

Special Meeting  
Of the  
Assumption Parish Police Jury

Wednesday, February 9, 2022  
3:00 O'clock p.m.

1. The Special Meeting of the Assumption Parish Police Jury was called to order by Police Jury President Patrick Johnson in the Assumption Parish Police Jury Chambers located at 4813 Highway 1, Napoleonville, Louisiana.
2. Police Jurors recorded as present were: Mr. Ron Alcorn, Ward 1; Mr. Patrick Johnson, Ward 4; Mr. Michael Dias, Ward 5. Mr. Chris Carter, Ward 6; Mr. Leroy Blanchard, Ward 7; Mr. Jamie Ponville, Ward 8 and Mr. Myron Matherne, Ward 9.  
Police Jurors recorded as absent were: Mr. Jeff Naquin, Ward 2; Mr. Irving Comeaux Ward 3.
3. President Patrick Johnson led the Prayer and Police Juror Chris Carter led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
4. President Patrick Johnson opened the meeting to the public for any public comments, questions or concerns regarding the items listed on the agenda. Following three (3) calls, there were no further comments received.
5. President Patrick Johnson stated that the Jury suggested that a recap meeting of Hurricane Ida as well as anything else deemed necessary, what worked, what didn't, areas of improvements, more resourceful, etc. He recognized Police Juror Ron Alcorn, who stated that Hurricane Ida was the most devastating hurricane that anyone has gone through. He stated that everyone is aware of what it took to get Assumption Parish back up and running. He then stated that he had some discussion with the Parish Manager and as a Juror there are things that can be put in place to be better prepared. Police Juror Ron Alcorn stated that one of the biggest obstacles the Parish experienced pertains to fuel. He then suggested that the Parish consider having its own fuel tank if it's within budget. He then stated that employees are expected to be first respondents, clear roadways, deliver sand, support OEP, etc. but one of the things that sticks out is that the Parish should be in a position to take care of their own. He proceeded to explain that if the Jury expect our employees to be first respondents, then the Jury should have a safe place for them and their families to stay. In response, to the fuel shortage, the OHSEP Director stated that the Parish used to have its own gasoline and diesel tank at the yard but they did away with them. He stated that he and the Parish Manager discussed this and agreed that the Parish would have to buy its own tank so you won't be restricted to one vendor. A brief discussion was held regarding the Parish obtaining their own gasoline tank, the size, time frame for filling, etc. The OHSEP Director suggested that fuel be purchased in June and if not emptied by November, the employees should be instructed to use it until it's empty. In response to a 4,000-gallon tank being enough, the OHSEP Director stated that for Hurricane Gustav the Parish had 21,000 gallons and used over 12,000. He also stated that they had the same amount of diesel. He explained that it was used by the Jury and the Sheriff's Department. He stated a 4,000-gallon tank for just the Police Jury would be enough until stations are up and running. He further stated that if times are really tough, that's when the Parish would reach out to GOHSEP. A brief discussion was then held regarding the purchase of a new or used fuel tank. Following a brief discussion, the Police Jury agreed to allocate \$10,000 to purchase a fuel tank.
6. Police Juror Myron Matherne offered a motion, seconded by Michael Dias, "THAT, the Police Jury approve an allocation of \$10,000 from R&B for the purchase of a fuel tank." The motion was unanimously adopted.
7. Police Juror Irving Comeaux entered a meeting at this time.
8. In response to the 2<sup>nd</sup> portion of Police Juror Alcorn's concern, Police Jury Chris Carter suggested that the department supervisors would come up with a total # of people they would need to ride an emergency event (hurricane, storm, etc.). He also stated that they would be able to get their families off or bring time to the safe place provided by the Parish. He added that we don't want to have workers trying to change shifts in the middle of a storm. In response, the OHSEP Director stated that R&B have a safe room that can withstand 250 mph winds. He stated that there is no safe shelter and the facilities that are used by the Parish are considered shelters of last resort. He added that the Parish doesn't want to assure anyone that they are being housed in a safe shelter. In response, the Parish Manager stated that the safe room at the R&B Department can house the entire crew if sitting in chairs but about 8-10 people if using cots. He added that he has no issue with allowing some of the staff to go home but following the storm everyone is needed back at work. If they are out of town, it will be several days before they report back for work and that's not acceptable. Following a brief discussion, the OHSEP Director stated that in the personnel manual it states that all essential workers are to remain in the parish. He then stated that their families should abide by the orders that are given for the Parish. Police Juror Chris Carter stated that he understands but work is required up until the passing of the storm therefore, the employee doesn't have the time to get their families situated. The OHSEP Director explained the situation that occurred with the evacuees during Hurricane Gustav and stated that that method was done away with because the State didn't cover the cost. He then

