

STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH OF WINN
FEBRUARY 18, 2025

The Police Jury of the Parish of Winn, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session at its meeting place, the Police Jury Meeting Room of the Parish Courthouse, 119 West Main Street, Winnfield, Louisiana, on Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. (CST), pursuant to the provisions of a written notice given each and every member thereof, and duly posted in the manner required by law. (Note: President does not vote unless a tie)

There were present: Mr. Frank McLaren-President, Vice President Deionne Carpenter, Mr. Phillip Evans, Mr. Darrell Franks, Mr. Stanley Garrett, Mr. Author Robinson and Mr. Kyle Potts.

There were absent: None.

Legal Counsel: Mr. Chris Nevils.

President Frank McLaren called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

Invocation was delivered by Mrs. Deionne Carpenter. The Pledge was led by Mr. Kyle Potts.

Additions or deletions:

Motion by Mr. Stanley Garrett to add a Motion to adopt a Resolution to assist the Village of Calvin by trimming excess limbs in Calvin with a side boom bush hog tractor on Poole Street between 1st and 2nd Street and 1st Street leading into the back of the Calvin school. Second by Mr. Phillip Evans. Vote taken: 6 yeas. 0 nays. 0 absent. 1 abstained.

Motion by Mr. Kyle Potts to adopt the agenda, as amended. Second by Mr. Phillip Evans. No discussion. Vote taken: 6 yeas. 0 nays. 0 absent. 1 abstained. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Kyle Potts to adopt the minutes of January 21, 2025-Regular Meeting. Second by Mrs. Deionne Carpenter. No discussion. Vote taken: 6 yeas. 0 nays. 0 absent. 1 abstained. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMENTS:

President McLaren calls for any public comments on any agenda item. No comments.

Mr. Perry Holmes, Road Superintendent is present and thanks the Jury for the past 2 years that he has been able to serve as Louisiana Parish Engineers and Supervisors Association (LPESA). Without the Jury’s backing, he would not have been as successful as he was. He took a group that was bankrupt and now they have about \$85,000 in the bank. Back in 2011-2013, he notes he served as President of the same organization so that makes him a permanent member of that organization. Mr. Holmes notes that we are getting lots of rain and trying to fix wash outs as soon as they can. He states that one of the graders had to have several repairs made recently, the bobtail truck had issues with a spring and was down about a week and a half, pothole truck was shut down for a few days to fill in, new batch of culverts are in so hoping to catch up on backlog for culverts. It is noted that each Juror has a Road Maintenance Report along with a Road Miscellaneous Report and Vehicle/Equipment Repair and Cost Log in their packets.

Mr. Paul Hodnett, Assistant Road Superintendent is present this evening to give a road update. Mr. Hodnett states that he is here to report on the tractors and pothole patching. He states that the side boom had been going good but is in the shop now for repair on the bush hog itself and should be out by the end of the week, one drag behind has been in the shop for about a week but should be completed soon. Pothole patching is when weather

permits. Discussion was had by the Jury and Mr. Hodnett as to getting equipment ready for the Spring.

GUESTS:

Ms. Mindy Still, Finance Manager and Mrs. Jessica Arcement, Director of Mt. Grace & Adult Teen Challenge and State’s Program Manager are present to discuss new construction of affordable housing. Mrs. Arcement states that there are 8 programs in the State. Their women’s center on Deer Pen Road houses 32 students, 14 staff and interns. She states that they are trying to update their center as they are in desperate need of updating. Ms. Still states that she is working with a grant writer to apply for a grant for new construction for students, staff and intern housing and need the support of the Parish. Mt. Grace is an inpatient, residential treatment program. The programs are for 12 to 18 months and are free to the students. Further discussion was had. Ms. Still states that children are sent to the Minden facility but staff children are here at this facility. This new facility will house 38 total so they will be able to house more students and staff overall. It is noted that this program is very successful with about a 60% success rate. President McLaren notes that a Motion for a Resolution of Support will be voted later in the meeting.

BUSINESS:

Motion by Mrs. Deionne Carpenter to approve the monthly/weekly invoices; as follows:

General Fund	\$ 31,124.12
Road Fund	\$ 118,823.23
Health Unit	\$ 489.56
Sales Tax	\$ 129,858.52
Library	\$ 280.00
Library Weekly	\$ 11,354.62
Weekly Invoices	<u>\$679,782.34</u>
Grand Total	\$971,712.39

Report includes budget to actual comparisons in all major funds. Report is signed by the Bill Approval Committee Mr. Frank McLaren, Mrs. Deionne Carpenter and Mr. Kyle Potts. Second by Mr.Author Robinson. Vote taken: 6 yeas. 0 nays. 0 absent. 1 abstained. Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Deionne Carpenter to appoint Mrs. Ethel Howell to the Winn Parish Library Board for a 5 year term. (to replace Dr. Jerry Williams). Second by Mr. Darrell Franks. Vote taken: 6 yeas. 0 nays. 0 absent. 1 abstained. Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Deionne Carpenter to appoint Mrs. Robin Cooper to the Winn Parish Library Board for a 5 year term. (to replace Mrs. Marcia Huddleston). Second by Mr. Kyle Potts. Vote taken: 6 yeas. 0 nays. 0 absent. 1 abstained. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Author Robinson to adopt a Resolution supporting the new construction of affordable rental housing at 560 Deer Pen Road, Winnfield, La. named Mt. Grace Adult & Teen Challenge. Second by Mr. Kyle Potts. Vote taken: 6 yeas. 0 nays. 0 absent. 1 abstained. Motion carried.

(Resolution #003 of 2025 attached thereto and made a part of these minutes)

Motion by Mrs. Deionne Carpenter to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Winn Parish Police Jury and Winnfield City Fire Department for funds for radios. Second by Mr. Author Robinson. Vote taken: 6 yeas. 0 nays. 0 absent. 1 abstained. Motion carried.

(Agreement attached thereto and made a part of these minutes)

Motion by Mr. Author Robinson to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Winn Parish Police Jury and Winn Parish Fire District #3 for funds for dispatch radio. Second by Mr. Darrell Franks. Vote taken: 6 yeas. 0 nays. 0 absent. 1 abstained.

(Agreement attached thereto and made a part of these minutes)

Motion by Mr. Stanley Garrett to adopt a Resolution to assist the Village of Calvin in trimming excess limbs with a side boom bush hog tractor on Poole Street between 1st and 2nd Street and 1st Street leading into the back of the Calvin School. Second by Mrs. Deionne Carpenter. Vote taken: 6 yeas. 0 nays. 0 absent. 1 abstained. Motion carried.

(Resolution #004 of 2025 attached thereto and made a part of these minutes)

Mrs. Karen Tyler states that enclosed in their Jury packets in the Library Board meeting minutes from October 28, 2024 and January 27, 2025 and Winn Parish Fire District 3 meeting minutes of January 28, 2025. She reads an email from Ms. Sherry Harland, State Applicant Liaison Consultant Hazard Mitigation stating that the Fema Project (generators) has officially been obligated and are currently waiting for the award letter to be issued. Mrs. Tyler also gives an update on the Port de Luce project noting that it is still ongoing. After a recent call, Engineer Shuler and a representative will work on identifying the “optimized” detention footprint and testing the new footprint for the 100 year and 10 year storms. The criterion for benefit is 6 inches of flood reduction at Mosley Drive in the 10 year storm event.

Mr. Robinson addresses the Jury about rising costs of insurance. He states that his church insurance went from \$10,000 to \$16,000 per year. Mr. Franks worries about the domino effect from the closing down of the International Paper Mill in Campti. Further discussion was had.

On motion of Mr. Kyle Potts and second by Mrs. Deionne Carpenter, President McLaren declared the meeting adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

MR. FRANK MCLAREN, PRESIDENT

ATTEST: _____
KAREN TYLER-SECRETARY/TREASURER