

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATCHITOCHE PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH OF NATCHITOCHE, STATE OF LOUISIANA
TAKEN A REGULAR MEETING HELD, MONDAY,
July 18, 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, July 18, 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 Councilman Doug de Graffernied and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Russell Rachal.

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 a motion to amend the agenda by adding to Authorize Parish President to advertise for bids for Courthouse renovations: (1) Restrooms to make ADA Compliant and (2) Office of Council Clerk.

On motion by Councilman Paige, duly seconded by Councilman Bedgood that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby amend the agenda to add to Authorize Parish President to advertise for bids for Courthouse renovations: (1) Restrooms to make ADA Compliant and (2) Office of Council Clerk. .

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

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

Motion Passed

Chairman Rachal then stated the next item on the agenda is to adopt the agenda.

On motion by Councilman de Graffernied, duly seconded by Councilwoman Hoover, that the agenda be adopted.

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

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

Motion Passed

Chairman Rachal then asked for visitors at this time.

Mr. Jerry Crooks from the Ed Connally Road spoke on his road. He said that his road was so bad, he called Mr. Nowlin to check to see when the last time his road had work done to it. This was in 2015. When Mr. Nowlin checked it was November, 2014. they did come out after that to put some rocks out to help the road in December of 2015. Mr. Crooks stated on July 13, 2016 a road grader came on his road, and he was

very excited to see one. He went to church that evening and come to find out the road hadn't even been done The grader never put the blade down to grade the road. This was a waste of time. Mr. Crooks stated he has graded his road three times with his tractor and blade, because they wouldn't be able to get out. He's been doing this since March. Mr. Crooks also has bush hogged the road a couple time this year, now the Johnson grass has taken over the road. He stated just because it's three families that stay on that road they also pay taxes and also there are farmers who travel that road to get to their land, and the residents have to travel in town, to the doctor, store, and to church. He also stated it makes it difficult for family to come visit because you can't drive down the road with a car.

Mr. Crooks, wanted to thank the Council for their time, and hope he doesn't have to come back to report like this again.

Councilman Paige, wanted to ask a question. He wanted to be clear on what he was hearing. "You said the gentleman came down your road. Were you talking about the motor grader." Mr. Crooks said yes, he came down his road, and the blade never did touch the road.

Mr. Verret wanted to know what day it was and Mr. Crooks said, "July 13 2016, last Wednesday afternoon."

Parish President Nowlin wanted to know what time of day it was, and Mr. Crooks explained, "It was about 2:30 or 3:00 that evening, it wasn't late it wasn't at the end of the day".

Councilman Paige stated, "You got happy you thought something was being done to your road", and Mr. Crooks said, "Thank you Lord, but it wasn't done."

At this time Councilman. Bedgood stated he has asked several times when they go in an area to grade them all. We still don't do that. They will go in and grade some and state the others don't need it, but Councilman Bedgood stated, " I don't care, just grade them while you there. You going to have people saying the road grader came on that road, but it didn't come on my road and didn't touch mine. People say don't tell them what to do, but sometimes you have to tell them what to do."

Mr. Verret stated, "We're in a routine time of the year we try to take care of everything as we go. We have not been in routine operations since about the middle of October of last year. We have not been in routine operations since October, especially during the Spring following the storm event. We was going from here to here to keep roads passable for folks to get in and out to best of what we were able to do. When we do get back into routine operations we'll try to grade everything as we go. We have not been able to be in routine operation mode at all this year." Mr. Verret stated, "We have not caught up with all the storm damage, but we are a few weeks from getting there".

Marsha Rachal the next visitor from the Bermuda road, expressed, "I call into Mr. Verret all the time. You can't have two cars passing on the Bermuda road with out going in a ditch. When the Highway department does come out to patch the holes, they will put the tar mix in the holes but they do not push it down." Ms. Rachal doesn't feel it's her job in her car to come and drive over the mix to push it down and having tar all over her car. She stated, I know Mr. Verret gets tired of hearing my name, but it's beginning to be a problem on that road. They are filling the holes, but when it rains they back up again. We can end up in the ditch or river trying to pass two cars down the road. They did fix the road up to Soloman Lane". She stated

she doesn't know the point of cutting it off there and the rest of the road was worse than that part.

