

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATCHITOCHE PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH OF NATCHITOCHE, STATE OF LOUISIANA
TAKEN A REGULAR MEETING HELD, MONDAY,
June 20, 2016
5:30 p.m.

The Natchitoches Parish Council met in regular and legal session in the Council Board Room of the Natchitoches Parish Courthouse, on Monday, June 20, 2016 for a Regular of Natchitoches Parish Council meeting at five(5:30) o'clock p.m. and for the Natchitoches Parish Council Meeting.

The Parish of Natchitoches was then convened as the governing authority by Chairman Russell Rachal who stated that the Parish was ready for the transaction of business.

The invocation was given by Councilwoman Patsy Ward Hoover and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Doug de Graffernied.

After the roll call there were present Chairman Russell Rachal and Council: Rodney Bedgood, Doug de Graffernied, Chris Paige, and Patsy Ward-Hoover.

Absent: None.

Chairman Rachal then asked for visitors at this time. At this time Ms. Donna Isaacs, Executive Director from the Campiti Field of Dreams along with students called themselves the Tobacco Elinators. the came to talk about the Tobacco Free Awareness. Student from this class spoke on different statistics about Tobacco. The main focus is that Youths are a target when it comes to Tobacco they make everything looks good towards cigarettes.

The Chairman stated the next items on the agenda was to adopt the minutes of the regular meeting of the Natchitoches Parish Council held Monday, May 16, 2016.

On motion by Councilman Rodney Bedgood , duly seconded by Councilwoman Patsy Ward Hoover, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt the minutes of the regular meeting of the Natchitoches Parish Council held Monday, May 16, 2016.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffernied
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal
Ayes:	Councilman Paige

Motion Passed

Chairman Rachal stated the next item on the agenda was Old Business for Council to consider adopting Ordinance 005-2016 to establish a policy for the order of business to be followed by the Parish Council at Parish Council meetings, including the receipt of comments from the public concerning matters to be considered by the Parish Council and other subjects.

On motion by Chairman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by Councilman de Graffernied that this matter be removed off the table, since it was tabled at last month meeting.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman de Graffernied
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover
Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood

Motion Passed

At this time Councilman Paige wanted to know exactly what they was voting on. Chairman Rachal stated that back in January of 2013 the Parish Council never had adopted any rules concerning meetings. This was supposed to be done, but wasn't done at the time of the change of Government.

The chairman stated he wasn't trying to stop public comments, but he wanted those comments to be on agenda items only. This was to get order in the meeting. He wants the people to be heard and abide by the law but to only comment on a voting agenda item.

At this time Councilwoman Hoover wanted to amend this Ordinance by changing the wording in number 3 under Public Comments to read The Council the majority vote shall have the authority to limit the amount of time during the public comment period..... Not giving one person the right to speak. Chairman stated he had no problem. With 4 being removed. No. 4 The suspension of the policy should be Chairman with the council approval. So Councilman Paige stated so we're going to have a stop clock, chairman stated it will be watched. Councilman Paige stated he don't think its not going to work with a time a limit.

Councilman Paige stated he wasn't in favor of this, Councilwoman stated since its not going to be a time limit she would like to move forward to amend number three. By stating the Council with majority voted shall have the authority to limit the amount of time during the public comment period.

Councilman Paige wanted to know if this have been researched, and Chairman Russell stated he has done research with the School Board and other Parish Government.

So Councilwoman made the motion to amend number 3 to say Council with majority vote shall have the authority to limit the amount of time during public comment, and also to amend about the who will give the time limit. also with number 4 it will state Council with majority vote shall have the authority to limit the amount of time during the public comment period.

On motion by Councilwoman Hoover, duly seconded by Councilman Russell Rachal that this Ordinance be amended by replacing Chair, with the Council with majority vote.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman de Graffernied
Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood

Motion Passed

On motion by Chairman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by Councilwoman Hoover that this Ordinance 005-2016 be adopted with the correct amendments to it, by replacing The Chair with The Council with majority vote.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover
Ayes: Councilman de Graffernied
Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood

Motion Passed

Chairman Rachal stated the next item on the agenda was to Council consider authorizing the Parish Highway Department to scarify selected deteriorated paved roads throughout the Parish.

