

The Lincoln Parish Police Jury met in regular session on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the Police Jury Meeting Room, 100 West Texas Avenue, Ruston, Louisiana. Present were: Greg Williams, District One; Dan Lord, District Three; T.J. Cranford, District Four; Logan Hunt, District Five; Glenn Scriber, District Six; Matt Pullin, District Seven; Chris Garriga, District Eight; Milton Melton, District Ten; Diane Richards, District Eleven; and Annette Straughter, District Twelve

ABSENT: Karen Ludley, District Two; Joe Henderson, District Nine

President Scriber called the meeting to order and T.J. Cranford delivered the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

YEAS: Williams, Lord, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Garriga, Melton, Richards, and Straughter

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

Dan Lord offered a motion, seconded by Milton Melton, to approve the Minutes of the February 11, 2025 regular meeting. The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Williams, Lord, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Garriga, Melton, Richards, and Straughter

Chris Garriga reported that the Public Safety and Emergency Services Committee met this day at 5:00 PM conducting the following business:

1. Lincoln Parish Fire District No. 1 Chief Kevin Reynolds was present to give a report on operations of the District.
2. Chief Chris Womack, City of Ruston Fire Department presented an Ambulance Service Report.
3. Recommended an ordinance for Qualified First Responders Ad Valorem Tax Exemption.

Chris Garriga offered a motion, seconded by Annette Straughter, to approve the minutes of the Public Safety and Emergency Services Committee. The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Williams, Lord, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Garriga, Melton, Richards, and Straughter

Logan Hunt reported that the Economic Planning and Development Committee met this day at 5:45 PM and the Committee recommends:

1. Partnering with the City of Ruston and the Ruston/Lincoln Convention and Visitors Bureau in an agreement with Retail Strategies, LLC for retail and commercial development consulting services.

Logan Hunt offered a motion, seconded by Annette Straughter, to approve the minutes of the Economic Planning and Development Committee. The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Williams, Lord, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Garriga, Melton, Richards, and Straughter

Next item on the Agenda was a Local Healthcare Provider Participation Program Presentation. Ms. Nicole Frey, acting attorney for Allegiance Health Management, was present to request that the Jury consider authorizing a local healthcare provider assessment payment to be used to provide the nonfederal share of a Medicaid payment program. Ms. Frey reviewed the process required and answered questions about the program. Ms. Kathy Hall, North Louisiana Medical Center CEO was also present to answer questions. No action was taken.

Next item on the Agenda was to consider, and take action if necessary, adoption of ordinance providing for Qualified First Responder Ad Valorem Tax Exemption. Dan Lord offered a motion, seconded by Chris Garriga, to adopt an ordinance.

**ORDINANCE NO. 481-25-0**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND LINCOLN PARISH POLICE JURY CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 40 – TAXATION, TO ADD A NEW ARTICLE VI, SEC. 40-200 – QUALIFIED FIRST RESPONDER AD VALOREM TAX EXEMPTION, TO ADOPT AN AD VALOREM TAX EXEMPTION OF UP TO \$2,500 OF THE ASSESSED VALUATION OF PROPERTY RECEIVING THE HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION THAT IS OWNED AND OCCUPIED BY A QUALIFIED FIRST RESPONDER PURSUANT TO LOUISIANA CONSTITUTION ARTICLE VII, SECTION 21 (O).**

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislature passed Act No. 179 in its 2023 Regular Session which proposed an amendment to Article VII, Section 21 of the Louisiana Constitution to authorize the local governing authority of a parish to an ad valorem tax exemption for qualified first responders, as defined therein; and,

WHEREAS, a majority of electors of the State of Louisiana, including a majority of electors in Lincoln Parish, voted in a statewide election held on November 18, 2023, to approve the proposed constitutional amendment to add Article VII, Section 21(O); and,

WHEREAS, Louisiana Constitution Article VII, Section 21(O) provides that in addition to the homestead exemption provided for in Section 20, the parish governing authority may approve an ad valorem tax exemption of up to \$2,500 of the assessed valuation of property receiving the homestead exemption that is owned and occupied by a qualified first responder; and,

WHEREAS, a “qualified first responder” is defined in Article VII, Section 21(O) as a volunteer firefighter who has completed within the tax year no fewer than twenty-four hours of firefighter continuing education and is an active member of the Louisiana State Firemen’s Association or is on the departmental personnel roster of the Volunteer Firefighter Insurance Program of the office of state fire marshal. “Qualified first responder” shall also mean a full-time public employee whose duties include responding rapidly to an emergency and who resides in the same parish in which their employer is located. The term includes the following: (a) peace officer, which means any sheriff, police officer, or other person deputized by proper authority to serve as a peace officer; (b) fire protection personnel; (c) an individual certified as emergency medical services personnel; (d) an emergency response operator or emergency services dispatcher who provides communication support services for an agency by responding to requests for assistance in emergencies; and,

WHEREAS, as required by Article VII, Section 21 (O)(4), Lincoln Parish Police Jury requests that the tax assessor establish a procedure whereby a qualified individual may annually apply for the exemption, including the production of documentation issued by the first responder’s employer evidencing employment for the taxable period for which the exemption is being requested; and,

WHEREAS, in furtherance of the vote by a majority of electors of this parish and state, the Lincoln Parish Police Jury, as the governing authority of the Parish of Lincoln, desires to approve and make applicable in the Parish of Lincoln an ad valorem tax exemption of up to \$2,500 of the assessed valuation of property receiving the homestead exemption that is owned and occupied by a qualified first responder pursuant to Article VII, Section 21 (O) of the Louisiana Constitution.