Councilwoman Hoover wanted to ask a question, of Ms. Rachal. "Did anyone from the Highway Department come out?" Ms. Rachal stated, "They came out. They done part of the road. She wanted to know when the other part is going to be done. Mr. Verret said he had to get more material and check the road to see if something else can be done to it. Ms. Rachal stated again, "They did come out but doesn't feel she or the other residents need to be running over the holes to pack it down with their personal cars."

Mr. Verret stated, "This is just one of those roads that is a failed asphalt pavement that we're trying to maintain. The road needs to be reconstructed. There is no money in the budget to do that." Mr. Verret expressed again this road with other roads are failed asphalt pavement roads that can't be maintained. The material that is used in the hot time of year, it will pull up" Mr. Verret said, "They should be tamping it down the best they can", Ms. Rachal stated they are just going down the street with a shovel from a truck, just putting it down, not tamping anything." and Ms. Rachal stated, "And there is some holes that are not even getting filled, I knows because I have been driving behind them, riding behind them."

Parish President asked, They are not bothering to tamp it down, they're just putting it down", Ms. Rachal said, "Not at all, they're just putting it down. Parish President said, "This issue we can address." Mr. Nick Verret, stated, "I have noticed some of their road work they have done. They have tamped it down, Ms. Rachal stated, "Not the Bermuda Road. Why just put it down and not tamp anything?, Mr. Nick Verret stated," The material they used does not compact anyway, Ms. Rachal stated, "Why use it." Mr. Verret stated, "This is all we have to work with, that's all I can tell you." You can do some hot mix patching in some of the area that has a stable base, but the Parish doesn't own the equipment for that. We have limitations of what we have to work with." Ms. Rachal stated, " So the Parish doesn't have funds to do anything on none of the roads?". Mr. Verret stated, "We are doing something, but it's just not acceptable to the residents obviously, but we're doing with, what we have to work with.

Parish President stated, "We have five grader operators for the 500 miles of gravel roads that the Parish has. This is about 100 miles per grader operator. Mr. Verret stated, "We don't even have a hot asphalt machine. The only thing we do is put in the Cold mix. Mr. Verret can not do all this himself. He has one man working under him and this is a big Parish". Mr. Nowlin stated, We're advertising for a Supervisor at this time, and if you know someone please tell them to fill out an application."

Councilman Bedgood stated he suggested to Mr. Verret he knows the money is tight. "I watched the State steal two days with their patcher that does a good job. The Parish is wasting time and money with all that shoveling and "Cow Piling" as he calls it. That is something we need to invest in, I even asked Mr. Verret can we even rent one and start patching that way, at least you fill up a hole. It's just not sitting up there, it seals the hole. Councilman Bedgood stated," The State has one, I don't know what it's called maybe Mr. Verret knows," Mr. Verret stated, "It's called a Dura Patcher." Chairman Bedgood stated, "It does a good job. It puts out a white looking gravel on top."

Ms. Rachal stated, "They have bumps and humps all down the road." Chairman Bedgood, stated, "He knows what you're talking about."

Richard Smith, Sr. was a visitor from Payne Subdivision and he wanted to know about the road closed, Miller road, in Payne Subdivision from the bridge being out. Mr. Richard Smith asked, "Is FEMA going to be doing anything," The last time he was there money was put back to do work. Mr. Smith just wanted to know what is the progress of this bridge with FEMA.

Parish President stated, "The last time we talked about this bridge, the Parish was about to meet with FEMA to go over all the projects to see if we can get that bridge included in the repairs to be funded, to get back our 75% from FEMA. The Parish has since learned that since the bridge was in such a bad shape before the storm event they are not going to fund it. We have received \$500,000 for Capital Outlay from the State for streets. When we initially filed the application for Payne years ago, it was for streets and the bridge, then we decided to do the bridge elsewhere through FEMA, so we'll have more money for streets. We suggested in the first phase of Payne Subdivision to include the bridge along with what other streets we can get. The bridge may cost up to \$100,000 and the other \$400,000 for streets. When we apply for phase two, it will be for the balance of the streets. The original intent was to get all the money and do the streets and the bridge, but it looks like we may have go back to the original plan to use State Capital Outlay, because FEMA is not going to fund the bridge. The Bridge was just in too bad of shape, Mr. Smith before the flood event. Unless the Council objects, we're going to try to address the bridge in the first phase of the street project."

