

**STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH OF WINN
MARCH 17, 2025**

The Police Jury of the Parish of Winn, State of Louisiana, met for a Special Called Meeting at its meeting place, the Police Jury meeting Room of the Parish Courthouse, 119 West Main Street, Winnfield, Louisiana, on Monday, March 17, 2025 at 5:45 p.m. (CST), pursuant to the provisions of a written notice given each and every member thereof, and duly posted in a manner required by law. (President does not vote unless a tie)

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

There were absent: Mr. Author Robinson.

Legal Counsel: None.

President Frank McLaren called the meeting to order at 5:53 p.m.

The Invocation was delivered by Mrs. Deionne Carpenter. The Pledge was led by Mr. Darrell Franks.

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.

Announcements & Comments.

None.

Business:

President McLaren states the item of business is to discuss the Joyce Sewer District. Mrs. Carpenter moves to discuss this matter. Second by Mr. Potts. Vote taken: 5 yeas. 0 nays. 1 absent. 1 abstained. Motion carried. Mr. Henry Shuler of Shuler Consulting Company is present and addresses the Jury and explains the situation about the Sewer District. He states that the Jury owns the Sewer District. The sewer system supplies about 110 households and West Fraser Mill. It has 3 lift stations. He explains how the system works and the history of the system. The Districts primary expense is paying the City of Winnfield for treatment as they collect the sewer and pump it to the City for treatment. The bill is between \$1,500 to \$2,000 per month. They have general upkeep and power bills. Most of the Jury never hears about Joyce Sewer District and there is one reason why and it is his Dad, Mr. Will Shuler. He has taken care of the District for over 30 years, for no money. Mr. Shuler states that his mom has taken care of the billing and paperwork for \$300 per month. Each of them are over 70 years of age. Mr. Gene Sweat checks the lift stations. He believes that they are paying him about \$300 per month. He has recently fallen and is in the hospital not doing well.

Juror Author Robinson is now present at 6:02 p.m.

Mr. Shuler states the water system in Joyce is owned by a private utility company, Utilities, Inc. Mr. Shuler states the household sewer bill is \$40 per month. If someone doesn't pay the bill, the sewer system has no way to disconnect service to that customer if they have paid their water bill. Utilities Inc. will not disconnect if their water bill is current. About a third of Joyce Sewer customers are not paying their bill and there is no way to enforce it because usually the water and sewer are on the same bill through the

same company. The biggest customer is West Fraser. Mr. Will Shuler had an idea to see if the mill would accept the sewer system but West Fraser does not want it. They also went to JCP owned by Glen Womack to see if they would take it over but Mr. Womack does not want to take it either. Another problem is the sewer system is supposed to have a 5 person board appointed by the Jury. Most of the board members are dead. Financially, the sewer system is fine but the Shulers are close to bringing the Jury the checkbook. It's not a good situation that they have handled for a very long time. He states that the Jury really only has 2 options. Reappoint a new board, responsible people ideally that live in Joyce, find a new operator, do the billing and maintenance, etc. But, you still have the same problem with the people that do not pay. The other option is to see if Utilities, Inc. would buy and take over the system. They may go in, access the system and make an offer. Further discussion was had by the Jury and Mr. Shuler. The Jury agrees to contact our legal counsel, Mr. Nevils, to try and negotiate with Utilities, Inc. to purchase the sewer system.

ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS.

None.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business at this time, upon Motion of Mr. Darrell Franks and second by Mr. Phillip Evans, President McLaren declared the meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

MR. FRANK MCLAREN, PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

KAREN TYLER-SECRETARY/TREASURER