On motion by Chairman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by Councilwoman Hoover that this matter be removed off the table, since it was tabled at last month meeting.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover
Ayes: Councilman de Graffernied
Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood

Motion Passed

Mr. Verret talked about the paved roads that are in bad condition that they can no longer maintain them as paved roads. So turning these roads into a good gravel roads instead of a poor paved road. Need to obtain public input, by putting out public notices, by using the radio and media. The one issue need to resolve is what percentage, how much opposition on the criteria based on the objection of scarifying a certain road. The alternative to completely try to patch with cold mix and its not working. We don't have any options on maintaining pave roads. Mr. Verret will love to have input from the Councilman, he received input from Councilwoman Hoover.

Councilman Bedgood stated he talked with some residents on the Clark road and they wasn't for it, and Councilman de Graffernied said one resident said yes. Councilman Bedgood wanted to know if the Mammy Trail will be the results of the other roads that will be scarified, and if so, he rather drive through the holes. Councilman Bedgood wanted to know if these roads once scarified will they be maintained and kept up by keeping gravel on them and fix them like they need to be?

Mr. Verret, stated it what you put into the project that determines the end results. He don't know what and how they done the roads before him.

Councilman Bedgood stated that if the residents wants it then he have nothing to say or no problem.

Councilman de Graffernied read from the sacred document, (Home Rule Charter) stated that the Parish President shall submit annually to the Parish Council for approval, a proposed parish wide capital improvements program which lists in order the priority all projects proposed to be constructed in coming fiscal year and for the following two years. Councilman Doug thinks this process of scarifying of the roads should come under this report along with how public outcome was received.

We need to know how the process is going to be and how the public was notified or how involved were the public in this.

Councilwoman Hoover agreed with the Councilman de Graffernied and wanted to use radio time and the official journal to make sure the residents are notified and give them an opportunity to discuss matters on their roads. A public notice should be done for the residents. She talked with the radio station about air time, so when each road is selected the public will have the opportunity to voice their concerns on whether or not they want it or not to be scarified, then a criteria will be developed to make a final decision.

Councilman Rachal wanted to know how will they get an accurate count or percentage of the third party people who uses the road also. Councilman de Graffernied said let the Parish President develop the plan and as the Council have the opportunity to accept or reject it.

Parish President Rick Nowlin, stated that Councilman de Graffernied recommendation has a lot of merit and in the next three months this annual planning report will be given and the roads selected for scarifying can be added into this plan and the Council has the right to say yes or no. And this will keep us in compliance with having the Council approval on this because the Council has to be involved in the decision.

Councilman Paige stated he thinks it's very premature in doing this because they have a tax up in November for doing this and if the tax pass then residents roads can be fixed. Where we going with this discussion, are we going to scarify roads if there going to have money to be fixed.

Parish President stated some roads will not be high priority for base reconstruction and overlay so these roads can be presented for scarifying and these minor roads to be done and the Council will accept or reject at that time. Some roads are so bad you will have to break them up anyway and this will be taken up in three months with the annual plan.

Since no action was taken on this matter, because the president will add this to his annual plan for Capital Outlay it must be added to the Capital outlay budget plan, because it's something that's not included.

On motion by Councilman Doug de Graffernied, duly seconded by Councilman Russell Rachal to authorize the Parish President to submit the scarification of roads in the Annual Capital Outlay Plan Budget along with public comments receive and all supporting documents.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes:	Councilman de Graffernied
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover
Ayes:	Councilman Paige
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood

Motion Passed

Councilman Paige said at this time he see some people that have arrived to be visitors, they wanting to know exactly what is going on with Payne Subdivision with the money being put in and taken out. Councilman Paige wanted to know if he have heard anything about it.

Parish President stated yesterday the Capital outlay bill on Sunday June 19th, was returned to the House and the Senate and House both agreed to the amendments. So now they're waiting on the Governors

signature. The bill includes: \$500,000 for reconstruction of streets in Payne Subdivision. President Rick Nowlin, stated he can not tell when this is going to start it's not in his hands now, as soon as the Governor signs off on the Bill then we wait on the CEA from Facility and Planning can be from 60 days to several months. and once that's done we can secure technical assistance to contract out to get the plans ready and to get the design we're looking at the first or second quarter of next year. Looking at next spring for anything to start.