Mr. Smith wanted to know if they use Reclaim Asphalt would that help solve the situation with the pot holes in Payne. Mr. Verret stated, "That would help, but unfortunately we don't get a regular supply of that from DOTD. They do donate 10 percent of that material from State Highway project that is within the Parish. We do get some special donations, but the Parish has used all material that's in stock now. The Parish is scheduled very soon to get another 250 cubic yards of that material, possibly we can use some of it there." Mr. Verret stated, "Its only 250 yards and I don't know how far that will go."

Councilman Paige stated, "At last months meeting, this right here is completely new you're talking about now. I understand you're going back to the original plan. The pastor stated, "Lets do something" and you stated, "Wait until you talk with FEMA. Now you saying FEMA is not going to pay. Now you're talking about taking from the \$500,000 to fix the bridge. We have been talking about Payne Subdivision on 4 plus years, just like the Pastor stated, let's do something to help these people. It doesn't make sense, we keep talking about work and nothing is being done. We go out there and only put a few in some of the potholes. We don't do all the pot holes. Out of 15, we only put in 4 or 5 and turn and say they came out there. I'm saying 4 or 5. The gentlemen out there is saying only 3. Its a serious problem. Now we're asking the people to pass a tax. and we're not even talking about the tax. We have roads and no one is saying anything about it. This is the reason why I didn't support it, because if you're not doing anything now, why in a world you would go and talk about a tax? Look at them don't get mad at me for being the messenger. Look at the people out there and look at what they're saying. They're right there shaking their heads saying there is no way, and here we are, again with the Payne Subdivision we'll take a \$100,000, I don't care where it comes from. The people will like to see some rocks or gravel turning over out there with some progress being made. We talk about salaries not being an issue, I told you last meeting don't hire assistant person, no it's not my shot to call, and I told you that then, and the people and others an also I'm saying why hire somebody if they can't go up and down the road. That's just my feeling about the matter, let me

just hush and go get me some water, before my blood pressure is going through the roof, this is just not right."

Parish President Rick Nowlin, spoke and said, "It's interesting to sit here month after month and listen to Councilman Paige talk about nothing is being done and when we ask him to offer a solution or positive comment he gets silent. I am saying this, there are things being done. If we don't hire a person, we have complaints that the workers are not doing the job in the field. If we don't hire someone to supervise them, let them work unsupervised, that's what you're saying, so that's fine, if you don't want to hire anybody, we can take that annual salary and fix part of a road somewhere. And we hope the workers will do the right thing, they just have to be trained and supervised and monitored. Can we do something with Payne? Yes we probably can put and some rocks and Reclaim Asphalt when we get it in a couple of weeks. If you don't want to repair the bridge, we can put the whole amount of that \$500,000 on the streets, that's fine too. That's what y'all want to do, that's a decision this Council can make, but to sit here and listen and say no body is doing anything I just think it's disingenuous and not really fair to the workers out there that are trying, now, are they perfect? No, Can we do things better, Absolutely!. You have got a Director and you got one person under him and the other operators out there. There's a lot of grounds to cover, so if this Council doesn't want to hire a Supervisor to train, operate, monitor, or supervisor those people out there in the field, so just say so we'll just turn them a loose and say you're on your own, that's what we'll do.

Mr. Verret wanted to remind everyone, "We're trying to maintain failed pavements. You can't maintain failed pavement. We're trying to, but we're trying to do the impossible. We can't maintain a failed pavement. All you can do is replace it or scarify it and turn it to gravel. These are the only two choices we have. All these roads, Bermuda Road, Payne Subdivision, all these pot holes, after pot hole, after pot holes. They are failed pavements, they are beyond maintenance, let us please remember that. Again the two choices are: reconstruct them or we allow them to go to gravel."

Councilman Paige stated, "I'm not going to go back and forth over this matter, but to sit and to say I sit here quiet. I think everybody in Natchitoches Parish will never believe that I sit somewhere quietly, Mr. Nowlin and one thing for sure, its plain and simple the people are talking. They come here tonight with their complaints. This is not Chris Paige saying this. I didn't say that just particular work, the whole parish screaming out that work is not being done. We told the people if we vote on this new type of Government you will see wonderful things happen. That is a biggest lie ever told and just my, it won't never work, and that's me. As far as what we're going to do, we're going to take a \$100,000 and fix on the bridge that was never even contemplated. This is something new, and I'm hearing oh, maybe from the first original whatever, but it was much more money involved in fixing Payne Subdivision and we haven't gotten to the first phase of that. I'm just going to hush, because it will go back and forth."