stated that for employees' families, the Parish can designate a shelter of last resort that will not be managed by the Special Programs Director and staff. Following a brief discussion, the OHSEP Director stated that it's difficult for a government employee because the days leading up to an event they work without rest and when it's over, they are required to work longer hours. Police Juror Ron Alcorn stated that there are many factors that lead up to the storm therefore, communications with the Parish Manager is necessary. The OHSEP Director gave an explanation of Hurricane Ida and stated that it's very difficult to make a call 3 days before the projected date because most times it may still be too far out to make a judgement call. He further stated that accurate information is normally given 24 hrs. before the projected time. He then stated that each department supervisor is different and it's up to each supervisor to manage their task at hand. Police Juror Leroy Blanchard stated that in the hurricane preparation meetings, the Parish should meet with the employees to see how many family people are staying back and are at risk but also to remind the employees about their duties along with being on call. A brief discussion was held regarding the excuse employees use for not reporting to work and the Jury being firm with the consequences. Following, the OHSEP Director stated shelters will open up to a possible category 4 but plans are not to open at a strong cat 4 or 5 and employees are asked to evacuate as well. Following the discussion, Police Juror Leroy Blanchard stated that the point of action from the entire discussion would be to revisit the hurricane preparation plan so that all employees can be educated on what is expected of them for a category 3, 4 or stronger storm. An explanation was given so that everyone understood what was stated and expected under an extreme hurricane. A discussion was then held regarding shift change during an event and hours of payment. President Patrick Johnson stated that radio communication was another complaint/problem received. Police Juror Leroy Blanchard stated that communication (cell phone, radio tower) was severely impacted after the storm. He stated that the Parish (Fire Departments, Sheriff's Office, OHSEP) rely on the State communication systems for the radios. He stated that the Parish needs to follow up with the State to see what plans are in place to harden the system so communication is available. In response, the OHSEP Director stated that there is a State Committee that reviews all infrastructure. He stated that one of the difficulties the Parish has is getting free lease space from DOW Chemical because the repeater is located on their tower. He added that the biggest issue with the Fire Department in the area is the telephone network. He stated that it goes down when the water rises in the area and blows the fuses, the fiber optic lines are lost to the tower and it is then isolated and can't communicate with the State Network. In response, the OHSEP Director stated that he has taken the measures to have a hard system. A brief discussion was held regarding the radio system and communication in the Parish. In response, the OHSEP Director stated that upgrading communication is expensive and the 911 budget is running into a \$50,000-\$60,000 deficit each year and will be depleted in 4-5 yrs. A brief discussion was held regarding the request for funding for communication and infrastructure issues. The OHSEP Director reiterated that there are no grants for communications. You must rely on your own budget.

9. Police Juror Leroy Blanchard stated that other matters that were brought up in the discussion that followed Hurricane Ida was the hurricane protection levee and the gap between Gibson and Amelia. He stated that he has been working with GIS and Garret Graves Office regarding this matter to have the master plan for CPRA modified to include a hurricane protection extension that exist. He also informed them that had that storm taken the predicted track the State would have realized that there was a gap in the hurricane protection system. He added that the need for a protection structure in that area is critical for our parish and the only outlet to the gulf is unprotected to a storm. In response, he stated that in a week or so, the barge will be installed permanently and a letter was sent to the shipping industry that Bayou Chene would be shut down for a few days. The OHSEP Director proceeded to explain how the process would take place. Police Juror Irving Comeaux stated that the barge will not provide the expectations that everyone expected. The OHSEP Director proceeded to inform the Jury of his conversation with Mr. Tim Matte and others regarding what should be used to indicate the back water and stated that the gauge should be set on the Bayou Boeuf side instead of Morgan City River side. A brief discussion was then held regarding the changes that have occurred with the Bayou Chene Project and the placing of a hurricane protection structure in Bayou Boeuf. In response, Police Juror Leroy Blanchard stated that there have been major changes since the permit was awarded in 2013 until today. He proceeded to explain what is presently going on with the flow of water and drainage. In response to if the Parish could withdraw from the allocation for the Bayou Chene Project, the Secretary-Treasurer stated that a contract was never signed but a verbal commitment was made on the amount that would have to be paid. The OHSEP Director explained why they held off with the signing of the contract. Following the explanation, Police juror Leroy Blanchard stated that the CPRA area has changed and pushed further north. He further stated that he thinks Assumption Parish has a valid case to the St. Mary Levee Board for paying the \$100,000 if we can't be protected to the levels of protection needed.
10. Police Juror Ron Alcorn offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Chris Carter, 'THAT, the Police Jury approve requesting Tim Matte, St. Mary Parish Levee Board, to attend the meeting of February 23, 2022 to discuss the Bayou Chene Project.' The motion was unanimously adopted.
11. Police Juror Leroy Blanchard then stated that he would like a situational report done daily to keep everyone informed on what transpired at the meeting or any briefing that was missed. If all communications are down, a hard copy would be available to review. He added that the Governor's Office sends out this report daily to all agencies. In response, the OHSEP Director stated that he's not disagreeing with the suggestion but from a small office stand point, the new