Councilman Paige said he told the residents who keeps calling about this process, they must go through Parish President Rick Nowlin and Mr. Nick Verret. Councilman Paige asked did he cover the questions the residents in the audience had, and they said yes, but then Mrs. Cynthia Longmire wanted clarity on the House and Senate information. that is has been accepted by the House and Senate and waiting for the Governor to sign. She asked did Mr. Nowlin know about how long it takes for the Governor to sign, Mr. Nowlin stated somewhere in the mid of July not exactly sure but he has so many days to sign, once that is done you have to get a contract with the state, and you must get your plans, survey and then you have to go through the bid process and that generally takes about 60 days. Mrs. Longmire wanted to asked an additional question about the road in Payne that has been blocked off due the bridge, she wanted to know if they have to wait on Capital Outlay money to get something done to that road? Mr. Verret and Mr. Nowlin stated this is a different issue and that this bridge is waiting on FEMA, this road was closed due to the flood and their waiting on FEMA to reimburse from the flooding. But FEMA is going around doing their site visits on inspecting flood damages. Reimbursement is 75% from FEMA.

At this time Cassius Longmire, he apologize for his out burst at the last meeting. But he stated the children is his concern, because the other streets are being heavily populated from traffic due to the Miller road being closed at one end, these residents have to take another way to get out. He stated he have to continue to tell his grandchildren to stay away from the streets. Mr. Longmire want them to come out look, maybe there can be something else done to the road to get it in working condition. Mr. Verret stated they have looked at this bridge and it has to be a total replacement of that structure. It has to be a 3 barrel 5X5 reinforced concrete box infrastructure along with road way work a project costing about \$100,000 and they don't have money in their budget to fix the structure.

Councilman Doug de Graffernied ask so this mean its only one way out for those people on that street and the answer was yes. So Councilman de Graffernied went on to say, why don't we use the funds we voted on last month, the extramoney from the Sheriff Department/Detention Center, Why can't we just use that to fix the bridge?

Parish President Rick Nowlin, stated there are a couple of reasons why they're not proposing to do that one is because we had a quite amount of flood damage and the 25% we have to absorb will cost at least \$300,000 this year out of the operating budget. The windfall is half that amount from the Sheriff/Detention Center. We can take a \$100,000 if we're not dealing with federal funds to take to fix the bridge but we have the opportunity to build a real good bridge and have them pay 75% of it, something might come up another problem in the time being and we can say we made a bad decision on this, and we'll trying to stretch our dollars the best we can and we can get a 75% match.

Councilman de Graffernied asked how many homes are back there? There is a least 300 to 400 residents that leaves in the Payne Subdivision area. Cost benefit analysis you have your delta here, you have \$100,000 that can impact a lot of people versus sitting around for FEMA to take action. I know the engineering part of it, Councilman

Doug de Graffernied stated he got the math, he has sit on this Council for months, he just want to fix something, Please fix something.

Mr. Verret stated he's been here over three years and he'll love to see something gets fixed too, but you have to have the funds to do it. In a few weeks period we'll know if FEMA is going to participate in the replacing of the structure. Councilman Doug de Graffernied asked, Was the damage done by the flooding? Yes it was along with other factors, Mr. Verret stated that FEMA goes by many things, if this structure has not been well maintained then when FEMA do their determination that it has exceeded their life span we then might not get it a determination of being eligible. Mr. Verret would like for them to see the bridge as it is post storm and we go do something with it now then they will not see the post storm condition and then we'll have very little eligibility. Mr. Verret stated by delaying it a few more weeks and he will do other site visits he will try to take them there tomorrow to look at it to speed up the eligibility process. Take advantage of getting back the 75% of reimbursement.

Councilman Paige stated he did want to touch up on something he heard concerning Payne Subdivision about this person from Facility Planning to help speed the process about getting the waiver done, the Parish need to stay in touch with this person and don't drop the ball, because we need this person to amend the decision concerning the DOTD design standards. We have been dealing with this for so long we need to be fair.