Ms. Cynthia Longmire, from Payne Subdivision asked, "The \$500,000 that we're talking about. Is that just for fixing Payne or the other road issues that we have here in the Parish , is this a shared thing? We'll wait our turn. We have been waiting this long, we just want something done."

Parish President Rick Nowlin stated, "Ms. Longmire, we applied previously. The current administration approved for a million and

fifteen thousands dollars for fixing Payne, and which we had to add another third making it over \$250,000, putting it over a million and fifteen thousands dollars. The State cut it back this year to \$500,000 so we'll take the \$500,000 because we're in no position to argue. We'll take the \$500,000. It was earmarked specifically for transportation improvements in Payne Subdivision.

Ms. Theresa Jones from Bermuda Road, asked, "How long does it take to get money to repair roads?, I have been living on the Bermuda road since 1998 and Ms. Rachal since 1997." Parish President, Rick Nowlin, stated they have submitted application before with Bermuda Road, but this Council, had to set priorities with Mr. Verret, they had to set priorities, the state wasn't going to approve all the roads, and Bermuda Road was farther down the list. She wanted to know how did it get fixed from Keyser to Soloman Lane, Ms. Debbie Miley answered, "With FEMA money."

Mr. Verret stated it had to be some way it was prioritized some kind of way in the past Police Jury, but he wasn't aware of how.

Ms. Rachal after Ms. Jones had sat down had another question. She asked Mr. Nowlin, "When they had Mr. Ricky LaCour in office, and when we spoke on the telephone, after you called me back, you stated to me that Bermuda road was one of the worst roads in the Parish, but Mr. Ricky LaCour decision to not have Bermuda road fixed. He selected to have Fish Hatchery road done instead" Ms. Rachal stated, Mr. Nowlin told her that Bermuda road was worst than Fish Hatchery road, that was his words to her, and she stated, "Does he takes his Corvette and come down Bermuda road? You said I've come down Bermuda road and that you knew how bad it was," stated Ms. Rachal. Mr. Nowlin agreed and said he came down it six weeks ago. This call was before Ms. Hoover came into office, this is just how it's been. I called Ricky at his home when I'm getting up going to work that morning at 6:30am, because I was ran off the road at 6:30 in the morning. I apologized for calling him that early, but I had to let him know my life is precious too. That someone flying down Bermuda road doing 45 to 50 miles per hour and I'm driving 10 or not even 10 miles per hour, they are flying down Bermuda road and the School buses, their flying by us, and they are putting people lives in danger. I promise if they knock a window or something of mine I'm calling, the Police Jury and School board," Mrs. Hoover said, "Parish Council", Ms. Rachal stated, "Whatever it is, I'm calling".

Councilman Bedgood, stated, "Five (5) Council members had to submit a road for Capital Outlay, one road. Some of us got them and some didn't." Councilman Bedgood say he didn't get it." Ms. Rachal stated, "Some Council members passed on submitting to help other road." Councilman Bedgood stated, "They did". The State came back and cut all the roads out when the Governor made his cuts. Then they went back and reinstated part the money back. Payne Subdivision, Fish Hatchery Road, Blanchard Road got some money back for the design phase."

Ms. Rachal stated she feels Bermuda road is not ever going to be done. Chairman Bedgood states, "You want my opinion, no you're not going to get it done." "No one else is going to get anything done right now."

Parish President stated, "I will try to rap this up. The Parish Highway Department has been under-funded for decades. They had to make decisions on what to do and not to do, I'm not going to sit and look back and criticize what they did. Different people do things different ways. The bottom line is they didn't have the money either, they had to fix what they could, and they had to let some of them go and after years of letting them go it has led up to failed paved roads. About 90 percent are failed roads.

