

**ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3rd, 2021
OLD CITY MARKET, 131 W. BELLEVUE ST.
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA**

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, Council Members are using
Zoom Conference Calling System to participate in the meeting**

1. Chairman Dexter Q. Brown called the Public Works Committee of the St. Landry Parish Council to order.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation was said earlier in the Administrative Finance Committee Meeting.
3. Elect a Chairman.
Chairman Dexter Q. Brown, "I would like to open the floor for any nominations for chairman of the Public Works Committee for the year 2021."
Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, "I would like to nominate Mr. Jimmie Edwards."
Chairman Dexter Q. Brown, "Do we have a second."
Councilman Alvin Stelly, "I would like to nominate Mr. Coby Clavier."
Chairman Dexter Q. Brown, "Do we have a second."
Chairman Dexter Q. Brown, "Right now I have two nominations for Chairman Mr. Jimmie Edwards and Mr. Coby Clavier, do I have a second."
Councilman Coby Clavier, "I will second for Mr. Jimmie Edwards to be chairman."
Chairman Dexter Q. Brown, "Ok I have a motion and a second for Mr. Jimmie Edwards to be chairman of the Public Works Committee for the year 2021"

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Coby Clavier to appoint Councilman Jimmie Edwards as the chairman of the Public Works Committee of the St. Landry Parish Council for the year 2021.

On roll call vote: Mildred Thierry, Alvin Stelly, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Nancy Carriere and Gil Savoy. ABSTAINED: None

Motion passed.

Chairman Dexter Q. Brown stated he would like to congratulate Councilman Jimmie Edwards of becoming our chairman of the Public Works Committee for year 2021.

Councilman Jimmie Edwards stated, "I would like to thank everyone for nominating me as chairman and I will continue to do what I think I do best."

4. Roll Call:
Conference Call: Mildred Thierry, Alvin Stelly, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier.
Ex-Officio Dexter Q. Brown.
Vivian Olivier. Ex. Officio Coby Clavier. ABSENT: Nancy Carriere and Gil Savoy.
Councilwoman Nancy Carriere and Councilman Gil Savoy joined the meeting later.
5. Person to address the Committee:
 - a. Mr. Richard LeBouef addressed the council regarding debris pickup throughout St. Landry Parish. He stated, "AOK services the tree debris that's being trimmed throughout the parish was taken on by Solid Waste as of October 19th, 2020 to close of day yesterday. We have AOK tree services \$88,000 dollars to date, grapple service individual pickup including stuff paying with Waste Connections \$192,500, the roll off and grapple service we are providing through Solid Waste \$94,900 that figures wages to truck fuel. As of close of date yesterday was \$375,400 that St. Landry Solid Waste has spent so far on debris pickup as of October 19th, 2020.
Councilman Jerry Red Jr. asked, "Mr. LeBouef what percentage are complete in the parish?"
Mr. Richard LeBouef stated, "I would estimate at this time we should be close to 35 to 40% percent left. We have 65-68 percent done. We right at the half mark."

Councilman Jerry Red Jr., “I guess they never got to Opelousas yet, is that correct.”
 Mr. Richard LeBouef stated, “Yes they are working Opelousas probably about a week in a half to two weeks.”
 Councilman Jerry Red Jr. stated, “I can tell you on the North end they still have piles of debris.”
 Mr. Richard LeBouef stated, “We are aware of that we are working northly.”
 Councilman Jerry Red Jr. stated, “Well let me tell you the areas if you don’t know, near the Oil Mill area.
 Mr. Richard LeBouef stated, “Correct we are addressing it Mr. Jerry early with limited resources and monetary outlay. Thank you for everybody patience.”
 Councilman Alvin Stelly stated, “I would like to thank Mr. LeBouef for everything he been doing with Solid Waste. Solid Waste has been doing a great job. They picked up a lot of debris. He doing a good job, the best job we ever had before.”
 Mr. Richard LeBouef stated, “Thank you all of the Council members and Parish President. It is a team effort the guys that work for parish government does a phenomenal job also.”
 Councilman Wayne Ardoin, “I asked for Mr. LeBouef to be placed on the agenda. I just want to make it clear so the news media can pick all this up that St. Landry Parish Government don’t have the money to spend except for our grappling truck and some of public works crew which we only have 7 or 8 people working doing a fantastic job. Mr. Richard is doing a fantastic job but we still have a long ways to go because Mr. Red you said the Oil Mill area, Railroad area, I still have some on the South end also. They started in Cankton trying to work their way up but I think what happens is some people are cleaning up and they put the debris in front of their house or in the ditch and they have to back up and start over again. We need to try to work with them and call Joey Boone which he has been helping a lot also. I would like to thank them again just like Mr. Alvin did.”