Director needs to designate someone from another department to be responsible for that task. He added that everyone in the OHSEP Department is extremely busy in an emergency event. In response, he stated that the Secretary-Treasurer is the Public Information Officer. Police Juror Ron Alcorn asked why the press release isn't sent to all the media outlets for those that don't go online to the parish website and are not on Facebook? The OHSEP Director stated that we have the Civic Ready outlet that's used and hopefully everyone is signed up on it. He stated that this source includes an email and text and stated that Facebook picks up the information from there. He further stated that he would request the Secretary-Treasurer to figure out who would draft the report as requested. In response, the Secretary-Treasurer stated that how will she get the information to put in the report because the information is not provided. She stated that information from the emails is how the report used to be done. She stated that it's very difficult to gather information from the conference calls and come up with a situational report. She stated that she would do her best to summarize the calls. Police Juror Ron Alcorn stated that if the OHSEP Department is in charge of a catastrophic event, all information whether, it's coming from the National Hurricane Service or elsewhere, the information needs to be submitted to the Secretary-Treasurer or her staff to get the information out. The OHSEP Director stated that when Mrs. Theriot was employed, she did a good job with providing the information. He then stated that if the Jury wants to designate a person, that person must come to the office and ask the questions and be prepared to put the report together. In response, he stated that Pam Rousell puts that document together and the report is sent to GOHSEP which is from the verbal conference call. Police Juror Leroy Blanchard stated that the Jury is not a part of all calls and are forced to make a decision without having the information. The OHSEP Director stated that during a hurricane the conference call is attended by about 500 people, from different agencies and parishes, and that is the information data that Juror Blanchard is speaking of. He stated that each Parish has a staff member getting the information as a situational report is presented by the different Parish's on the call. He then stated that after that conference call is over, the Parish conference call is held. Following a brief discussion regarding the request for a person to create a situational report, the OHSEP Director stated that the Secretary-Treasurer is the Public Information Officer and will need to do the report or assign someone to be in attendance to get the information. Mr. Long asked if the Jurors are not in attendance, and the communication is fully down, how will they receive the information? Police Juror Leroy Blanchard stated that if there is a paper copy available for pick up, he can then review the information and feel as though he was in attendance at the meeting. He added that the contents would contain reliable information that can be passed on to your constituents. In response, Mr. Long stated that because of the limited staff, anyone that wants to sit in the meeting and abstract the information, would be welcomed. The Secretary-Treasurer informed the Jury that if communication is down, she won't be able to get on the call as well.

12. President Patrick Johnson requested feedback regarding Entergy and the order in which they worked to bring the Parish back up. In response, Police Juror Rom Alcorn stated that there were nine (9) Jurors fighting to get their perspective areas powered up and running but from Entergy's perspective, Assumption Parish was the worst parish to deal with. Police Juror Leroy Blanchard stated that the employees for Entergy that handled hurricane, storms, etc. had recently retired and this event (Hurricane Ida) was the first time the new regime was put to the test and they failed miserably. He proceeded to explain all the different downfalls and the logistic failures that they experienced. Following a brief discussion regarding retirees assisting with getting power to certain areas, it was stated that that process may not transpire again. The OHSEP Director stated that the Jury needs to realize that the government agency that regulates public service is the Public Service Commission, who are on the State conference call before the Parish conference call is held. He stated that they received a lot of information from the different providers (SLECA, Entergy, DEMCO, etc.), therefore, if there are concerns, they need to be contacted.
13. President Patrick Johnson stated that another concern he had dealt with was the Food Bank or the food supplies. He stated that whose to say when enough is enough when resources are still coming in and the storm is over. In response, the OHSEP Director stated that the orders are placed but they don't assure you of when it will arrive so you do the best you can when it's received. He also stated that Pod sites are set up and they move from site to site even though you received resources on different days. He further stated that they would like you to have only one site in the Parish but it wouldn't be fair for the people on the Parish lines.
14. Police Juror Jeff Naquin entered the meeting at this time.
15. In response to sand bags, the OHSEP Director stated that the issue was discussed to allow 10 bags per vehicle but he's not sure if that became standard. President Patrick Johnson stated that he thinks that this limit is reasonable. A brief discussion was held regarding the c-cans and the super sacks for sand.
16. President Patrick Johnson recognized the Special Programs Director, who stated that Hurricane Ida was a major emergency event especially with the sheltering. She stated that to shelter Assumption Parish residents is one thing but to have to open the doors to our neighboring parishes was totally different. She stated that the population that was present ranged from the homeless, elderly, newly released people from jail, unstable and pets. She then commended the OHSEP staff on their highest professionalism, his demeanor and assistance when she needed direction. She also stated that the Sheriff's Office deputies had to be commended as well. The OHSEP Director stated that the fires need to be put out as they start. In response to pets and

showers, the OHSEP Director stated there may be some opportunities through CDBG Disaster Recovery funds in the future for this viable project. He stated that the Jury can put another building behind the Community Center as a separate footprint for showers, etc. In response as to why showers, etc. were not a part of the original plan of the center, the OHSEP Director stated that showers take a lot of space and caused some concerns regarding the general use of the building.

17. Police Juror Ron Alcorn requested that the Police Jury have a hurricane preparation meeting in May, 2022 before the regular scheduled meeting and the beginning of hurricane season.
18. President Patrick Johnson thanked everyone for their input and suggestions relative to Hurricane Ida.
19. Police Juror Michael Dias offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Chris Carter, "THAT, there being no further business to come before the Assumption Parish Police Jury, the meeting be adjourned." The motion was unanimously adopted.

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Kim M. Torres  
Secretary-Treasurer

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Patrick Johnson  
President

Drainage Committee Meeting  
Of the  
Assumption Parish Police Jury

Wednesday, February 9, 2022  
5:05 O'clock p.m.

1. Committee members recorded as present were: Mr. Jamie Ponville, Chairman; Mr. Chris Carter, Mr. Irving Comeaux, Mr. Leroy Blanchard, Mr. Myron Matherne, Mr. Patrick Johnson.  
Other Police Jurors recorded as present were: Mr. Ron Alcorn, Mr. Jeff Naquin, Mr. Michael Dias.
2. Committee member Chris Carter offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Leroy Blanchard, "THAT, the committee approve \$700 for Vickie Dr. at Kitten St. Catchbasin Installation Project." The motion was unanimously adopted.
3. Committee member Leroy Blanchard offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Chris Carter, "THAT, the committee approve \$820 for 112 Alida Dr. Culvert Replacement Project." The motion was unanimously adopted.
4. Committee member Myron Matherne offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Chris Carter, "THAT, the committee approve \$9,910 for 224 Ewell St. Culvert Installation Project." The motion was unanimously adopted.
5. Committee member Chris Carter offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Leroy Blanchard, "THAT, there being no further business to come before the Drainage Committee, the meeting be adjourned." The motion was unanimously adopted.