At this time Chairman Russell Rachal stated we need to amend the agenda by adding the Council authorization for the Parish President to execute the agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service to permit solid waste garbage bins to be located on lands of the Kisatchie National Forest and Mr. Nowlin, stated he has a second amendment to add for the Council approval of the recommendations from the search committee and the Policy Council to hire Dr. April Wade as the Head Start Director. The recommendation had been discussed and accepted by the Parish Council but no official vote was taken earlier.

On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by Councilman Rodney Bedgood to amend the agenda by adding Council authorization for the Parish President to execute the agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service to permit solid waste garbage bins to be located on lands of the Kisatchie National Forest and Council approval of the recommendations from the search committee and the Policy Council to hire Dr. April Wade as the Head Start Director.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes:	Councilman Rachal
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover
Ayes:	Councilman Paige
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffernied

Motion Passed

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by Councilwoman Patsy Ward Hoover to authorize for the Parish President to execute the agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service to permit solid waste garbage bins to be located on lands of the Kisatchie National Forest.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilman de Graffernied

Motion Passed

On Motion by Councilwoman Hoover and duly seconded by Chairman Russell Rachal to accept the recommendation of the Search Committee and Policy Council along with Parish President Rick Nowlin to approve the recommendation to hire Dr. April Wade as the new Head Start Director.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Abstain: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilman de Graffernied

Motion Passed

Chairman Rachal stated the next item on the agenda was to conduct a Public Hearing to hear any and all comments or objections relative to the adoption of the following items:

1. Adopt Ordinance 06-2016 to adopt millage rates for the 2016 tax year.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by Councilwoman Patsy Ward Hoover, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby open the public hearing.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilman de Graffernied
Ayes: Councilman Rachal

Motion Passed

It's to late to roll, but if the public wants to speak they can at this time, but no one wanted to speak.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by Councilwoman Patsy Ward Hoover, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby close the public hearing.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover
Ayes: Councilman de Graffernied
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilman Rachal

Motion Passed

Chairman Russell Rachal stated the next item on the agenda was for Council to approve leaving the millage rates the same for the 2016 tax year.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by Councilwoman Patsy Ward Hoover, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt the millage rates to remain the same.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover
Ayes: Councilman de Graffernied
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilman Rachal

Motion Passed

Chairman Russell Rachal stated the next item on the agenda is council consider renewing the lease agreement with Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Self for the Creston Polling Place in the amount of \$1,000 annually.

The lease agreement for the polling place in Creston was \$500.00 but now they're asking for a \$1,000, this is a 5 year lease.

Councilman Paige, stated if we increase their rent then they will have to increase for everyone who asks. Councilman Paige suggests we talk with the new elect Clerk of Court to see what he has to say about this issue.

On motion by Councilwoman Hoover, duly seconded by Councilman Bedgood that the renewing of the lease agreement with Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Self for Creston Polling Place in the amount of \$1,000 annually be tabled.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman de Graffernied
Ayes: Councilman Rachal

Motion Passed

Chairman Russell Rachal stated the next item on the agenda was to consider adopting a resolution confirming re-appointment/appointments to the following boards/commissions.

- a. Confirmation of Mrs. Vanessa Stanfield. for re-appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Children & Youth Planning Board.

On motion by Councilwoman Hoover, duly seconded by Councilman Rachal Confirmation of Mrs. Vanessa Stanfield for re- appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Children & Youth Planning Board.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman de Graffernied
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood

Motion Passed

Chairman Russell Rachal stated the next item on the agenda is for confirmation of Mr. Troy Duwayne Gardner for appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 9 Board.

On motion by Councilman Bedgood, duly seconded by Councilman Paige the confirmation of Mr. Troy Duwayne Gardner for appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 9 Board.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman de Graffernied

Motion Passed

Chairman Russell Rachal stated the next item on the agenda is the confirmation of Mr. Johnny R. Nobles for re-appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 2 Board.

On motion by Councilman Bedgood, duly seconded by Councilwoman Hoover on the confirmation of Mr. Johnny R. Nobles for re-appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 2 Board.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman de Graffernied

Motion Passed

Chairman Russell Rachal stated the next item on the agenda is the confirmation for appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 2 Board and this person will be Mr. Wilburn Lee Wise, Sr.