John Hodgeson wanted to let Mr. Verret know about Pardee Road. He had to travel down Ed road to get there. Three to four more families have moved down that road. Pardee road needs grading, it hasn't been graded in a year," Mr. Hodgeson stated. I don't want him to jump across town to do it, but when he's in the area he needs to do it. I would like to thank Mr. Verret for the little patch they got out there, and if she doesn't want no more of that black tar on her road (Bermuda Road), bring it out there and put it on Pardee. I'll appreciate it, My wife wants to tell you she was able to get her car out the other day but she wont get it out again until that road gets fixed. She has wore out the last new car. Is there one FEMA man, what is his name? Mr. Verret stated, He's a FEMA contractor that works with FEMA, he will write it up, it will be verified by his boss, and FEMA will also verify it."

Councilman Paige, addressed Mr. Nowlin and Mr. Verret you stated that possibly the \$100,000 out of the \$500,000 could be utilized to re-open that bridge on Miller Drive in Payne Subdivision. Is there a possibility that it can be requested as an emergency situation that it will not be another whole year before some work or and that opening of that road and culvert there. Is there a way we can seek faster activity on that particular site? If that's the plan.

Mr. Verret stated, "The first step that has to take place is the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the State. It has to be executed. It's possible we could request to extradite it based on the emergency."

Mr. Paige stated, "We have been beating this up so long can we put some rush on it."

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, June 20,2016 and Special Meeting held on June 13, 2016 with the corrections made.

On motion by Councilwoman Patsy Ward Hoover, duly seconded by Councilman Chris Paige, 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, June 20,2016 and Special Meeting held on June 13, 2016 with the corrections made.

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

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

Motion Passed

Chairman Rachal stated the next item on the Agenda was a Discussion on having Council to have a training on the Home Rule Charter.

On motion by Councilwoman Patsy Ward Hoover, duly seconded by Councilman Chris Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby table the discussion on having Council to have a training on the Home Rule Charter.

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

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

Motion Passed

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

Council to consider confirmation of Ms. Barbara Leach for re-appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Children and Youth Planning Board.

On motion by Councilwoman Patsy Ward Hoover, duly seconded by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby re-appoint Ms. Barbara Leach to the Natchitoches Parish Children and Youth Planning Board.

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

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

Motion Passed

Council to consider confirmation of Ms. Jennifer Johnson Karle for re-appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Children and Youth Planning Board.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby re-appoint Ms. Jennifer Johnson Karle to the Natchitoches Parish Children and Youth Planning Board.

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

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

Motion Passed

Council to consider confirmation of Mr. Bubba Ivy for appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 7 Board.

On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by Councilwoman Patsy Ward Hoover, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby appoint Mr. Bubba Ivy for appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 7 Board.

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

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

Motion Passed

Council to consider confirmation of Mrs. Mary Ann Motter for re-appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 3 Board.

On motion by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by Councilman Chris Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby re-appoint Mrs. Mary Ann Motter for re-appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 3 Board.

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

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

Motion Passed

Council to consider confirmation of Mr. William D. Musselwhite for re-appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 3 Board.

On motion by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by Councilman Chris Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby re-appoint Mr. William D. Musselwhite to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 3 Board.

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

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

Motion Passed

Council to consider confirmation of Mr. Mark C. Swafford for re-appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 3 Board.

On motion by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by Councilman Chris Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby re-appoint Mr. Mark C. Swafford to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 3 Board.

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

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

Motion Passed

Council to consider confirmation of Mrs. Merry Byers for re-appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Children and Youth Planning Board.

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 re-appoint Mrs. Merry Byers to the Natchitoches Parish Children and Youth Planning Board.

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

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

Motion Passed

Council to consider confirmation of Ms. Deanna Lynn Potter Fowler for re-appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Children and Youth Planning Board.

On motion by Councilwoman Patsy Ward Hoover, duly seconded by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby re-appoint Ms. Deanna Lynn Potter Fowler to the Natchitoches Parish Children and Youth Planning Board.

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

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

Motion Passed

Council to consider confirmation of Mrs. Jan Frederick for appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Tourist Commission.

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 appoint Mrs. Jan Frederick to the Natchitoches Parish Tourist Commission.

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

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

Council to consider confirmation of Mr. Ricky L. Sanders for re-appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 1 Board.

On motion by Councilwoman Patsy Ward Hoover, duly seconded by Councilman Russell Rachal, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby Mr. Ricky L. Sanders to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 1 Board.

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

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

Motion Passed.

Council to consider confirmation of Mr. Charles Roge' for re-appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 1 Board.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by Councilman Rodney Bedgood that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby re-appoint Mr. Charles Roge' to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 1 Board.