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Kim M. Torres  
Secretary-Treasurer

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Jamie Ponville  
Drainage Committee Chairman

Finance Committee Meeting  
Of the  
Assumption Parish Police Jury

Wednesday, February 9, 2022  
5:10 O'clock p.m.

1. Committee members recorded as present were: Mr. Patrick Johnson, Chairman; Mr. Jeff Naquin, Mr. Ron Alcorn, Mr. Irving Comeaux, Mr. Michael Dias, Mr. Chris Carter, Mr. Myron Matherne. Other Police Jurors recorded as present were: Mr. Leroy Blanchard, Mr. Jamie Ponville.
2. Committee member Jeff Naquin offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Michael Dias, "THAT, the committee approve payment of bills submitted through February 4, 2022." The motion was unanimously adopted.
3. Chairman Patrick Johnson recognized Chamber of Commerce representatives Tonya Pierre and Bridget Landry. Ms. Tonya Pierre stated that the Chamber is planning their annual banquet for April 7, 2022 at the APCC facility. She stated that they are extending an invitation to President Patrick Johnson, Superintendent Bartholemy, and Warden Shawanda Lemon to be the guest speakers. She stated that they are currently getting a quote for a caterer and contacting CBS Trio for the entertainment. Ms. Pierre stated that they received 18 Teenager of the Year applications and all interviews will be done in February. The winner will receive a \$500 scholarship and all other applicants will receive a plaque. She then stated that an email was received from a representative with Pontivity France who would like to work with the Chamber of Commerce to reestablish the community and relationship between the twin cities. More information regarding will be coming forth. Ms. Pierre stated that they are experiencing some issues with the Chambers web page therefore, it's been disabled but will be restarted soon. The business spotlight for the Month of December was Sagona's True Value Hardware and Dan Boudreaux's Ace Hardware for January. Both businesses were instrumental in assisting the community during Hurricane Ida. She stated that the spotlight for February has been determined but they are waiting on their paperwork. Ms. Pierre stated that due to illness, Ms. Jane Boudreaux is being replaced on the Chamber's board. She then stated that they will be honoring her with a keepsake plaque that will be mounted to a chair and presented to her at home. She further stated that when the banquet is over, they will be regrouping and concentrating on filling the seats on the board. Ms. Pierre then stated that the Chamber is looking forward to doing more now that everything is beginning to open up and return to normal. Again, she stated that they are continuing to maintain the Chamber of Commerce responsibilities on a voluntary basis.
4. Committee member Ron Alcorn offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Jeff Naquin, "THAT, the committee approve the 2021 4<sup>th</sup> quarter report along with their quarterly allocation for the Chamber of Commerce." The motion was unanimously adopted.
5. Chairman Patrick Johnson recognized the Parish Manager, who presented each member with a copy of the current quotes received for the LGAP equipment. He stated that the quotes that were previously received are no longer valid. Therefore, he is requesting approval of the overage in the amount of \$6,500 to be funded through the R&B budget.
6. Committee member Myron Matherne offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Chris Carter, "THAT, the committee approve the overage for purchase of LGAP equipment to be funded through the R&B budget in the amount of \$6,500." The motion was unanimously adopted.
7. Committee member Chris Carter offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Michael Dias, "THAT, there being no further business to come before the Finance Committee, the meeting be adjourned." The motion was unanimously adopted.

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Kim M. Torres  
Secretary-Treasurer

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Patrick Johnson  
Finance Committee Chairman

Personnel Committee Meeting  
Of the  
Assumption Parish Police Jury

Wednesday, February 9, 2022  
5:15 O'clock p.m.

1. Committee members recorded as present were: Mr. Chris Carter, Chairman; Mr. Irving Comeaux, Mr. Ron Alcorn, Mr. Michael Dias, Mr. Leroy Blanchard, Mr. Jamie Ponville, Mr. Patrick Johnson. Other Police Jurors recorded as present were: Mr. Jeff Naquin, Mr. Myron Matherne.
2. Chairman Chris Carter recognized the Parish Manager, who stated that James Madere, General Maintenance worker will be transferred to the Jail Maintenance position full time. He stated that this position includes more responsibilities therefore, he is requesting an increase in salary. He suggested that he be moved to a grade 5 step 24 at \$19.67 an hr. effective February 11, 2022.
3. Committee member Jamie Ponville offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Ron Alcorn, "THAT, the committee approve promoting James Madere to Jail Maintenance Worker at a grade 5 step 24 at \$19.67 an hr." The motion was unanimously adopted.
4. The Parish Manager then stated that he and his assistant interviewed Jamal Amos for the Equipment Operator position. He stated that he has a CDL with some equipment operations experience. The office is willing to offer training and he is willing and welcomes all training. He then requested that Jamal Amos be hired as a Master Equipment Operator at a grade 5 step 12 at \$15.71 an hr. The Parish Manager then stated that he interviewed Ms. Savannah Weatherford for the Animal Control position. He stated that she will be handling the animals and he is confident that she can handle anything that is put before her. He then recommended that she be hired at a grade 4 step 13 at \$14.64 an hr.
5. Committee member Jamie Ponville offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Leroy Blanchard, "THAT, the committee approve the hiring of Jamal Amos as a Master Equipment Operator at a grade 5 step 12 at \$15.71 an hr. and Savannah Weatherford as the Animal Control Officer at a grade 4 step 13 at \$14.64 an hr." The motion was unanimously adopted.
6. The Parish Manager stated that after getting approvals on the suggested hirings indicates that moves in his department are being made. He stated that he is still in search of more equipment operators. He informed the committee that that he held another interview but everything was on hold due to the pay scale. He then stated that when looking at restructuring the department, he will also be looking at how the Parish can increase the salary for quality employees. He also stated that it was mentioned during the staff meeting that they have some moral issues in the department but a meeting will be scheduled to discuss the old equipment, the yard conditions, etc. He further stated that a job fair is being planned but he needs to find other ways to not only recruit qualified employee but ways and means to encourage them to stay. In response to highlights of the interview, he stated that he stresses the benefits (insurance, paid holidays, etc.) that are offered by the Parish.
7. Chairman Chris Carter suggested that when considering the replacement for Leroy Woods, please consider someone that's certified and qualified. In response, the Parish Manager stated that he started receiving some feedback from other parishes relative to their pay scale. He then stated that according to what he is receiving, this parish is not that far off. He stated that we are higher than some but lower than others by less than \$.50. He stated that once he receives all the requests that were made, he will forward a copy to each Juror.
8. Committee member Leroy Blanchard offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Michael Dias, "THAT, there being no further business to come before the Personnel Committee, the meeting be adjourned." The motion was unanimously adopted.

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Kim M. Torres  
Secretary-Treasurer

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Chris Carter  
Personnel Committee Chairman

Engineering/Grants Committee Meeting  
Of the  
Assumption Parish Police Jury

Wednesday, February 9, 2022  
5:35 O'clock p.m.

1. Committee members recorded as present were: Mr. Irving Comeaux, Chairman; Mr. Ron Alcorn, Mr. Jeff Naquin, Mr. Michael Dias, Mr. Jamie Ponville, Mr. Patrick Johnson.  
Committee member recorded as absent was: Mr. Leroy Blanchard.  
Other Police Jurors recorded as present were: Mr. Chris Carter, Mr. Myron Matherne.
2. Chairman Irving Comeaux recognized Jacob Loeske, GIS Engineering, who presented the committee with a package and stated that they are still working on the model with some progression going on. He stated that alternative 1 is called the Southern Closure Complex and is indicated with the red line and proceeded to explain. He stated that this is simply to show that there's a closure at the bottom, eliminate any surge possibilities and put a rain fall on the interior to show how much water is being trapped in the interior north of the parish and what size pump station is needed to get the water out. He stated that alternative 2 is the roadway, Hwy 70 being raised at a cost of \$4,036,740 submitted by Barber Brothers. He spoke about the pump on the Atchafalaya and would it take out enough water out before it reaches Pierre Part, Bayou L'Ourse, etc. He stated that the last alternative is still ongoing putting in the east bank model portions. Mr. Loeske stated that they will continue to play with the different scenarios to see what's forth coming. In response, he stated that the H&C is the biggest project that they are working on right now, at the mouth and at the very bottom to get the water to the intercoastal. He stated that the biggest question is to see where and how the operation of the Bayou Chene structure will operate this year. A brief discussion was held regarding the Donner Canal and how it is affected.
3. Chairman Irving Comeaux recognized the Parish Engineer, who stated that he updated the cost estimate of the Bayou Crab Project that was previously provided utilizing more updated cost. He stated that the plan includes raising the road approximately 14", widening the road and a cross culvert installation. He stated that the estimated cost is \$1,943,000.
4. Chairman Irving Comeaux recognized the OHSEP Director, who stated that the positivity rate dropped to 21.1% but that number is still high. He stated that the vaccination rate is 45% of the Parish population with 10,000 residents being fully vaccinated and 1,000 that have received the 1<sup>st</sup> dose. He stated that there will be another distribution of the home test kits and it will be scheduled soon.
5. The OHSEP Director proceeded with the Disaster Recovery Grants – CDBG Marais Sewer System and the Generators Projects. He stated that ARCO has started with the load testing and two (2) sites have been completed leaving about 10-12 to complete. He then stated that hopefully by the next meeting all will be complete.
  - 2021 Flood – continue to have conversations with FEMA in regards to that and we discussed at the last meeting the temporary levee that was set up on Hwy 70. He stated that he received some information from FEMA questioning the levee and what was the plan. He stated that he and the Parish Manager indicated that it would be further discussed tonight. He reiterated that if the Parish decides to keep it and get a permit and the permit is received, it no longer qualifies for a temporary structure and the reimbursement will not be received by the Parish. The OHSEP Director then stated that if it's removed, the Parish will be reimbursed for the work we've completed to put it in and the removal. He further stated that if the Parish holds off with the environmental issue, the remaining amount will get held up until the environmental issue is cleared. Police Juror Myron Matherne recommended that the levee remain in place. In response, the Parish Manager stated the cost to install the levee
  - was approximately \$10,000 but the cost estimate to remove would be about \$2,000-3,000. Committee member Jamie Ponville requested that the committee and the Jury consider leaving the levee in place and suggested that the \$10,000 be budgeted through Ward 8 drainage. In response to an update on the permit, the Parish Engineer stated that he spoke with DNR today and they sent him a request for additional information which was immediately provided. He stated that he spoke with the permit analyst who indicated that she's doing a review of everything and if she deems permit complete, it will be submitted to her superiors. If completed and approved, it will be submitted to the paperwork process but he's not sure of a time span. In response, the OHSEP Director stated that until all of that process is completed, the reimbursement process will be held up for everything. He stated that the amount for reimbursement is \$75,000 which includes, sandbags, flood tubes, labor force, etc. Following a brief discussion, the committee agreed to table the removal of the temporary levee until next meeting.
  - Hurricane Ida - A denial letter was received from NRCS for the Watershed Tree Removal Project and a conference call was held with FEMA and other parties to get an update on the process. He then stated that the new process is to get FEMA to fund but stated that it's a tedious process to get through. He mentioned that he has had several conversations following his call with FEMA in regards to that process. He stated that he will have to use the