On motion by Councilman Paige, duly seconded by Councilwoman Hoover for confirmation of Mr. Wilburn Lee Wise, Sr. for appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 2 Board.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman de Graffernied
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood

Motion Passed

Chairman Rachal then recognized Mr. Nick Verret, Director of Public Works, who presented his report and gave a list of roads that was worked on.

The Highway Department has received over 400 road maintenance requests since May 1, but the timely completion of needed work has been limited by the following factors:

a) The availability of only one tandem dump truck from March 19 until receipt of two new leased dump trucks on May 25.

b) The resignation of one grader operator on May 11.

c) Major road repairs on Kistachie Falls, Allen-Marthaville, Montgomery Camp, and Emmanuel Road that required the use of a rented bulldozer. Each of these projects took about one work week to complete, which took one grader operator away from performing his regular duties.

d) Recurring rainfall each week since the March 8 disaster event.

e) The lack of an inmate pothole patching crew since March 2.

Mr. Jimmy Cannon returned to work on June 8, which brings the Highway Department back up to its full complement of five permanent grader operators. Plans are still in place to rent a sixth grader and hire a temporary seasonal operator to assist in the grading work during the summer months.

Bushhogging along Parish roads utilizing two temporary seasonal operators began on May 23.

After Mr. Verret gave his report, Councilman Paige wanted to know about the resigning or leaving of the Assistant. Councilman Paige wanted to know if part of that vacant salary can be used to put into the roads budget if its possible. If we can show some money is being put into these roads.

Parish President Rick Nowlin, The Assistant Director has resign, and we wish him well. The position is vacant and will be advertised in the near future, this position may not be exactly the same position, we're looking at our needs now and where our needs are, we don't want to spend anymore money in salaries than we have, but we have to get the right person to do the right job. The point is well taken and we have to see how it shakes out based on the qualifications and experience of who applies for the job, existing employees can apply, we're looking for someone can help us in our daily road maintenance activity, maintaining roads, asphalt those type of things, people who are qualified don't come cheap, we will take your recommendation to heart Mr. Paige and we can see where we go from there. Mr. Paige said thank you and quote from Mr. Frankie Ray Jackson, " Thank you very much lets go on, we don't want to beat that up"

Mr. Verret, stated we hear so much about salaries and he want to throw this out there for the record, if we took all the salaries of the entire highway department add Mr. Nowlin's salary to that, How many miles of a road you can repave doing base construction and pavement? The answer is about 3 miles. We're talking dollars and donuts here. He feels everybody needs that perspective that the monies we needs is not nickels and dimes, the money we need for the Parish is in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, basically it's millions of dollars we need, not a few thousands here and there so I really do wish that everybody will have that perspective in mind even though the points are well taken.

Councilman Paige stated I appreciate your comments Mr. Verret and Councilman Paige said he got some old newspaper clippings 30 years ago when his father on the Board, and you know what they didn't have money to fix the roads. So this is not the new by a long shot, Councilman

Paige stated he understands, but please, please, who ever is making these decisions just think about what he said.

Councilman Bedgood wanted to know, Where we're at if the tax does not pass?

Parish President Rick Nowlin stated if the tax does not pass, the work that we're doing now in the Highway Department for 2017 can well be less than that that we're done in 2016. We had to spend such a large amount of our operating funds from 2016 on flood recovery, as I mention earlier, that didn't come out of reserve funds, that came out of our Operating Budget, we're fighting it now to get 75% of that back, so I think that the best case we're be at where we're are now. Councilman Bedgood stated that's not encouraging, Parish President Nowlin, stated it's the truth.

Mr. Verret stated that does not include any Capital improvement unless other funding is found, and Councilman Bedgood stated we can't depend on any Capital Outlay money. Parish President stated he's proud of our Legislative Delegation that he will discuss in his report later about getting the money that is put back in, the \$500,000 for Payne Subdivision, and some others he will mention later, now we have to scramble to meet our match, our 25% match, we'll cross that bridge when we get to it.

Councilwoman Hoover, stated Mr. Verret she's the one who's always hollering about the salaries and I acknowledge that, we're paying you a large amount of money, my concern is that we have to many assistants. You had an assistant, and your assistant had an assistant. It's too many assistants, people wanting roads done, and quit giving money to these assistants, I'm like Chris, let's do some roads, if we you can buy rocks with \$50,000, just to many assistants, you're an engineer and we're just not getting the roads done.

