Stelly, and Gary Courville. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried.
22. A motion was made by Councilman Ronald Buschel, seconded by Councilman Alvin Stelly to forward to the next regular meeting; Parish President Bill Fontenot shall provide a report to the Council on the status of increasing safety warnings for Country Ridge Road. Raised markings shall be placed on the road.
Votes Were: YEAS: Leon Robinson, Jimmie Edwards, Ronald Buschel, Alvin Stelly, and Gary Courville. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried.
23. A motion was made by Councilman Ronald Buschel, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards to adjourn the Public Works Committee Meeting.
Votes Were: YEAS: Leon Robinson, Jimmie Edwards, Ronald Buschel, Alvin Stelly, and Gary Courville. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried.

**I HEREBY CERTIFY THE FOREGOING TO BE EXACT AND TRUE
ARLISSA TAYLOR, COUNCIL CLERK**

**ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL
ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
WHICH COMMENCED AT 6:51PM /IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING
THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2015**

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Chairman of the Council Hurlin Dupre.

**Roll call: PRESENT: Fekisha Miller Matthews, Jerry Red, Wayne Ardoin, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune and Hurlin Dupre, Ex-Officio.
ABSENT: Huet Dupre**

1. Item number five on the agenda; Veterans Funeral Honor Guard which was tabled from last meeting.
Councilman Wayne Ardoin asked if all members received a letter from Mr. Link Savoie in reference to the request for funding and asked the Council look into this to bring back to full council. He questioned Mr. Fontenot on what fund could be used to help with some of the

request for ten thousand dollars per year for a four year term and asked for this information be available at the next meeting.

Councilman Timmy Lejeune commented the Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs receives five thousand eight hundred and eighty dollars annually and asked Mr. Fontenot if he is aware of that. He questioned who receives this money and where does it go.

Parish President Bill Fontenot stated it goes to the Veterans Affairs Office where there is a person stationed with that office which accommodations have been made at the Community Action Center to house that administrator who may have one assistant. He said that was a stipend that was set long ago with the Veterans Administration with all parishes and the parish is just living up to that agreement by paying that money every year.

Councilman Lejeune confirmed that the parish is already making a contribution of almost six thousand dollars.

Bill Fontenot answered yes and also office space.

Councilman Ardoin commented that money is to fund an office but this request is to look at the situation of having this honor guard to assist veterans with funerals. He stated at the last meeting a lady made the comment how pitiful it is when you attend a funeral and they do not have people to carry the casket for a veteran. He asked the Council look at the situation and if there are monies available try to assist them in any kind of way financially; it may not be the ten thousand dollars but we owe that to our Veterans here in St. Landry Parish. He stated he does realize they have a group in Port Barre but they charge a hundred dollars; if you don't have the money then you don't pay but why do certain people pay and some don't pay. He requested the Council look into other parishes and see how they assist their Veterans because the office was always there where Mr. Woodson and Mrs. Soileau shared an office but it is not the same thing. He asked Mr. Link Savoie to come up to the podium to elaborate on what he is trying to do with this funding. Mr. Link Savoie stated he would like to bring up one point that may save the parish president five thousand dollars a year but cannot swear by it but does feel that he has read some place where the sponsoring city of the Veterans Affairs are responsible for housing the Veterans Affairs Office. He said on Prudhomme Lane when the Veterans Affairs Office was located there you had to walk in and back out so he got with Mayor Cravins one day and asked if he had a vacant building knowing that the city was responsible for housing the Veterans Affairs Office and he immediately found a place on Cherry Street. He asked that someone could possibly look into this and contact Janice Brown who is in charge of the Veterans Affairs Office in St. Landry Parish who would inform you that the city in each parish in Louisiana is responsible for housing that Veterans Affairs Office therefore it would relieve Mr. Fontenot of coming up with five thousand dollars to pay to the Veterans Affairs to house those people. He stated he does not think it is the responsibility of the parish but may be wrong but that is the impression he got when dealing with Veterans Affairs Offices throughout his lifetime.

Chairman Hurlin Dupre commented the parish had to give those monies to keep them in operation. He informed the Council that the group in Port Barre does not charge one hundred dollars they ask for a donation of one hundred dollars.

Councilman Ronald Buschel commented the five thousand dollars is money that was taken out of the Racino and the reason for that was because they needed more than one person to handle the business for the Veterans and the agreement was that St. Landry, St. Martin and another parish got together and paid an officer that would transfer from parish to parish so many days a week which was done by the police jury.