THE LINCOLN PARISH POLICE JURY HEREBY ORDAINS that the Lincoln Parish Code of Ordinances, Chapter 40 – Taxation, be amended to add Article VI, Sec. 40-200- Qualified First Responder Ad Valorem Tax Exemption, and add reserved sections, to provide as follows:

**ARTICLE VI. – QUALIFIED FIRST RESPONDER AD VALOREM TAX EXEMPTION**

**Sec. 40-200. Qualified First Responder Ad Valorem Tax Exemption.**

- (1) Pursuant to Louisiana Constitution Article VII, Section 21(O), the Lincoln Parish Police Jury, as the governing authority for the Parish of Lincoln, hereby approves and makes applicable in the Parish of Lincoln an ad valorem tax exemption of up to \$2,500 of the assessed valuation of property receiving the homestead exemption that is owned

and occupied by a qualified first responder, and upon satisfactory completion of the exemption application requirements established by the Lincoln Parish Tax Assessor.

(2) Pursuant to Section 3 of Act No. 179 of the 2023 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the ad valorem tax exemption approved and made applicable herein shall apply to ad valorem taxes due in tax year 2025 and thereafter.

**Sec. 40 200-205. Reserved**

REPEAL: All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SEVERABILITY: If any provision of this Ordinance shall be held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions herein which can be given effect without the invalid provision and to this end the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This Ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after adoption.

MOVED FOR ADOPTION BY: Dan Lord, SECONDED BY: Chris Garriga

WHEREUPON THIS ORDINANCE WAS SUBMITTED TO A VOTE AND RESULTED IN THE FOLLOWING:

YEAS: Williams, Lord, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Garriga, Melton, Richards, and Straughter


ABSENT: Ludley, Henderson

<u>/s/ Courtney Hall</u>	<u>/s/ Glenn Scriber</u>
Courtney Hall	Glenn Scriber
Parish Administrator	President

Next item on the Agenda was to authorize the Administrator to perform activities related to potential purchase of property at 203 S. Vienna Street. Mr. Courtney Hall, Parish Administrator, stated an appraisal and property inspection would be required. Annette Straughter offered a motion, seconded by Chris Garriga, to authorize the Administrator to perform the activities. The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Williams, Lord, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Garriga, Melton, Richards, and Straughter

Next item on the Agenda was action on bids. Dan Lord offered a motion, seconded by Matt Pullin, to award the low bid for a shoulder paver attachment to Covington Sales & Service, Inc. in the amount of \$79,920.00.

<div><div></div><div><div>LINCOLN Parish Police Jury</div><div>P.O. Box 979 RUSTON, LOUISIANA 71273-0979</div><div>PH: 1-318-513-6200 FAX: 1-318-513-6209</div></div></div>			
BID TABULATION SHEET			
Item #:	One Shoulder Paver Attachment		
Bid Date:	February 28, 2025		
Budgeted Amount:			
Notes:			
Bidder	Model	Bid	Comments
Covington Sales & Service Inc.	Road Widener FH	\$79,920.00	30-120 day delivery
Doggett	Shoulder Master SM1500	\$96,230.00	Not on bid form


The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Williams, Lord, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Garriga, Melton, Richards, and Straughter

Annette Straughter offered a motion, seconded by Matt Pullin, to reject all bids for a regular cab tandem dump truck due to non-conformity with bid specifications, and authorize the re-advertisement for bids. The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Williams, Lord, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Garriga, Melton, Richards, and Straughter

Annette Straughter offered a motion, seconded by Matt Pullin, to award the low bid for a boom truck to Scott Truck, LLC., in the amount of \$198,550.00.

<div><div></div><div><div>LINCOLN Parish Police Jury</div><div>P.O. Box 979 RUSTON, LOUISIANA 71273-0979</div><div>PH: 1-318-513-6200 FAX: 1-318-513-6209</div></div></div>				
BID TABULATION SHEET				
Item #:	One New Boom Truck			
Bid Date:	February 28, 2025			
Budgeted Amount:	\$214,000.00			
Notes:				
Bidder	Model	Bid	Delivery Date	Comments
Scott Truck LLC	International MV607, Petersen TL3	\$198,550.00	4-5 mos	
Scott Truck LLC	International MV607, Petersen TL3	\$199,975.00	Now	Doesn't meet our bid specs.
Scott Truck LLC	International MV607, Petersen TL3	\$200,975.00	30 days	Doesn't meet our bid specs.
Bruckner Truck Sales Inc.	Mack MD7	\$202,283.00	5/21/2025	
Kenworth	Kenworth T380, Petersen TL3	\$220,972.20	N/A	
***Recommend highlighted bid***				

The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Williams, Lord, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Garriga, Melton, Richards, and Straughter


Matt Pullin offered a motion, seconded by Annette Straughter, to award the low bid for a pavement lay down machine to Covington Sales & Service, Inc., in the amount of \$231,051.66.

	<b>LINCOLN Parish Police Jury</b>			
P.O. Box 979 RUSTON, LOUISIANA 71273-0979				
PH: 1-318-513-6200 FAX: 1-318-513-6209				
<b>BID TABULATION SHEET</b>				
<b>Item #:</b>	<b>One Pavement Lay Down Machine</b>			
<b>Bid Date:</b>	<b>February 28, 2025</b>			
<b>Budgeted Amount:</b>				
<b>Notes:</b>				
<b>Bidder</b>	<b>Model</b>	<b>Bid</b>	<b>Comments</b>	
<b>Covington Sales &amp; Service Inc.</b>	<b>LeeBoy 8500E</b>	<b>\$231,051.66</b>	<b>30-120 day delivery</b>	

The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Williams, Lord, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Garriga, Melton, Richards, and Straughter

Annette Straughter offered a motion, seconded by Matt Pullin, to award the bid of asphalt materials to Asphalt Product Unlimited, Inc.

	<b>LINCOLN Parish Police Jury</b>			
P.O. Box 979 RUSTON, LOUISIANA 71273-0979				
PH: 1-318-513-6200 FAX: 1-318-513-6209				
<b>BID TABULATION SHEET</b>				
<b>Item #: One - Asphalt Materials</b>				
<b>Bid Date: Friday, March 7, 2025</b>				
<b>Budgeted Amount: \$425,000.00</b>				
<b>Notes: 2025 Asphalt Materials</b>				
<b>Bidder</b>	<b>MC-30 - (\$5.28)</b>	<b>CRS-2 - (\$3.08)</b>	<b>Minimum Quantity</b>	<b>Lead Time</b>
<b>Asphalt Product Unlimited, Inc.</b>	<b>\$5.28</b>	<b>\$3.01</b>	<b>5000 gal</b>	<b>24 -48 hours</b>
<b>Note: Amount in red parentheses denotes previous bid amount.</b>				

The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Williams, Lord, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Garriga, Melton, Richards, and Straughter

Dan Lord offered a motion, seconded by Logan Hunt, to appoint Mr. Phillip Todd Heard, to the Waterworks District No. 1 for a five-year term.

**Resolution No. 2025-18**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Police Jury of Lincoln Parish,  
Louisiana, convened in Regular Session this  
11th day of March, 2025 that  
**Mr. Phillip Todd Heard**  
Is hereby and herewith appointed, COMMISSIONER  
Waterworks District No. 1  
Lincoln Parish, Louisiana,  
For the term of March 11, 2025 – March 11, 2030  
Signed and Sealed this 11th day of March, 2025  
LINCOLN PARISH POLICE JURY  
\* \* \* \* \*

/s/ Courtney Hall  
Courtney Hall  
Parish Administrator

/s/ Glenn Scriber  
Glenn Scriber  
President

The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Williams, Lord, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Garriga, Melton, Richards, and Straughter

Annette Straughter offered a motion, seconded by Matt Pullin, to appoint Mr. Kip Franklin, to the Fire Training Center Board for a three-year term.

**Resolution No. 2025-19**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Police Jury of Lincoln Parish,  
Louisiana, convened in Regular Session this  
11th day of March, 2025 that  
**Mr. Kip Franklin**  
Is hereby and herewith appointed, COMMISSIONER  
Fire Training Center Board  
Lincoln Parish, Louisiana,  
For the term of March 11, 2025 – March 11, 2028  
Signed and Sealed this 11th day of March, 2025  
LINCOLN PARISH POLICE JURY  
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/s/ Courtney Hall  
Courtney Hall  
Parish Administrator

/s/ Glenn Scriber  
Glenn Scriber  
President

The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Williams, Lord, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Garriga, Melton, Richards, and Straughter

Under Travel, Logan Hunt offered a motion, seconded by Annette Straughter, to authorize appropriate personnel to travel to Washington D.C. in support of the Grambling/City of Ruston I-20 Service Road Project and other Federal Appropriation requests. The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Williams, Lord, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Garriga, Melton, Richards, and Straughter

Mr. Michael Sutton, Treasurer, gave the budget report.

Reports and Announcements were heard from the Administrator and Department Heads.

President Scriber called for Public Comment. Mr. Shane Cheatam and Mr. Stuart Hadnot with the Governor’s Office of Rural Development introduced themselves and offered their assistance with any concerns.

With no other business to come before the Jury, T.J. Cranford offered a motion, seconded by Chris Garriga, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried with the following votes:

YEAS: Williams, Lord, Cranford, Hunt, Scriber, Pullin, Garriga, Melton, Richards, and Straughter

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Courtney Hall  
Parish Administrator

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Glenn Scriber  
President