Parish President wanted to know who is all these assistants you're talking about, Councilwoman Hoover, stated you know I can't call those persons names out, Parish President stated, because they don't exist, Councilwoman stated they do exist, Parish President stated if they exist you come see me and we'll talk about them.

Mr. Verret stated he think one the issues in the last three years they had Organizational structure changes, these folks you're talking about are involved in day to day operations, whereas my focus is engineering, big picture, as well as operations, administration all those kind of things. We had a shift in the role of the folks in the organizational structure there is no assistant to the assistant to the assistant, because again some of those roles some of the functions are being doing by different personnel is different than it use to be, I understand the perception there, I have actual begun putting something together to show you what those functions were.

Councilman Hoover, wanted to know if she's correct did he have an assistant right?, Mr. Verret stated not really again, Councilwoman Hoover, stated what was the position of the what the person who left from? Mr. Verret stated Assistant Public Works Director, but however, Mr. Verret stated he views that as functionally as an Operational Manager, and Councilwoman Hoover then stated didn't he have someone to assist him, and Mr. Verret yes who stated that assisted him in operations as well as half dozen other functions. At this point it was really good that he did have some experience assisting the Operations Manager in the day to day operations, because I would really be in a

**Regular Meeting
June 20, 2016**

Page 12.

bind in trying to do all that I do along with the other things that goes on a daily basis.

Chairman Russell Rachal stated the position we're talking about third position that position was not called an assistant, was it? Mr. Verret stated, No, again that person operated equipment and other things, Chairman Rachal stated was this position a Road Maintenance Supervisor or something, Mr. Verret stated, No it was just Equipment Operator.

Councilman Paige, stated we just need to move on we're treading where we don't need to be. Just move to the next item on the agenda.

Chairman Rachal then recognizes Ms. Sharon Harris, OCS/Head Start Executive Director, she gave her reports: Ask if there were any

questions about her report, and Councilwoman Hoover, wanted to know how's Mr. Wade doing in her position, and Ms. Harris said she doing great, she was at the meeting earlier, but had to leave. She have some great things going on, and accessing some things. Ms. Harris reported they have moved to Keyser Avenue as most people will call them the Council of Aging building. The open house will be July 13 and everyone will get an invitation to that.

Commodity and Food for Seniors will be handed out at the old OCS building until they have sit down to review some things.

Councilman Paige asked Mr. Nowlin and Ms. Harris is someone monitoring to make sure this move is where it needs to be and this will be a permanent move, to make sure it working the way it should be working.

Parish President Nowlin, stated it's being monitored and this decision was made by the old Police Jury many years ago and it's going to work, end of discussion. Ms. Harris stated we will make it work we have to make it work. Councilman Paige, stated then we don't need to monitor it, is that what you're saying, Parish President stated no, this is not what I'm saying, Ms. Harris is the front line monitor, she will let me know if things are needed, if you have any thing different, let me know, Councilman Paige, stated, no, I just live in the real world and I know things happens, and I don't want to just sit here and turn it all loose and just let it flow like its...I'll just leave it alone, end of discussion.

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program(LIHEAP)

Provided utility assistance to 53 households totaling \$18,000.00

Food for Seniors which provided 40-pound box to individuals 60 years or older.
148 individuals.

Commodity provided food items to:
December: 148 families.

HEADSTART:

August.	Attendance	87.5%
September	Attendance	86.33%
October	Attendance	88.84%
November	Attendance	88.90%
December	Attendance	84.98%
January	Attendance	86.62%
February	Attendance	85.18%
March	Attendance	84.17% (Inclement weather-flooding)
April	Attendance	85.77%
May	Attendance	78.34%

Regular Meeting
June 20, 2016

Page 13.

CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM (CACFP):

- Number of days meals served-15
- Average Daily Participation (ADA)
- Meals: Breakfast-3,610,ADA=241
- Lunch 3,492-ADA=233
- Snack 3,548,-ADA=237
- Total Reimbursement Request \$20,522.71

Chairman Rachal then recognizes Ms. Debbie Miley, Parish Treasurer, She stated she mailed out all her reports and asked if there were any questions at this time, there were no questions.

Chairman Rachal then recognizes Parish President, Rick Nowlin who gave his report:

CAPITAL OUTLAY UPDATE:

The committee kept the following projects in HB2:

Coco Bed Road	\$280,000
Courthouse Security	\$480,000
Old River Bridge	\$610,000
OCS	\$ 6,000

The design money for made it back in for:

Payne Subdivision Streets	\$500,000
Fish Hatchery Road	\$125,000
Blanchard Road	\$280,000

The State Bond Commission met on June 15, 2016, and we were approve for the tax on the ballot for November 8, 2016, working on a packets to give to the residents on this tax proposals to give them knowledge about the tax.

North La Parish Highway Meeting:

On June 9, Mr. Verret and I attended a meeting in Monroe called by the Quachita Parish Police Jury to discuss common road maintenance issues. Approximately two dozen persons attended representing 13 parishes and various law enforcement agencies. The general purpose of the meeting was to consider a joint action to develop ordinances regulating highway permits, load limits, enforcement and damage restitution in a manner that would protect parish roads and bridges without placing undue burdens on our local industries.

Parish Housing Authority:

Ms. Teresa Gibson, Executive Director, has announced her intention to retire effective July 1, 2016. We appreciate her many years of service to the Housing Authority and to the Parish.

Parish President also stated he received late this afternoon a drawing from George Minturn concerning the modification to the restrooms to be in compliance with ADA, by adding another restroom, and a design for the Council Clerk Office. The Finance department will probably be relocated while the work is going on for three to four weeks.

Councilman de Graffernied wanted to know what is going on with the Cane River Water Way legislation. Parish President stated the that Legislation was not advanced. We at the time were having a discussion and still having discussion with certain members of the Cane River Way Commission and their attorney. We have Senator Long that has requested an Opinion from the Attorney General as to the appropriateness of using their funds for parish roads improvements, and we got a response back stating it can be done if three conditions are met through the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the Cane River Water Way

**Regular Meeting
June 20, 2016**

Page 14.

Commission and the Parish. A draft of a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement intended to satisfy those three conditions is for their review. We have no resolution of that yet, its still an active project in his mind, but we don't know how the board is going to feel. The three conditions are: The money is transfer to the Parish have to be for a for a public purpose and the constructing and preparing of a Parish road is a public purpose, Second it can not be gratuitous, the Cane River Water Way Commission must have some benefits from the transfer of funds, and visible means between the agencies concerning the Cooperate Endeavor. Its a state agency for instance we received a letter from the Corp or Engineers for a \$15,000 survey has to be done at St. Augustine, St. Augustus Church is Melrose for the riverbank erosion problem we didn't have \$15,000 the Church didn't have it, so Mr. Verret made some calls through his contact at DOTD and got them to pick up the tab for the survey. There are ways it can be done if the Cane River Water Way Commission agrees to do it. I don't want to load their wagon to high or heavy, I feel it can be done, certain members of the Commission feels it can be done, but it through the hands of

the attorney and it's all in the way the Agreement is written and worded.

Councilman Chris Paige asked with this money, Do the road has to be adjacent to the Cane River Water Way? To the Cane River, I know it's kind of sticky, Parish President stated it was not addressed in the opinion but I would think a reasonable person might conclude that a road repair with their money should be in some proximity to the river, like the Fish Hatchery Road, Bermuda Road very easily allows people to access the river, enjoy the river, invest in the river again I can't speak for Cane River Water Way Commission which was very cordial to me when they turned down my request in March. I haven't given up.

The Chairman stated the next item on the agenda was to go into an "Executive Session"

On motion by Councilman de Graffernied, duly seconded by Councilman Russell Rachal, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby open the Executive Meeting.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman de Graffernied
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood

Motion Passed

Parish President wanted to know was this personnel or legal, Chairman stated it was Personnel. Councilwoman Hoover stated the Legal Council stays right, Yes, the legal Council stays right, yes she was told.

Parish President wanted to know if any of his people was needed, the answer was no, by the Chairman, Parish President do I need to go, the Chairman, stated yes.

Chairman Russell Rachal began the Executive Session stating it was due to a personnel issue.

Since there was no other business the meeting was adjourn:

Attest:

Russell Rachal, Chairman

Sheryl Frederick,
Council Clerk