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

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

Motion Passed

Council to consider confirmation of Mr. Harry E. Hawthorne for re-appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 1 Board.

On motion by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by Councilman Russell Rachal that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby re-appoint Mr. Harry E. Hawthorne to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 1 Board.

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

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

Motion Passed

Council to consider confirmation of Mr. Farrell J. Christophe for appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 1 Board.

On motion by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by Councilman Chris Paige that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby appoint Mr. Farrell J. Christophe to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 1 Board.

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

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

Motion Passed

Council to consider confirmation of Mr. Laney A. Wright for appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 1 Board.

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 appoint Mr. Laney A. Wright to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 1 Board.

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

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

Motion Passed.

Council to consider the confirmation of Mr. Lamarr McGaskey for appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 1 Board.

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 appoint Mr. Lamarr McGaskey to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 1 Board.

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

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

Motion Passed.

Council to consider confirmation of Mr. Lawrance Atteridge AKA Larry for appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 1 Board.

On motion by Councilwoman Patsy Ward Hoover, duly seconded by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby appoint Mr. Lawrance Atteridge AKA Larry to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 1 Board.

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

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

Motion Passed

Chairman Rachal stated the next item on the agenda was to consider authorizing the Parish President to award the bid for the purchase of two new pickup trucks for the Highway Department.

Mr. Verret at this time stated they only had one bid, but this bid was higher than State contract, but they didn't know this information at that time. What he's asking the Council to do is authorize to reject that bid and purchase the new pickup trucks under the State Contract.

Councilman Bedgood asked, "What are we getting these two new trucks for?"

Mr. Verret stated they have couple of grader operators that their trucks are down for the last two months. They are swapping them around to get them where they need to go. The primary needs for these vehicles is for call out. For the weekend or after hours we have been making do over the few weeks. These are replacements of vehicles that are not running and its not feasible to make repairs.

Councilman de Graffernied asked was these expenditures planned for?

Mr. Verret stated, "Yes, Sir."

Chairman Russell Rachal stated, "So by rejecting the bid and purchasing by State Contract will actually save money, since the bid went up since then, correct?"

Parish President, Rick Nowlin answered, "Yes, the bid that we got was a \$1000 higher than State contract."

Chairman Rachal stated if that's the case he'll make the motion.

Chairman Rachal asked for a second. No one seconded it. Councilman de Graffernied stated, "Let me ask my question before we get a second." Councilman de Graffernied asked, "When are you going to close down the maintenance barn? When are you going to run out of money? Before we start buying trucks and equipment? When is the Maintenance Barn going to get shut down? Tell the public, tell the Council."

Parish President stated, "Let me tell you, like I told FEMA, when we had the kick off at a meeting we had a couple months ago. Mr. Verret walked in with a thick book of printout on labor and equipment of material spent on all the roads immediately after flood at the end of March. I'm going to answer your question, and when it was all said and done, I asked them, about how long will it take to start getting reimbursements back and they say normally it would take six months up to a year, I told them then that we had spent a good bit of 2016 Budget to make the emergency repairs, and the best we could hope for was the 75% back of what we had spent, and we need that money back ASAP and we'll do everything possible on our side to make sure all their questions are answered and all their data they ask for was submitted in a timely manner. Mr. Verret is spending the majority of his time to make sure this happens. The bottom line is I told them we needed our reimbursement back to us by the end of September. If we get no FEMA money back this year it will be a lean fourth (4th) quarter. There may be some times we might have the White Rock or the right material or something else. If we have a lot of bad weather in the fourth (4th) quarter, it's going to be tough. Councilman, I hope I answer your questions. Councilman we have spent money for routine maintenance this year that we had to use on Emergency repair, and now we're trying to get some of the money back to finish out the year."

Councilman Paige joked and said, "Maybe I need to have a collar on like you, because a few months ago I asked the same question. And the question to me, 'Are you making that suggestion that we close the Highway Department?' And, so you're a realist and see there is a serious problem here and I'm glad to see you make that comment. Thank you, I'm done."

Parish President wanted to clarify. "I'm not saying we're going to close the Highway Department, don't misunderstand me. "What I'm saying is that we're going to have to cut back on some of our expenses. The worst thing you can do in a situation like this is to cut down on your people. It's no point to have a pile of rocks out there and no people to put it out, so we're going to survive, we're going to carry on, but the work is going to slow down in the fourth quarter if we don't get the FEMA money back." Councilman de Graffernied stated, "The cash flow is going to end up biting you. The Parish President stated, " It will, absolutely".

Mr. Verret stated, "I have spent a great amount of time today, looking at the budget, projecting ahead. Of course, I haven't gotten with Ms. Miley yet. Based on the numbers I'm looking at, I don't think we're going to have to shut down. Basically if we spend at the rate we've spent, what we normally spend for the remainder of the year, we might not have money to go into next year with, that's a concern, but hopefully the cash flow with FEMA reimbursement will help on that. So, I'm a little more optimistic after spending time today looking at it than I was previously."

Councilman de Graffernied asked, "When are you going to hear from FEMA?"

Mr. Verret stated, "Well, they're writing their project worksheet as we speak. We just visited a total of 130 roads over the last couple of

weeks. We're writing thirteen (13) project worksheets. Each worksheet contains ten (10), and in some cases a few more roads, so we try to break down the money that we've spent already. Based on what we feel that we spent and we feel to be eligible during the site reviews, we are going to come out pretty good as far as what we spent, for being reimbursed as much as possible of the 75% reimbursement. From just being based on revenues that comes to us, again, I haven't reviewed it with Ms. Miley, but I'm a little more optimistic."

Councilman de Graffernied replied, "So you do believe that if Bullfrogs had wings they wouldn't bump their butts every time they jump?"

Mr. Verret replied, "Sir, I don't know how to answer that."

Councilman de Graffernied replied, "Both of you just have tip toed through the tulips. I mean, we're just sitting here. How many dollars are you asking us to spend on trucks right now?"

Mr. Verret answered, "A little more than \$22,000 a piece."

Councilman de Graffernied stated, "So times 3 comes out about \$75,000. Councilman Bedgood stated, "we also have a mechanic truck in this too." Councilman de Graffernied stated, "So we have a Mechanic truck in this too, which makes it three (3)trucks, I don't think you're going to get the two (2) trucks."

Councilman Paige stated, "The question lies again. Are we still going to hire this assistant guy too? Is there money in budget for that? When I asked the question, everybody is sitting quiet and I get jumped on for asking, saying that I shouldn't be in the day to day operations and I said that when I made the comment, something just don't make sense here, is that money in the budget? How fast are you going to hire the assistant now?"

Councilwoman Hoover stated, "It's not called Assistant any longer it's Supervisor now."

Councilman Paige stated, "Well, how much are we going to pay this person? Ms. Miley are you at liberty to say how much money that one particular position pays?"

Ms. Miley stated, "I have no idea. I do not know."

Parish President stated, "We can look it up; it's in the Manual." different people were calling out different salaries. Parish President said he thinks it's in the \$40's. Parish President explained to Councilman Bedgood, "You look through the applications and find the wage because one guy might have 8 years experience and the other guy might have 18 years of experience to have to find another place in the salary range to hire that individual. The range in the book is from the upper 30's to upper 40's."

Councilman Rachal wanted to know the name of the position, and Parish President Nowlin, replied, "Road Maintenance Supervisor." Councilman Bedgood asked, "Are you going to get someone for \$30,000 that knows squat to do?" Councilman Chris Paige stated, "That's not what we're talking about." Councilman Rachal stated, "The salary is \$29,868.00-\$51,937.00." Councilman Paige stated, "How much did the last individual left that position make? There's a dollar figure there somewhere in the world, whether it's 50 or 40, 60, or 70. I'll just leave that alone. When you talking about it, wait a minute, when you talking about it, buying trucks all this, we're talking about real

money here, now you say its upon Council approval, lets get some truth, you can't even ask."

At this time Ms. Carolyn Roy wanted to ask a question. She stated, "We know you're talking about Mr. Rachal. How much did he make? Mr. Paige is talking about that position." Chairman Rachal spoke out saying, "This is not the same position. They changed the position. Ms. Carolyn asked again, and Chairman Russell Rachal stated, it made \$47,300. Councilman Paige stated, "Ms. Roy you find out the exact figures." Councilman Rachal stated again, "He made \$47,300, but that's not the position that we're hiring for." