

**STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH OF WINN
MARCH 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 Monday, March 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 and Mr. Kyle Potts.

There were absent: Mr. Author Robinson.

Legal Counsel: None.

President Frank McLaren called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

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

Additions or deletions:

None.

Motion by Mr. Kyle Potts to adopt the agenda. Second by Mr. Darrell Franks. No discussion. Vote taken: 5 yeas. 0 nays. 1 absent. 1 abstained. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Kyle Potts to adopt the minutes of February 18, 2025-Public Hearing, February 18, 2025-Regular Meeting and February 18, 2025-Road Committee Meeting. Second by Mr. Darrell Franks. No discussion. Vote taken: 5 yeas. 0 nays. 1 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 to give a road update. Mr. Holmes states that Mr. Donny Moon had a recertification class for herbicides and pesticides and that Mr. Robert Rhymes and himself attended that training so they are recertified so are able to use and purchase herbicides and pesticides. He notes graders are still working but lately have been concentrating on washouts, especially school bus routes due to all the recent rains. On one of the routes, Guy Gaar Road we have an extreme beaver problem. We have a trapper working there. So far he has trapped and killed 2 beavers and is charging \$50 per tail. The trapper is sending Mrs. Tyler and himself pictures of each beaver as he catches them. He adds that Mr. Snowden is putting in new culverts as he can and cleaning out ditches with the backhoe. As to the Village of Dodson Resolution on the agenda, due to it being an emergency situation, the work has already been done so these people could get in and out of their road. Once the letter of request for assistance was received from the Mayor of Dodson, the work was performed. Mr. Holmes also gives an update on Caney Street in the Village of Sikes. Back in August, a letter was received from the Mayor of Sikes for that Street. There was an issue of a loaded log truck going in and out of the road so the Jury held off doing the work at that point. The Village adopted an Ordinance and put signs up prohibiting loaded log trucks on Caney Street. The Village is having a meeting and discussions tomorrow night with the people that live on the road. Mr. Holmes does not know what is going to be decided so as it looks like it is the Jury's fault for not working on the road, it is not. He is waiting to see what the Mayor and Aldermen decide about the road so after that the road department will know which direction they need to go. After our Road Committee meeting last

month, Mr. Holmes states that he is working on an abandoned road list. Further discussion by the Jury and Mr. Holmes.
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 had a breakdown which should be repaired tomorrow. One drag behind is still waiting on parts. Pothole patching is when weather permits. Discussion was had by the Jury and Mr. Hodnett as to getting equipment ready for the Spring.

GUESTS:

Mr. Henry Shuler, Shuler Consulting is present to give updates on Capital Outlay projects Aunt Marie’s Road and L. Sullivan Road. The west half of the road going towards Hwy 34 is good, not great. The east half is pretty rough. The bids on this project is a little over budget, about 10%. The reason why is he put more money in that bottom where the water goes over the road. Mr. Shuler explains the conditions. There are provisions in this bid to correct this problem. Mr. Shuler recommends to the Jury to award the base bid and both alternates to Regional Construction. Further discussion by Mr. Shuler and the Jury.

As to L. Sullivan Road, the bids are within budget to do the entire road and recommends to award the base bid and alternate number 1 to Regional Construction. Discussion by Mr. Shuler and the Jury to use the millings in another spot and putting new culverts before work begins. Mrs. Tyler points out that replacing culverts is not included in the grant, that has to come out of the regular road fund budget.

As to Port de Luce Project, Mr. Shuler gives an update. The process has advanced a little bit. The State has told us to send letters to the private landowners. Since the lake has been shortened from 300 acres to about 150 acres, there are 4 individual landowners and Weyerhaeuser. Those owners will get letters asking to give permission for surveying and land delineation on their property. If one of those landowners says no, this is not forcible. Weyerhaeuser is very close to issuing a permit for us to get on their land and is by far the largest landowner. If this lake is built, it does not completely prevent the overtopping of Frank White Road, Mosley or Dunn Avenue. That is not the criteria for the State. Further discussion by the Jury and Mr. Shuler.

As to the LCDBG sewer project in Collins Subdivision is now closed out. Mr. Shuler states that if the Jury gets any calls about problems on this project, to let him know as is still under warranty. He adds that those streets are in the City limits now but some people may call the Jury instead.

As to the LCDBG HVAC project, new air conditioning at Dodson Library, Main Street Library and Health Unit is very close to being closed out. These two LCDBG projects have to be closed out before the Jury is eligible to be awarded another block grant. Previous discussion about the next block grant was to apply for West Winn Water system. However, due to costs of hiring a consultant, which is not covered under the grant anymore, West Winn does not want to proceed this way. They are going to proceed with a grant through Drinking Water Fund and they don’t have to come up with money out of pocket.

Further discussion by the Jury and Mr. Shuler about what could possibly be applied for. Backwoods is also going through Drinking Water Fund.

As to the Hazard Mitigation project for the generators has been approved and obligated. The project is ready to bid and should be moving forward soon.

BUSINESS:

Motion by Mr. Kyle Potts to approve the monthly/weekly invoices; as follows:

General Fund	\$ 193,924.65
Road Fund	\$ 80,655.49
Health Unit	\$ 1,202.99
Sales Tax	\$ 93,585.88
Library Weekly	\$ 21,638.61

Weekly Invoices	\$ 204,980.88
Grand Total	\$ 595,988.50

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. Phillip Evans. Vote taken: 5 yeas. 0 nays. 1 absent. 1 abstained. Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Deionne Carpenter to declare Mr. Mike Carpenter as a full time custodian for the Jury. Second by Mr. Phillip Evans. Vote taken: 5 yeas. 0 nays. 1 absent. 1 abstained. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Kyle Potts to award base bid in the amount of \$531,377.90 and alternate bid number 1 in the amount of \$33,300 and alternate bid number 2 in the amount of \$36,892.80 for a total of \$601,570.70 to Regional Construction on Capital Outlay Project Aunt Marie's Road. Second by Mrs. Deionne Carpenter. Vote taken: 5 yeas. 0 nays. 1 absent. 1 abstained. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Kyle Potts to adopt a Resolution to assist the Village of Dodson with repairs to Keith Street. Second by Mr. Phillip Evans. Vote taken: 5 yeas. 0 nays. 1 absent. 1 abstained. Motion carried.

(Resolution #005 of 2025 attached thereto and made a part of these minutes)

Motion by Mr. Darrell Franks to engage Mrs. Shanna Jones to review the draft audit report for the Winn Parish Police Jury for the calendar year 2024. Second by Mr. Kyle Potts. Vote taken: 5 yeas. 0 nays. 1 absent. 1 abstained. Motion carried.

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

Motion by Mr. Kyle Potts to award the base bid in the amount of \$680,467.85 and the alternate number 1 bid of \$55,761.60 for a total of \$736,229.45 to Regional Construction on Capital Outlay project L. Sullivan Road. Second by Mr. Darrell Franks. Vote taken: 5 yeas. 0 nays. 1 absent. 1 abstained.

Motion by Mrs. Deionne Carpenter to purchase a 2019 Kenworth T880 Tandem Dump Chassis for \$59,500 from Kenworth of Louisiana, LLC. Second by Mr. Kyle Potts. Vote taken: 5 yeas. 0 nays. 1 absent. 1 abstained. Motion carried.

Mrs. Karen Tyler states that enclosed in their Jury packets is some information about Legislative Day which is May 6th and 7th. She needs to know who wants to attend. She reminds everyone about the Litter Pick up dates. There is a pre-meeting in the Jury room on April 3rd at 3:30 p.m. for teams, clubs, etc. to register and pick up their supplies. The Litter date is April 5th at the Grove Street gym from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. There will be hamburgers and door prizes.

Mrs. Tyler states that Election Day is Saturday March 29th. There are 4 amendments on the ballot. Early voting is going on now through March 22nd here at the Courthouse. She has a synopsis in their folders but for further information, you can go to parlouisiana.org for more detailed information on each amendment.

Mrs. Tyler also addresses the rising medical costs for the Parish inmates. She thanks Sheriff McAllister and District Attorney Mr. Nevils for their efforts to move cases though to help ease this costly burden on the Jury.

On motion of Mrs. Deionne Carpenter and second by Mr. Darrell Franks, President McLaren declared the meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

MR. FRANK MCLAREN, PRESIDENT

ATTEST: _____
KAREN TYLER-SECRETARY/TREASURER