6. Public Works Report:

- a. Update on Adjudicated Property in the Parish.
 Parish President Jessie Bellard, “We met with a couple attorneys a few weeks ago and we are coming up with a system for several procedures on how to buy adjudicated property in the parish. It will be a lot easier I’m not gonna say it’s faster because the law is the law we have to follow what they tell us. We will set it up where it’s a lot easier to understand and purchase property. At our planning committee that we will setup I will address with committee so we can bring to council to see and understand together.”
- b. Update on Road Work throughout the Parish.
 Parish President Jessie Bellard, “We are still cleaning out ditches, we will start that recapping process on a couple of roads see how that will work hopefully it works and we can continue doing that come on top of the roads that have the good base. It will save us about 65% of our money. We have talked with Engineers and they on board so we will try and see, everyone will have a little bit in their districts.”

A motion was made by Councilman Coby Clavier, seconded by Councilman Alvin Stelly to accept the Public Works Report.

On roll call vote: Mildred Thierry, Alvin Stelly, and Coby Clavier. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Nancy Carriere and Gil Savoy. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion carried.

- 7. Authorize the ratification of Matt Rabalais to the E-911 Board being nominated by: Fire Chief of SLFPD #3 Charles Watson, Chief Roy Hardy of St. Landry Parish Fire Protection District No. 2 in Port Barre, Fire Chief Charles Mason of Opelousas Fire Department and Chief Michael Arnold of Eunice Fire Department.

A motion was made by Councilman Coby Clavier, seconded by Councilman Alvin Stelly forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, February 17th, 2021** to approve the ratification of Matt Rabalais to the E-911 Board being nominated by: Fire Chief of SLFPD #3 Charles Watson, Chief Roy Hardy of St. Landry Parish Fire Protection District No. 2 in Port

Barre, Fire Chief Charles Mason of Opelousas Fire Department and Chief Michael Arnold of Eunice Fire Department.

On roll call vote: Mildred Thierry, Alvin Stelly, and Coby Clavier. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Nancy Carriere and Gil Savoy None. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

8. Authorize the Ratification of Major Mark Guidry (Opelousas Police Department Representative) to the E-911 Board nominated by: Chief Martin McLendon.

A motion was made by Councilman Alvin Stelly, seconded by Councilman Coby Clavier to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, February 17th, 2021** to approve the Ratification of Major Mark Guidry (Opelousas Police Department Representative) to the E-911 Board nominated by: Chief Martin McLendon.

On roll call vote: Mildred Thierry, Alvin Stelly, and Coby Clavier. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Nancy Carriere and Gil Savoy. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

9. Authorize the Ratification of Chief Ervin Menard nominated himself to the E-911 Board, also Chief Ervin Menard was nominated by Riley Grisham Grand Coteau Fire Chief, Mayonce Franks Jr., St. Landry Parish Fire Protection District 7, Fire Chief Johnny Meche, Leonville Volunteer Fire Department and Fire Chief Kevin Smith of the Sunset Volunteer Fire Department.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Coby Clavier to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, February 17th, 2021** to approve the Ratification of Chief Ervin Menard nominated himself to the E-911 Board, also Chief Ervin Menard was nominate by Riley Grisham, Grand Coteau Fire Chief, Mayonce Franks Jr., St. Landry Parish Fire Protection District 7, Fie Chief Johnny Meche, Leonville Volunteer Fire Department and Fire Chief Kevin Smith of the Sunset Volunteer Fire Department.

On roll call vote: Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, and Coby Clavier. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Nancy Carriere. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

10. Authorize the ratification of Lieutenant Tony Kennedy to the E-911 Board nominated by Chief of Police Randy Fontenot of Eunice Police Department to replace Chief Richard Daigle upcoming retirement.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Coby Clavier to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, January 20th, 2021** to approve the Ratification of Lieutenant Tony Kennedy to the E-911 Board nominated by Chief of Police Randy Fontenot of Eunice Police Department to replace Chief Richard Daigle upcoming retirement.

On roll call vote: Nancy Carriere, Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, and Coby Clavier. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

11. Discuss the speed limit on Country Ridge Road. (Councilman Wayne Ardoin.)

Councilman Wayne Ardoin, "Mr. Bellard there was a speed study done a couple years ago Mr. Fontenot was the Parish President at that time, where some people came in and gave a study on the speed limit we should allow on some of these parish roads. On Country Ridge, I have received some complaints that the speed limit is not fast enough because of the fact these people don't follow the speed limit that is posted. I am asking that the people that did the study can come back and do another study and possible raise the speed limit to where the people will be satisfied and can do the speed limit that they are currently going down that road.

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "He prefer not hire another entity at this time. I feel we can contact the Sheriff office and get their opinion. In my opinion it's wasted money."

Councilman Wayne Ardoin, "I would like to see it raised another 5 to 10 miles, I hate to put it that way but it is a speed trap also."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Mr. Ardoin, I agree but I think the Council can do what needs to be done with that. I hope the Council doesn't want me to get another study done.

Councilman Wayne Ardoin, "Now that we have some new paved roads people are going faster and I have the complaints from the people that it is really too slow of what we have

posted there because they are rolling on that road. Two lane highway it has the markers on it, it has the reflectors on it but I am asking you get the law enforcement agency that is in charge of it which would be the sheriff office ask them their opinion and see what we come up with.” Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain, “I would suggest that we forward this to the full council meeting because it really takes a full council to take action on this matter.” Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “I agree we need to send to full council but if Mr. Bellard would speak with the sheriff see if he would be interested in perhaps doing a survey.”

A motion was made by Councilman Alvin Stelly, seconded by Councilman Coby Clavier to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, February 17th, 2021** to further discuss the speed limit on Country Ridge Road.

On roll call vote: Nancy Carriere, Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, and Coby Clavier.
NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

12. Forward all applications receive for one appointment to the Public Works Commission District 6 for a four year term. (02-19-2021 – 02-19-2025).

A motion was made by Councilman Coby Clavier, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, February 17th, 2021** to forward all applications for one appointment to the Public Works Commission District 6 for a four year term. (02-19-2021 – 02-19-2025).

On roll call vote: Nancy Carriere, Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, and Coby Clavier.
NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

13. Forward all applications received for one appointment to Bellevue & Coulee Crouche Gravity Drainage District No. 20 for a four year term. (02-15-2021 – 02-15-2025).

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Alvin Stelly to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, February 17th, 2021** all applications for one appointment to Bellevue & Coulee Crouche Gravity Drainage District No. 20 for a four year term. (02-15-2021 – 02-15-2025).

On roll call vote: Nancy Carriere, Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, and Coby Clavier.
NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

14. Authorize Council Clerk to advertise one appointment to St. Landry Agricultural Arena Authority for a five year term. (03-16-2021 – 03-16-2026).

A motion was made by Councilman Alvin Stelly, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, February 17th, 2021** authorize Council Clerk to advertise one appointment to St. Landry Agricultural Arena Authority for a five year term. (03-16-2021 – 03-16-2026).

On roll call vote: Nancy Carriere, Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, and Coby Clavier.
NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

15. Discuss consequences for mud riding on parish roads. (Councilwoman Mildred Thierry). Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, “I have been receiving a lot of complaints of mud riders destroying the road mainly to name some Rolton, Canal, and Tower Road. It is my understanding the protocol is to call the sheriff department and they send someone out. I started to follow up on this and see what are the consequences and it’s sort of like situational consequences so I would like us as a Council to look into this and see what needs to be done to try and protect our roads that we are having a hard time keeping up. Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain, “If there is damage caused to a road in wildlife manage area, private property, or just a road in general then the sheriff office can issue a citation violation to the person who damage to the road. Whether it’s mud riding, an ATV, a truck then from there the citation for traffic offense or misdemeanor is prosecuted by the DA office. If there is reoccurring problem with mud riding in that area I would think law enforcement would be notified and increase patrol and be on the lookout for it so that way if necessary they can issue a citation.

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, “After I contacted the sheriff office to find out how many complaints they received in regards to those areas from mud riding there was one complaint that was called into the sheriff department but I am receiving several text in regards to this. Since then the sheriff department has assured me they have placed extra patrol in the area.” Parish President Jessie Bellard, “Title 32 of the Statue should take care of any kind of road issues dealing with that. I also met with the sheriff dealing with Rolston, Tower, Chris, and every one of the roads that report to us and there is a plan in place to address these issues, the sheriff is addressing it. He is doing it in a different way; we are trying to catch them so there is a plan in place to take care of that. I don’t believe we need to draw up an ordinance because title 32 takes care of that.”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain, “Mr. Chairman I would suggest that we forward to the full council meeting so perhaps we can get an update at that time on this issue.”

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Coby Clavier to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, February 17th, 2021** to further discuss mud riding on parish roads.

On roll call vote: Nancy Carriere, Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, and Coby Clavier. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

16. Discuss trash being littered all over the parish. (Councilman Jerry Red Jr.)

Councilman Jerry Red Jr. stated, “I asked that item be placed on the agenda because I go all over and notice that people are starting to litter all over the place. They are even taking their furniture and throwing it on side of the road. My main question is what we can do to help solve this problem. It is getting to a point where the litter abatement crew goes out and cleans the roads and then probably a few days later trash still coming back up all over the place. People are just rolling down their windows and throwing out their trash. My main question is, What can we do to help solve this problem? I don’t mind doing a community outreach picking up trash but there should be something where if a person is caught throwing trash out of their windows or whatever, that they would have so many hours that they would have to go pick up trash. This is getting ridiculous for people to just throw their furniture on the side of the road this is not good. I am asking you all what would be best for us to do? Mr. Bellard, do you have anything to speak on this matter?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard, “We can get with the sheriff he has the litter abatement crew, I know they go out every day. As far as to stop it from happening I know in the past they had put out signs, I do have cameras in different areas of the parish and those pictures come to my phone and to public works. We are trying to catch these people as they litter.

Councilman Jerry Red Jr. stated, “I know one of the places where you put the cameras some of these people still went back again and threw furniture and stuff under these bridges and stuff. This is the kind of stuff we dealing with that needs to be stopped.

Parish President Jessie Bellard, “Public works is reviewing the cameras to see who that could be and turn it over to the sheriff office.

Councilman Jerry Red Jr. stated, “Is there any way we can get a community service project where some high school students can come out help pick up trash and at the end of the day they can be rewarded.

Parish President Jessie Bellard, “I can reach out to the DA office and let them know we need some community service workers so whenever they have them available.

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere, “One of my suggestions is to educate that we have waste connection available to call and they will pick up their waste.”

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, “We can utilize social media and remind constituents we do have this service available.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere, “I would also like to make a suggestion to our tourist commission to keep St. Landry Parish clean and show involvement where people start taking pride and move forward in a positive way.”

Chairman Dexter Brown stated, “We have a beautiful recycling center on Highway 190 where they can come recycle plastic, and cardboards Monday through Friday. It is important to educate the public on what can be recycled.

17. Discuss any other business properly brought before this committee.

No other business to discuss at this time.

18. Adjourn.

A motion was made by Councilman Gil Savoy, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to adjourn the Public Works Committee Meeting.

On roll call vote: Nancy Carriere, Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, and Coby Clavier.

NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion carried.

**I HEREBY CERTIFY THE FOREGOING TO BE EXACT AND TRUE
SHERELL JORDAN, COUNCIL CLERK**