

The Lincoln Parish Police Jury met in regular session on Tuesday, March 14, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Police Jury Meeting Room, 100 West Texas Avenue, Ruston, Louisiana. Present were: Theresa Wyatt, District One; Hazel Hunter, District Two; Richard I. Durrett, District Three; TJ Cranford, District Four; Logan Hunt, District Five; Glenn Scriber, District Six; Matt Pullin, District Seven; Skip Russell, District Eight; Joe Henderson, District Nine; Milton Melton, District Ten; Sharyon Mayfield, District Eleven; and Annette Straughter, District Twelve.

ABSENT: None

President Durrett called the meeting to order. Hazel Hunter delivered the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Annette Straughter offered a motion, seconded by Hazel Hunter, to approve the Agenda as printed. The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Wyatt, Hunter, Durrett, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Russell, Henderson, Melton, Mayfield, and Straughter

President Durrett called for Public Comments on Agenda Items. There were none.

Annette Straughter offered a motion, seconded by Milton Melton, to approve the Minutes of the February 14, 2023 Regular Meeting. The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Wyatt, Hunter, Durrett, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Russell, Henderson, Melton, Mayfield, and Straughter

Annette Straughter stated that the Health and Welfare Committee met at 10:00 am on February 15, 2023, to receive an update on the Health Hub project. No action was taken at this meeting. Sharyon Mayfield offered a motion, seconded by Hazel Hunter, to approve the minutes of the Health and Welfare Committee meeting held on February 15, 2023. The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Wyatt, Hunter, Durrett, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Russell, Henderson, Melton, Mayfield, and Straughter

Mrs. Straughter then stated that the Health and Welfare Committee met at 10:00 am on March 6, 2023, and the Committee recommends approving the drawings presented as the final drawings for the Lincoln Parish Health Unit. Milton Melton offered a motion, seconded by Joe Henderson, to approve the minutes of the Health and Welfare Committee meeting held on March 6, 2023. The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Wyatt, Hunter, Durrett, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Russell, Henderson, Melton, Mayfield, and Straughter

Skip Russell stated that the Finance Committee met at 5:00 pm this day, and the Committee recommends:

1. Authorizing a budget adjustment, increasing line item 43340 (Tank Cars) in the Bridge Replacement Fund in the amount of \$98,000.00.
2. Authorizing a budget adjustment, increasing line item 46500 (Acquisition of Equipment) in the funds for Road Construction and Road Maintenance in the amount of \$65,000.00.
3. Authorizing Legislation to be introduced through the Louisiana Legislature concerning the creation, investment, and withdrawal of funds in the Hospital Proceeds Funds.

Mr. Russell offered his report in the form of a motion, seconded by Annette Straughter. The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Wyatt, Hunter, Durrett, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Russell, Henderson, Melton, Mayfield, and Straughter

Glenn Scriber stated that the Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Committee met at 5:20 pm this day, and the Committee recommends:

1. Authorizing the advertisement of bids for the Lincoln Parish Park bike trails.
2. Authorizing the advertisement of bids for the Lincoln Parish Park water/sewer project.
3. Authorizing the Administrator to enter into a contract with The Riley Co. of Louisiana, Inc. for the Bike Trails Hub Project and authorize advertisement for bids for said project, contingent on available funding.

Mr. Scriber offered his report in the form of a motion, seconded by Annette Straughter. The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Wyatt, Hunter, Durrett, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Russell, Henderson, Melton, Mayfield, and Straughter

Joe Henderson stated that the Personnel and Benefits Committee met at 5:40 pm this day, and the Committee recommends appointing Mr. Dennis Simonton to the Mt. Olive Waterworks District for a five-year term. Mr. Henderson offered his report in the form of a motion, seconded by Glenn Scriber. The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Wyatt, Hunter, Durrett, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Russell, Henderson, Melton, Mayfield, and Straughter

TJ Cranford stated that the Solid Waste and Recycling Committee met at 6:00 pm this day, and the Committee recommends:

1. Authorizing advertisement for bids for one new cab and chassis tractor truck.
2. Authorizing advertisement for bids for one new front-loading refuse compactor truck.
3. Adding an additional litter crew.

Mr. Cranford offered his report in the form of a motion, seconded by Sharyon Mayfield. The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Wyatt, Hunter, Durrett, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Russell, Henderson, Melton, Mayfield, and Straughter

Logan Hunt stated that the Public Works Committee met at 6:30 pm this day, and the Committee recommends:

1. Adopting an ordinance to prohibit the use of “Jake Braking” on all Lincoln Parish roadways within the unincorporated areas of Lincoln Parish.
2. Authorizing advertisement for bids for one new telehandler, one 6/8-yard dump truck, and one lowboy trailer.
3. Authorizing the purchase of one new John Deere 6110M Utility Tractor and one new Tiger Boom Mower Attachment on state contract.
4. Declaring a 2017 Ford Explorer (S/N 1FM5K8AR9HGC57474) and various items of scrap sign material as surplus property and authorizing advertisement for bids for stated items.
5. Approving the final plat for the Reserve at Moore’s Dairy Subdivision.
6. Amending the Industrial Driveway Policy regarding maintenance of same.

Mr. Hunt offered his report in the form of a motion, seconded by Glenn scriber. The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Wyatt, Hunter, Durrett, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Russell, Henderson, Melton, Mayfield, and Straughter

The next item on the agenda was to adopt a Resolution expressing condolences of the Lincoln Parish Police Jury upon the death of former Parish Administrator Mr. C. Reagan Sutton. Interim Parish Administrator Courtney Hall read the resolution aloud as President Durrett presented an executed copy of the Resolution to Mrs. Karen Sutton Sanders, Mr. Joey Sutton, and Mrs. Jennifer Sutton Farrar.

Annette Straughter offered a motion, seconded by Joe Henderson, to adopt the following:

Resolution 23-05

TO EXPRESS THE SINCERE CONDOLENCES OF THE LINCOLN
PARISH POLICE JURY UPON THE DEATH OF C. REAGAN
SUTTON

WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that the Lincoln Parish Police Jury has learned of the passing of a great man of public service, C. Reagan Sutton, a long-time resident of Lincoln Parish, who died peacefully on February 13, 2023, at the age of 87 years; and

WHEREAS, C. Reagan Sutton served with distinction respectively as Secretary-Treasurer and Administrator of the Parish of Lincoln for thirty (30) years; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure in these capacities he has served the vital roles of initiator and facilitator in parish government as it sought to effectively function for the people in the areas of public education, public safety, public health, public transportation, public recreation, and other similar functions; and

WHEREAS, C. Reagan Sutton was instrumental in the conception, planning, design, construction, and operation of the Lincoln Parish Detention Center, the Lincoln Parish Solid Waste System, the Lincoln Parish Library, and the Lincoln Parish Park; and

WHEREAS, C. Reagan Sutton has served with distinction as Member and President of the Louisiana Parochial Employee's Retirement System and as Treasurer, Secretary, Vice-President and President of the Louisiana Police Jury Association; and

WHEREAS, C. Reagan Sutton has demonstrated by his actions and public service, his honesty, integrity, forthrightness, and unqualified dedication and commitment to good government in Lincoln Parish;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lincoln Parish Police Jury does hereby recognize and record for posterity, the significant influence of C. Reagan Sutton, and pays tribute to his exceptional legacy, which shall remain in the hearts of those who were enhanced by his knowledge and guidance;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of C. Reagan Sutton.

/s/ Courtney Hall
Courtney Hall
Interim Parish Administrator

/s/ Richard I. Durrett
Richard I. Durrett
Police Jury President

The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Wyatt, Hunter, Durrett, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Russell, Henderson, Melton, Mayfield, and Straughter

Skip Russell offered a motion, seconded by Sharyon Mayfield, to adopt a Proclamation declaring 2023 as the 150th Anniversary of Lincoln Parish.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING THE YEAR 2023 AS THE
SESQUICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF LINCOLN PARISH, LOUISIANA

WHEREAS, Lincoln Parish was created out of contiguous portions of the Northern Portion of Jackson Parish, the Eastern Portions of a part of the Parishes of Bienville and Claiborne, and a portion of Southwestern Union Parish by Act No. 32 of 1873; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln Parish, which was named for President Abraham Lincoln, has grown from densely wooded hills to become an important economic and educational center for North Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Vienna was incorporated in 1848, Choudrant was established in 1883, and other communities within the parish bear the names of their founders: Simsboro (1848) was named for James Monroe Sims, an early settler; Ruston (1884) was named for its founder, Robert E. Russ; Grambling (1900) named for Judd Grambling, owner of a lumber mill at that site; Dubach (1901) was named for Fred B. Dubach, a lumberman settling here from Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, education is an important resource in Lincoln Parish, evolving from the early days of the Louisiana Chautauqua Society to the establishment of two major State Universities, Louisiana Tech University and Grambling State University; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln Parish Police Jury established the Lincoln Parish Sesquicentennial Planning Committee via Resolution 22-22 to plan, develop, encourage, and coordinate the Commemoration of the One Hundred Fiftieth Anniversary of Lincoln Parish; and

WHEREAS, The Lincoln Parish Sesquicentennial Planning Committee has developed plans, programs and events associated with the One Hundred Fiftieth celebration;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lincoln Parish Police Jury does hereby proclaim the year of 2023, to be known as the SESQUICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF LINCOLN PARISH, LOUISIANA and calls upon the citizens of Lincoln Parish to celebrate the history and future of Lincoln Parish.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that official copies of this Proclamation be presented to each member of the Lincoln Parish Sesquicentennial Planning Committee and the Lincoln Parish Legislative Delegation.

/s/ Courtney Hall
Courtney Hall
Interim Parish Administrator

/s/ Richard I. Durrett
Richard I. Durrett
Police Jury President

The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Wyatt, Hunter, Durrett, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Russell, Henderson, Melton, Mayfield, and Straughter

Annette Straughter offered a motion, seconded by Hazel Hunter, to introduce an ordinance for the sale of adjudicated properties for Parcel Number 29183000067.

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE AN ACT OF SALE BY THE PARISH OF LINCOLN TO SELL ADJUDICATED PROPERTY DESCRIBED AS PARCEL# 29183000067: COMMENCING AT AN EXISTING CRESOTE FENCE POST FOUND AND ACCEPTED AS THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 29, TOWNSHIP 18 NORTH, RANGE 3 WEST, LINCOLN PARISH, LOUISIANA; THENCE RUN N 00 DEGREES, 14' EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 660.00 FEET TO A METAL "T" FENCE POST; THENCE RUN N89 DEGREES, 38' W ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF HANNA ESTATES SUBDIVISION FOR A DISTANCE OF 685.28 FEET TO METAL "T" FENCE POST FOR THE STARTING POINT; FROM SAID STARTING POINT THENCE RUN NORTH FOR A DISTANCE OF 125.00 FEET TO A METAL "T" FENCE POST; THENCE RUN N 89 DEGREES, 38' W FOR A DISTANCE OF 289.95 FEET TO A RAILROAD SPIKE IN THE CENTER LINE OF LINCOLN PARISH ROAD NO. 102; THENCE RUN S 12 DEGREES 00' W ALONG SAID CENTER LINE FOR A DISTANCE OF 59.77 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE RUN S 10 DEGREES, 46' W ALONG SAID CENTER LINE FOR A DISTANCE OF 67.57 FEET TO A RAILROAD SPIKE; THENCE, LEAVING SAID CENTER LINE, RUN S 89 DEGREES, 38', 24 E FOR A DISTANCE OF 315.00 FEET BACK TO THE POINT-OF-BEGINNING; CONTAINING 0.87 ACRES, LINCOLN PARISH, LOUISIANA: IN ACCORDANCE WITH LA R.S. 47: 2202 T SEQ. AND TO AUTHORIZE THE LINCOLN PARISH POLICE JURY PRESIDENT TO SIGN ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS AND TO ADDRESS THE MATTERS RELATIVE THERETO

WHEREAS, the immovable property described below was adjudicated to the Parish of Lincoln on June 1, 1993, for nonpayment of taxes; and

WHEREAS, the three (3) year period for redemption provided by Art. 7, §25 of the Louisiana Constitution has elapsed, as well as the five (5) year redemption period established by Parish Ordinance No: 337-14-(O) and the owner of record has failed to redeem the adjudicated property; and

WHEREAS, LA R.S. 47:2202 *et seq.* provides that the Parish may sell adjudicated property in accordance with law after the expiration of the period for redemption; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Lincoln has declared the property described below surplus and not needed for a public purpose and to dispose of said property in accordance with LA R.S. 47:2202, *et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with L.A. R.S. 47:2202 the Parish of Lincoln has set a minimum bid for public sale at \$5,988.00; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Lincoln has received a written offer to purchase said property from _____ for the consideration of \$_____ at the time of sale and has been accepted by the Lincoln Parish Police Jury; and

WHEREAS, the property described herein below was scheduled for public auction on April 4, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

NOW BE IT ORDAINED by the Lincoln Parish Police Jury, that any Act of Sale of the below described property shall contain the following conditions and requirements:

- 1) This property described as Lincoln Parish Parcel #29183000067, with a municipal address of 575 Rodgers Road, Ruston, Louisiana, and more fully described as:

Commencing at an existing creosote fence post found and accepted as the Southeast Corner of the North One-Half of the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 29, Township 18 North, Range 3 West, Lincoln Parish, Louisiana; thence run N 00 degrees, 14' East for a distance of 660.00 feet to a metal "T" fence post; thence run N89 degrees, 38' W along the North line of Hanna Estates Subdivision for a distance of 685.28 feet to metal "T" fence post for the STARTING POINT; from said starting point thence run North for a distance of 125.0feet to a metal "T" fence post; thence run N 89 degrees, 38' W for a distance of 289.95 feet to a railroad spike in the center line of Lincoln Parish Road No. 102; thence run S 12 degrees 00' W along said center line for a distance of 59.77 feet to a point; thence run S 10 degrees, 46' W along said center line for a distance of 67.57 feet to a railroad spike; thence, leaving said center line, run S 89 degrees, 38', 24 E for a distance of 315.00 feet back to the point-of-beginning; containing 0.87 acres.

- 2) This property shall be sold in accordance with LS-R.S. 47:2201 *et seq.*, without any warranty, from either the Parish or Management Company, whatsoever, even as to the return of the purchase price.

- 3) The sale shall be on a form approved by the Parish Attorney and that the sales price is paid by certified funds at the time of the sale.
- 4) The sale shall include a reservation of all mineral rights to the Parish, but shall convey all surface rights.
- 5) The following shall be completed prior to closing of sale:
 - a. E&P Consulting Services, LLC shall certify in writing to the Parish Attorney that they have examined the mortgage records, conveyance records, probate and civil suit records of the Parish of Lincoln and that attached to this certification will be a written list of names and last known addresses of all owners, mortgagees, and any other person who may have a vested or contingent interest in the property, or who has filed a request for notice as provided in the former provisions LS-R.S. 33:4720.17(B), as indicated in those records.
 - b. E&P Consulting Services, LLC will provide notice to those persons identified in accordance with LS-R.S. 47:2201 *et. seq.* Proof of said notice will be filed in the conveyance records of Lincoln Parish immediately after the Act of Sale.
 - c. At the time of closing, the E&P Consulting Services, LLC will certify in writing to Parish Attorney and Clerk of Court that the number of days mandated by LS-R.S. 47:2201 *et. seq.* has elapsed since the above required notice was made or attempted and that the property has not been redeemed by the payment of the taxes owed.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, by the Lincoln Parish Policy Jury, that the Police Jury President is hereby authorized to execute a Cash Sale of the above described adjudicated property to the highest acceptable bidder. The Cash Sale shall contain all of the above conditions and requirements and shall be executed within the timelines specified.

The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Wyatt, Hunter, Durrett, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Russell, Henderson, Melton, Mayfield, and Straughter

Annette Straughter offered a motion, seconded by Matt Pullin, to appoint Mr. Tim Padgett to the Ruston Lincoln Convention and Visitor's Bureau representing Louisiana Tech for a three-year term.

Resolution No. 23-06

BE IT RESOLVED by the Police Jury of Lincoln Parish,
Louisiana, convened in Regular Session this

14th day of March, 2023 that
Mr. Tim Padgett
Is hereby and herewith appointed, COMMISSIONER
Ruston Lincoln Convention and Visitor's Bureau
Representing Louisiana Tech University
Lincoln Parish, Louisiana,
For the term of March 14, 2023 – December 31, 2025
Signed and Sealed this 14th day of March, 2023
LINCOLN PARISH POLICE JURY

* * * * *

/s/ Courtney Hall
Courtney Hall
Interim Parish Administrator

/s/ Richard I. Durrett
Richard I. Durrett
Police Jury President

The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Wyatt, Hunter, Durrett, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Russell, Henderson, Melton, Mayfield, and Straughter

Glenn Scriber offered a motion, seconded by Logan Hunt, to amend the Police Jury Purchasing Policy to reflect increased dollar material and supply thresholds as amended by Louisiana State Law. The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Wyatt, Hunter, Durrett, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Russell, Henderson, Melton, Mayfield, and Straughter

Annette Straughter offered a motion, seconded by Theresa Wyatt, to enter into an additional National Opioid Settlement and Authorize the Administrator to Execute any required documents. The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Wyatt, Hunter, Durrett, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Russell, Henderson, Melton, Mayfield, and Straughter

Logan Hunt offered a motion, seconded by Milton Melton, to declare various items of office furniture as surplus property and authorize advertisement for bids. The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Wyatt, Hunter, Durrett, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Russell, Henderson, Melton, Mayfield, and Straughter

Treasurer Michael Sutton presented a budget report.

Theresa Wyatt offered a motion, seconded by Sharyon Mayfield, to authorize travel to NACo to be held July 21-24, 2023 in Austin, Texas in accordance with established travel policies and budget constraints. The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Wyatt, Hunter, Durrett, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Russell, Henderson, Melton, Mayfield, and Straughter

The jurors then heard reports from department heads. Under public comments, Mr. Bill Jones spoke to the Jurors about House Bill No. 25 and its potential effect on the Lincoln Parish Library.

Annette Straughter offered a motion, seconded by Sharyon Mayfield, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Wyatt, Hunter, Durrett, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Russell, Henderson, Melton, Mayfield, and Straughter

Courtney Hall
Interim Parish Administrator

Richard I. Durrett
Police Jury President