Councilman Lejeune questioned Mr. Savoie on if he is representing the VFW hall and if it would be possible for his organization to join that organization because it is all one military. He suggested joining with the other post in the parish in order to reduce the cost and try to get everyone working together.

Mr. Link Savoie stated the reason why he asked for a specific and special account for the funeral detail honor guard is because he will submit his grant money through a grant called special scope grant and that special scope grant means exactly what it says; specifically for that particular reason because you cannot mix federal grant money with other monies which are designated to do something for another project.

Councilman Lejeune stated he will support this one hundred percent provided that there are participants from all other entities of the military then create a board and once that is all established come back to the Council with a presentation or business plan that they can look at; it would be in great interest to the people of St. Landry Parish to support that.

Mr. Link Savoie stated as past State Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of Louisiana he can assure the Council at this very moment it would take six to eight months to go to every post and present this situation and this is only a mere request for a base. He said the reason why he must have a base because he will request from the Federal Government guns and ammunition;

he cannot do it as one person. He stated he was going to give the opportunity to the highest governing authority in this parish the chance of having kudos next to their names saying they are supporting an organization which is very good for the veterans and that he is just asking for some seed money for uniforms after that once it gets into the public he will certainly get suffice money to operate this detail. He stated he is not being selfish he does not want to be the guy he just wants to have a detail on the ready just like Port Barre who has an honor guard but sometimes they cannot make all of their commitments; you are asking one honor guard to conduct six funerals in one week which is not fair to the people who are working.

Councilman Lejeune commented that is why he is asking to join all of them together to create a second guard and asked if Mr. Savoie has a committee.

Mr. Link Savoie answered he does not think it is feasible because as a past post commander in St. Landry Parish that particular money is not federal money that is incorporated in their budget the money being requested will be incorporated with donations specifically for this particular funeral honor guard and it cannot be mixed in with other monies. He stated he cannot have a committee until he can get a yes or no from this finance committee or from the full board.

Councilman Lejeune questioned Attorney Lance Pitre if the Council can legally just approve those funds without having a committee, board, or business plan.

Attorney Pitre advised he would have to research to get specific but with general guidelines regarding monies giving by government Veterans Affairs and Veterans Services would be a purpose that government could give money to but as far as individual not structured as a nonprofit organization he is not sure that could happen without either being a committee of parish government where there is a budget amount into that committee or if it was a nonprofit organization or Veterans of Foreign Wars chapter where monies can be giving to them. He stated that has been determined many of times in an Attorney General's Opinions and case law that is a public purpose that money can be giving to but as far as giving it to Mr. Savoie right now so he can approach for federal grants it would have to have more structure.

Mr. Link Savoie stated the request made and given to every member was to see if there was a possibility; from that he would come up with a committee and a board because it would be ridiculous to even ask. He stated his intelligence area is a little bit above than asking for a handout; he wants to get a base station from someone to tell him yes but of course he does not want a check or account he only wants someone to tell him if it is possible and if that is the case he will come up with a legitimate committee. He said he is just feeling out the highest authority in the parish but does have an option number two and three so therefore it is not like he will not do it and will get this thing off the ground because the veterans need it; there are five hundred and twenty five Veterans in this parish that deserve a descent funeral.

Councilman Timmy Lejeune voiced his favor in support of this but there must be structure before the funding can be presented.

Mr. Link Savoie stated it does not have to go to the full board if those are the comments he will get then he respects that and that is why he came to the Council first.

Councilman Wayne Ardoin offered a motion to research if there is any kind of funding available and have Attorney Pitre look at other parishes to see if they have some type of Veterans Funeral Honor Guard and how it is funded. He stated we need to give something back to the Veterans we are not talking about giving money now we need to find out if there is any funds available because if we look at what we get from the Racino there are a lot of Veterans donate to that Racino.

Mr. Link Savoie stated the documents giving to the members who will see that those fifty five hundred people who are Veterans of this parish bring in twenty two million dollars a year from pensions and disabilities which is not from the federal government this is from the Veterans Administration in Louisiana. He said he thinks the request to see if there is a possibility of making ten thousand dollars available holding it in escrow until he can developed a legitimate, honest, and patriotic committee to use that money only for four years but he can assure that if he is successful which he thinks he will be he will no longer need the Council's assistance after about two years because the public will reciprocate.

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau commented by saying that Mr. Savoie keeps referring to the fact that he would form a committee but it would be encumbered upon the Parish Council to create a parish board and appoint those members and that way it would then become a parish entity then it would be more legitimate to find a source of funding or fundraising for it if the Parish Council created the board.

Councilman Ronald Bushel stated several parishes in the state have Veterans Administration some even have Veterans taxes where they collect a tax for the Veterans of the parish and they pay everything with that. He asked Attorney Pitre research which parishes have a Veterans tax or generate Veterans money some type of way.

2. A motion was made by Councilman Wayne Ardoin, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to research if there is any kind of funding available and also have Attorney Pitre look at other parishes to see if they have some type of Veterans Funeral Honor Guard and how it is funded.
Votes Were: YEAS: Jerry Red, Wayne Ardoin, Dexter Brown, and Timmy Lejeune.
NAYS: None. ABSENT: Huet Dupre.
Motion carried.

3. A motion was made by Councilman Wayne Ardoin, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune for two appointments to the St. Landry Economic Development (SLED) to serve a three year term from 12-31-2014 to 12-31-2017. Seeking reappointment are Charles Aguillard & Paul LaPorte. New applicants are Clay Bradford Jackson, Kenneth J. Marks, Gregory J. Doucet and Marlene Fisher.
Votes Were: YEAS: Jerry Red, Wayne Ardoin, Dexter Brown, and Timmy Lejeune.
NAYS: None. ABSENT: Huet Dupre.
Motion carried.

4. A motion was made by Councilman Wayne Ardoin, seconded by Councilman Jerry Red to table the advertisement for one appointment to the St. Landry-St. Martin Hospital Service District to serve a six year term from 03-04-2015 to 03-04-2021. This seat is currently held by Kenneth Quebedeaux. This matter is tabled until Attorney Lance Pitre researches this matter and brings it back to full council at next regular meeting.
Votes Were: YEAS: Jerry Red, Wayne Ardoin, Dexter Brown, and Timmy Lejeune.
NAYS: None. ABSENT: Huet Dupre.
Motion carried.

5. A motion was made by Councilman Wayne Ardoin, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to table the request for new polling locations for the following:
Ward 1 Precinct 19-Fire Dist. No. 3 Sub Station, Council District 4
Ward 1 Precinct 26 & Precinct 26A-Ft. Hamilton Sub Station, Council Districts 6 & 2
Ward 5 Precinct 1-Beggs Fire Dist. No. 3 Sub Station-Council District 5
Ward 5 Precinct 4-Whiteville Fire Dist. 3 Sub Station-Council District 5
Ward 5 Precinct 8-Washington Fire Hall-Council District 4
Votes Were: YEAS: Jerry Red, Wayne Ardoin, Dexter Brown, and Timmy Lejeune.
NAYS: None. ABSENT: Huet Dupre.
Motion carried.

6. Councilwoman Pam Gautreau questioned when the Council will receive the amended budget for the year 2014.
Parish President Bill Fontenot stated as soon as the rest of the year is closed out; hopefully in the next thirty days.
Councilman Wayne Ardoin asked if the next Finance committee meeting in February would give enough time.
Bill Fontenot answered he will certainly do it as soon as the books close so if it is available and the books are closed.

7. A motion was made by Councilman Wayne Ardoin, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to request the amended budget for the year 2014 be provided at the next Administrative Finance Committee Meeting on February 4, 2015.
Votes Were: YEAS: Jerry Red, Wayne Ardoin, Dexter Brown, and Timmy Lejeune.
NAYS: None. ABSENT: Huet Dupre.
Motion carried.

8. A motion was made by Councilman Wayne Ardoin, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to adjourn the Administrative Finance Committee Meeting.
Votes Were: YEAS: Jerry Red, Wayne Ardoin, Dexter Brown, and Timmy Lejeune.
NAYS: None. ABSENT: Huet Dupre.
Motion carried.

**I HEREBY CERTIFY THE FOREGOING TO BE EXACT AND TRUE
LAYCIE ALFRED, COUNCIL CLERK**

XV. LITIGATION REPORT

- a) Attorney General's Opinion 14-0172; Public Meetings –State and Local Governing Bodies;
Discuss other matters properly brought before this committee.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT