

State of Louisiana
Parish of Vernon



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING**

**VERNON PARISH POLICE JURY
PARISH GOVERNMENT COMPLEX BUILDING
300 S. 3RD STREET, 2ND FLOOR
LEESVILLE, LOUISIANA**

**MONDAY, JULY 15, 2024
10:00 a.m.**

The Vernon Parish Police Jury met in Regular Session, Monday, July 15, 2024 at 10 a.m. in the Police Jury meeting room with the following members **PRESENT**: James B. “Jim” Tuck – President, Marvin Hilton, Douglas “Doug” Roshong, Cody Hostetler, Scottie Benjamin, Charnel Bailey, Malcolm “Dean” Mitchell, David Brister, Curtis Clay – Vice President, and Steven “Quintin” Thompson. The following members were **ABSENT**: Alton “David” Fox and Kenny Haymon.

The Vernon Parish Police Jury was convened as the governing authority of the Parish of Vernon, by Mr. James B. “Jim” Tuck, President, and was then ready for the business on the agenda.

The invocation was given by Mr. Curtis Clay and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Quintin Thompson.

Judge Anthony Eaves was present at the meeting to inform the jury of his candidacy for Judge on the Court of Appeals.

Mrs. Whitney Lambright, Speaker Mike Johnson’s office, was present at the meeting to offer the support of his local office and to provide a brief update from Speaker Johnson.

The President asked if there was any public comment on any agenda items; there was none.

A motion was made by Mr. Clay, seconded by Mr. Brister and carried, to accept the minutes of the June 10, 2024 Committee meeting, the June 17, 2024 Regular meeting, and the June 25, 2024 Special Call meeting and dispense with the reading of the minutes.

The President asked for committee reports to be presented by the committee Chairman.

Mr. Scottie Benjamin, Chairman, submitted the Equipment Committee report.

Bids were opened on June 25, 2024 for One (1) 2025 **INTERNATIONAL HV607 SBA (HV607)** Dump Truck, or its equivalent, for District 3. There was one bid received from iTA Truck Sales; \$181,374.62 and the committee recommends the jury award the bid to iTA.

A motion was made by Mr. Benjamin, seconded by Mr. Bailey and carried, to adopt the Equipment Committee report in its entirety.

Mr. Curtis Clay, Chairman, submitted the Equipment Committee report.

The committee recommends the jury approve invoice received from McKee Agency, LLC for the renewal of the Crime Policy; \$2,531.00.

A motion was made by Mr. Clay, seconded by Mr. Brister and carried, to adopt the Finance Committee report in its entirety.

Mr. David Brister, Chairman, submitted the Road Maintenance & Construction Committee report.

The committee recommends the jury approve request from VP School Board to maintain a bus turnaround at 1259 Rose Lee Lane (#7013), D3 W7.

The committee recommends the jury approve the following requests from the VP Health Unit:

- fill in an abandoned well at 2788 Hwy 171, D2 W2
- dispose of a dead horse at 399 Liberty Creek Rd. D11 W1

The committee recommends the jury approve resolutions to perform work inside the municipalities of:

- 1.) **Town of Rosepine (July 2024)**: perform routine monthly maintenance on the streets inside the town limits of Rosepine, such as, boom mowing, pot hole repairs, and ditching.
- 2.) **Village of Simpson (July 2024)**: perform routine monthly maintenance on all streets inside the village limits of Simpson, including, ditch cleaning, road grading, and pot hole repairs.

The committee recommends the jury approve the amended 2024 Road Overlay list.

A motion was made by Mr. Brister, seconded by Mr. Mitchell and carried, to adopt the Road Maintenance & Construction Committee report in its entirety.

Having heard and adopted all committee reports, the President returned to the main agenda.

A motion was made by Mr. Bailey, seconded by Mr. Benjamin and carried, to enter into public hearing to hear public input on the following proposed ordinances:

1. A proposed ordinance to amend section 13:31 of the Vernon Parish Code of Ordinances to reduce the speed limit on Cypress Church Road (#7027), District 7 Ward 7, to 20 MPH in its entirety.
2. A proposed ordinance to amend section 13:31 of the Vernon Parish Code of Ordinances to reduce the speed limit on Hebert Road (#4035), District 1 Ward 4, to 20 MPH from the Waste Connections transfer station to Eddlemon Road.
3. A proposed ordinance to amend section 13:31 of the Vernon Parish Code of Ordinances to reduce the speed limit on Mary Hunt Road (#1050), District 10 Ward 1, to 20 MPH in its entirety.

Mrs. Dixie Carson spoke against reducing the speed limit on that section of Hebert Road.

There were no other public comments.

A motion was made by Mr. Bailey, seconded by Mr. Hilton and carried, to return to regular session.

A motion was made by Mr. Bailey, seconded by Mr. Benjamin, to adopt an ordinance to amend section 13:31 of the Vernon Parish Code of Ordinances to reduce the speed limit on Cypress Church Road (#7027), District 7 Ward 7, to 20 MPH, in its entirety. **The foregoing motion was subject to a roll call vote and recorded as follows:**

YEAS: Tuck, Hilton, Roshong, Hostetler, Benjamin, Bailey, Mitchell, Brister, Clay, and Thompson

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Fox and Haymon

The motion carried and the ordinance was adopted.

A motion was made by Mr. Benjamin, seconded by Mr. Hostetler, to adopt an ordinance to amend section 13:31 of the Vernon Parish Code of Ordinances to reduce the speed limit on Hebert Road (#4035), District 1 Ward 4, to 20 MPH from the Waste Connections transfer station to Eddlemon Road (approximately 450 feet). **The foregoing motion was subject to a roll call vote and recorded as follows:**

**YEAS: Tuck, Hilton, Roshong, Hostetler, Benjamin, Bailey, Mitchell,
Brister, Clay, and Thompson**

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Fox and Haymon

The motion carried and the ordinance was adopted.

A motion was made by Mr. Hilton, seconded by Mr. Thompson, to adopt an ordinance to amend section 13:31 of the Vernon Parish Code of Ordinances to reduce the speed limit on Mary Hunt Road (#1050), District 12 Ward 1, to 20 MPH in its entirety. **The foregoing motion was subject to a roll call vote and recorded as follows:**

**YEAS: Tuck, Hilton, Roshong, Hostetler, Benjamin, Bailey, Mitchell,
Brister, Clay, and Thompson**

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Fox and Haymon

The motion carried and the ordinance was adopted.

A motion was made by Mr. Benjamin, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to adopt a resolution requesting Bond Commission approval to finance (1) one new 2025 HV607 SBA (HV607) (\$181,374.62) for District 3 through Cadence Bank. **The foregoing motion was subject to a roll call vote and recorded as follows:**

**YEAS: Tuck, Hilton, Roshong, Hostetler, Benjamin, Bailey, Mitchell,
Brister, Clay, and Thompson**

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Fox and Haymon

The motion carried and the resolution was adopted.

A motion was made by Mr. Brister, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to adopt a resolution requesting Bond Commission approval to finance (1) one John Deere 6105E Cab Tractor (\$79,873.78) and (1) one Diamond DBM-C-N Boom Mower from Goldman Equipment (\$74,449.00) for District 1, 4, 8, 9 through Cadence Bank. Both pieces of equipment are on state contract. **The foregoing motion was subject to a roll call vote and recorded as follows:**

YEAS: Tuck, Hilton, Roshong, Hostetler, Benjamin, Bailey, Mitchell,
Brister, Clay, and Thompson

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Fox and Haymon

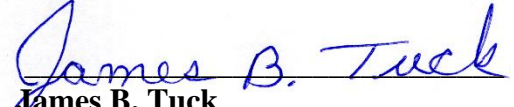
The motion carried and the resolution was adopted.

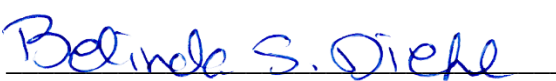
A motion was made by Mr. Brister, seconded by Mr. Thompson and carried, to adopt a resolution authorizing the filing of an application with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development for a grant under FTA programs managed through the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (VCOA).

A motion was made by Mr. Bailey, seconded by Mr. Roshong and carried, to adopt memorial resolutions for the following community members: Mrs. Brittany Hughes, Mr. Thomas “Tommy” Park, Mr. Terry Sweeny, Mrs. Brenda May, Mrs. Donna Austin, Mr. Timothy Wayne Haymon, Mr. Burman Burns, Mr. Donald Ray Smith, Mr. Patrick Hickman, Mr. Carroll Midkiff, Mr. Billy Nale, Mrs. Opal Dowden, Mrs. Donna Austin, Mrs. Elizabeth Wills, Mr. Corey Comperatore.

A motion was made by Mr. Clay, seconded by Mr. Thompson and carried, to authorize payment of all invoices as authorized by the Finance Committee and authorize payment of all expenditures above the budgeted amount from Ward Maintenance and/or Construction accounts.

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Bailey, seconded by Mr. Thompson and carried, to adjourn.


James B. Tuck
President


Belinda S. Diehl
Secretary


Rhonda M. Plummer
Administrator/Treasurer