Parish Engineer to provide some information for FEMA. He added that there are some concerning words in the letter that FEMA is now using against us saying that there is no threat to life and safety with having the debris in the waterways therefore, the Parish will have to combat this theory. In response, the Parish Engineer stated that the Police Jury may want to consider flying drones as a combat to fight FEMA to be reimbursed. He stated this would allow the Jury to have footage to show how the canals will affect the homes. Chairman Irving Comeaux suggested that the Parish Engineer contact GIS Engineers to see if they have information that can be used.

6. Committee member Jeff Naquin offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Michael Dias, "THAT, there being no further business to come before the Engineering//Grants Committee, the meeting be adjourned." The motion was unanimously adopted.

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Kim M. Torres  
Secretary-Treasurer

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Irving Comeaux, Chairman  
Engineering/Grants Committee

Regular Meeting  
Of the  
Assumption Parish Police Jury

Wednesday, February 9, 2022  
6:00 O'clock p.m.

1. The Regular Meeting of the Assumption Parish Police Jury was called to order by Police Jury President Patrick Johnson in the Assumption Parish Police Jury Chambers located at 4813 Highway 1, Napoleonville, Louisiana.
2. Police Jurors recorded as present were: Mr. Ron Alcorn, Ward 1; Mr. Jeff Naquin, Ward 2; Mr. Irving Comeaux, Ward 3; Mr. Patrick Johnson, Ward 4; Mr. Michael Dias, Ward 5. Mr. Chris Carter, Ward 6; Mr. Jamie Ponville, Ward 8 and Mr. Myron Matherne, Ward 9.  
Police Juror recorded as absent was: Mr. Leroy Blanchard, Ward 7.
3. President Patrick Johnson led the Prayer and Police Juror Chris Carter led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
4. Police Juror Chris Carter offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Myron Matherne, "THAT, the Police Jury approve the minutes of the January 26, 2022 meeting." The motion was unanimously adopted.
5. President Patrick Johnson opened the meeting to the public for any public comments, questions or concerns regarding the items listed on the agenda. Following three (3) calls, there were no further comments received.
6. President Patrick Johnson recognized Mr. Tommy Martinez, Senator Kennedy's Office, who thanked the President for recognizing him. He stated that he's from Ascension Parish and is here to service and help the Jury with any needs that should arise. He stated that if the Parish needs help with FEMA he's willing to assist. He further stated that Mr. Blanchard informed him that the Parish hired a grants writer and offered to allow Senator Kennedy's grant writer to assist him in any way. In response, he stated that he works with the Corp of Engineers on a daily basis and is willing to assist with that office as well.
7. President Patrick Johnson recognized Drainage Committee Chairman Jamie Ponville, who stated that the committee met and recommended the following matters; \$700 for Vickie Dr. at Kitten St. Catchbasin Installation Project, \$820 for 112 Alida Dr. Culvert Replacement Project and \$9,910 for 224 Ewell St. Culvert Installation Project.
8. Police Juror Jamie Ponville offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Jeff Naquin, "THAT, the Police Jury approve the Drainage Committee report as presented." The motion was unanimously adopted.
9. President Patrick Johnson stated that the Finance Committee met and recommended the following matters; payment of bills through February 4, 2022, the 2021 4<sup>th</sup> quarter report and allocation for the Chamber of Commerce and the overage for purchase of LGAP equipment to be funded through the R&B budget in the amount of \$6,500.
10. Police Juror Myron Matherne offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Ron Alcorn, "THAT, the Police Jury approve the Finance Committee report as presented." The motion was unanimously adopted. (resolution attached)
11. President Patrick Johnson recognized Personnel Committee Chairman Chris Carter, who stated that the committee met and recommended the following matters: promoting James Madere to Jail Maintenance Worker at a grade 5 step 24 at \$19.67 an hr. and the hiring of Jamal Amos as a Master Equipment Operator at a grade 5 step 12 at \$15.71 an hr. and Savannah Weatherford as the Animal Control Officer at a grade 4 step 13 at \$14.64 an hr.
12. Police Juror Chris Carter offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Jamie Ponville, "THAT, the Police Jury approve the Personnel Committee report as presented." The motion was unanimously adopted. (resolutions attached)
13. Police Juror Ron Alcorn offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Leroy Blanchard, "THAT, the Police Jury approve the Road & Bridge Committee report as presented." The motion was unanimously adopted. (resolution attached)
14. President Patrick Johnson recognized Engineering/Grants Committee Chairman Irving Comeaux, who stated that the committee met and recommended the following matters; received an update from GIS Engineering regarding the Drainage Master Plan & Flood Mitigation Project, the Bayou Crab Road Project, the Coronavirus Pandemic and the Disaster Recovery Grants. He also stated that the committee agreed to leave the temporary levee in place until further information is received.

15. Police Juror Irving Comeaux offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Chris Carter, "THAT, the Police Jury approve the Engineering/Grants Committee report as presented." The motion was unanimously adopted.
16. President Patrick Johnson recognized Judge Alvin Turner, Chief Judge 23<sup>rd</sup> JDC, who stated that his purpose for addressing the Jury was the condition of the restroom facility in the Courthouse and other improvements that are needed. He stated that he began his practice in 1980 as an ADA and at that time the bathrooms were terrible and as of today, they have not improved. He then stated that the Jury may think it's minor but it's not, the Courthouse is nice and registered in the Historic Registry therefore, the restroom needs to be maintained properly. He then asked had any of the Jurors visited the facility lately to witness the condition and if so, why has nothing been done to improve the facility? He added that there are certain areas that could be a liability issue for the Parish if not corrected. Judge Turner pointed out the new facilities in other parishes but stated that those upgrades are not being requested just some attention to the restrooms. Police Juror Jeff Naquin stated that the building is registered in the Historic Registry and the Jury agrees that something needs to be done. He then stated that there are funds in the budget for such renovations therefore, the Parish Manager and or the Parish Engineer will collaborate and get the ball rolling. Police Juror Ron Alcorn also suggested that the grants writer can look into some historical preservation grant funds to assist with this project as well. Judge Turner then mentioned that the Parish is saving money based on the Judge's secretaries that are no longer on payroll in Assumption Parish. He further stated that this is a crisis and needs to be addressed as an urgent project. He added that his concern is for the future of the Courthouse and all those offices that currently utilize the facility. In response to cleanliness, he stated that when you have old and rusted stuff no matter what you do, it never presents itself clean. Judge Turner finally stated most people are unaware that there is a difference in pay for criminal and civil jury duty which is unfair. He then stated that there is a provision under law that can make the payment amount fair to both and it would be budgeted from the criminal court funds. He also added that Ascension Parish carries 50% of the burden for the 23<sup>rd</sup> JDC, St. James 25% and Assumption 25%. He then stated that anything they can do to assist and accelerate the process please contact them. A brief discussion was held regarding the plea by Judge Turner. In response, the Parish Engineer stated that this process was started years ago and the issues the parish will run into at this time is that they will have to be upgraded to ADA standards. He stated that whatever is done will have to go through an Architect and Engineering to be submitted to the Fire Marshal for approval. He also stated that he would assist the Assistant Parish Manager to come up with a cost that would be up to \$100,000. Following the discussion, the Police Jury agreed to authorize the Assistant Parish Manager and the Parish Engineer to get a cost estimate for the restrooms in the Courthouse.
17. Police Juror Chris Carter offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Ron Alcorn. "THAT, the Police Jury authorize the Assistant Parish Manager and the Parish Engineer to get a cost estimate for renovating the restrooms in the Courthouse." The motion was unanimously adopted.
18. Police Juror Chris Carter offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Michael Dias, "THAT, the Police Jury approve amending the Building & Construction Ordinance Chapter 5 Section 5:7; Section 5:116 and Land Development Chapter 26 Section 26:9.2 to replace the OHSEP Director with the Floodplain Manager/Permit Officer." The motion was unanimously adopted. (ordinance attached)
19. Police Juror Patrick Johnson offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Jamie Ponville, "THAT, the Police Jury approve the adoption of a resolution authorizing the holding of an election in Lower Texas Gravity Drainage District #15 of the Parish of Assumption on Saturday, April 30, 3022 to authorize the levy of a parcel fee therein." The motion was unanimously adopted. (resolution attached)
20. Police Juror Ron Alcorn offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Myron Matherne, "THAT, the Police Jury approve a resolution of support of Juror Jeff Naquin as a candidate for Member at Large on the Police Jury Executive Board." The motion was unanimously adopted.
21. Police Juror Myron Matherne offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Chris Carter, "THAT, the Police Jury approve a Can Shake Permit for Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4222 (4/2/22)." The motion was unanimously adopted.
22. Police Juror Jeff Naquin offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Michael Dias, "THAT, the Police Jury approve an occupational license for Patin's Bar LLC." The motion was unanimously adopted.
23. Police Juror Jeff Naquin offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Jamie Ponville, "THAT, the Police Jury approve the 1st phase of the derelict structure procedure for the dwelling located at 138 Convent St." The motion was unanimously adopted.
24. President Patrick Johnson recognized Police Juror Ron Alcorn, who explained a situation that happened involving a loose horse. He stated that reading the language in the ordinance, the Parish nor the Sheriff's Office has a mechanism in place to transport livestock. He also mentioned the cost that was incurred and stated that the owner is not willing to pay. Following a

brief discussion, the ADA stated that this is not a Police Jury matter and further stated that he does agree that revisions are needed to the ordinance.

25. Police Juror Jeff Naquin offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Michael Das, "THAT, the Police Jury approve a liquor license for Patin's Bar LLC, LBA 13U White Travel Ball, Krewe of Xanadu LLC, Knocking Out ALL with Rodney and Allons Manger Food Festival." The motion was unanimously adopted.

26. Police Juror Myron Matherne offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Chris Carter, "THAT, there being no further business to come before the Regular Meeting, the meeting be adjourned." The motion was unanimously adopted.

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Kim M. Torres  
Secretary-Treasurer

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Patrick Johnson  
President

On a motion by Mr. Ron Alcorn, seconded by Mr. Myron Matherne, the following resolution was adopted:

#### RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED that the Assumption Parish Police Jury does hereby approve and support Jeff "Big Daddy" Naquin, Assumption Parish Police Jury Vice-President, in his announcement of candidacy for Member at Large – Police Jury Association Executive Board;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Vice-President Naquin is currently serving his 18<sup>th</sup> year for Assumption Parish and his experience, background in local government and ability to reach out to many people throughout the State of Louisiana makes him a prime candidate for your consideration for Member at Large – Executive Board.

Upon being placed to a vote, the above resolution was adopted as follows:

Yeas: 8  
Nays: 0  
Absent: Leroy Blanchard

On a motion by Mr. Irving Comeaux, seconded by Mr. Jeff Naquin, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED that the Assumption Parish Police Jury does hereby approve and authorize the Parish Manager to purchase the following R&B equipment through LGAP funding with an additional overage of \$6,500 to be funded through the R&B budget.

Upon being placed to a vote, the above resolution was adopted as follows:

Yeas: 8  
Nays: 0  
Absent: Leroy Blanchard

On a motion by Mr. Chris Carter, seconded by Mr. Jamie Ponville, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED that the Assumption Parish Police Jury does hereby approve the promotion of James Madere to Jail Maintenance Worker at a Grade 5 Step 24, at \$19.67/hr., to be effective 2/11/2022.

Upon being placed to a vote, the above resolution was adopted as follows:

Yeas: 8

Nays: 0

Absent: Leroy Blanchard

On a motion by Mr. Chris Carter, seconded by Mr. Jamie Ponville, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED that the Assumption Parish Police Jury does hereby approve the hiring of the following:

Savanah Weatherford  
Animal Control Officer  
Grade 4 Step 13  
\$14.64/hr.

Jamal Amos  
Master Equipment Operator  
Grade 5 Step 12  
\$15.71/hr.

Upon being placed to a vote, the above resolution was adopted as follows:

Yeas: 8  
Nays: 0  
Absent: Leroy Blanchard

The following resolution was offered by Patrick Johnson and seconded by Jamie Ponville:

**RESOLUTION**

A resolution approving the holding of an election in Lower Texas Gravity Drainage District #15 of the Parish of Assumption, Louisiana, on Saturday, April 30, 2022, to authorize the levy of a parcel fee therein.

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Lower Texas Gravity Drainage District #15 of the Parish of Assumption, Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of Lower Texas Gravity Drainage District #15 of the Parish of Assumption, Louisiana (the "District"), adopted a resolution on January 21, 2022, calling a special election in the District on Saturday, April 30, 2022, to authorize the levy of a parcel fee therein; and

WHEREAS, the governing authority of the District has requested that this Police Jury, acting as the governing authority of the Parish of Assumption, State of Louisiana, give its consent and authority for the District to hold the aforesaid election, and in the event that the election carries to levy and collect the parcel fee provided for therein; and

WHEREAS, as required by Article VI, Section 15 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974, it is now the desire of this Police Jury to approve the holding of said election and in the event that the election carries, to levy and collect the parcel fee provided for therein;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Police Jury of the Parish of Assumption, State of Louisiana, acting as the governing authority of said Parish, that:

SECTION 1. In compliance with the provisions of Article VI, Section 15 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974, and in accordance with the request of the Board of Commissioners of Lower Texas Gravity Drainage District #15 of the Parish of Assumption, Louisiana, this Police Jury hereby approves the holding of an election in the District, on Saturday, April 30, 2022, at which election there will be submitted the following proposition, to-wit:

**PARCEL FEE PROPOSITION**

Shall Lower Texas Gravity Drainage District #15 of the Parish of Assumption, Louisiana, levy and collect an annual parcel fee of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) on each lot, sub-divided portion of ground and/or individual tract located in said District for a period of ten (10) years, beginning with the year 2022 and ending with the year 2031 (an estimated \$4,000 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the fee for an entire year), in the manner set out in Section 2740.16 of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, for the purpose of paying the cost of constructing and maintaining levees, levee drainage, flood protection, hurricane flood protection, and all purposes incidental thereto, including paying compensation for the exercise of permanent or temporary servitudes?

SECTION 2. In the event the election carries, this Police Jury does hereby further consent to and authorize the District to levy and collect the parcel fee provided for therein.

This resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: 8

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: Leroy Blanchard

And the resolution was declared adopted on this, the 9<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2022.

/s/ Kim M. Torres  
Secretary-Treasurer

/s/ Patrick Johnson  
President

On a motion by Mr. Chris Carter, seconded by Mr. Michael Dias, the following ordinance was adopted:

**ORDINANCE NO. 22-03**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE PARISH OF ASSUMPTION PROVIDING FOR THE AMENDMENT OF THE FOLLOWING EXISTING ORDINANCES:

- "BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION ORDINANCE – CHAPTER 5 - SECTION 5:7. SECTION 5:116"
- "LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE – CHAPTER 26 - SECTION 26:9.2"

To reflect Floodplain Manager/Permit Officer instead of OEP/OHSEP Director

THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Assumption Parish Police Jury, governing authority of the Parish of Assumption, State of Louisiana, and pursuant to the authority conferred by Assumption Parish Police Jury Charter that, the Assumption Parish Police Jury does hereby adopt this ordinance providing for an amendment to the existing "Building and Construction & Land Development" ordinances.

This ORDINANCE shall become effective immediately.

The foregoing ordinance, having been submitted to a vote, was as follows:

Yeas: 8  
Nays: 0  
Absent: Leroy Blanchard

And the ordinance was declared adopted this 11 day of February, 2022.

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Kim M. Torres  
Secretary-Treasurer

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Patrick Johnson  
President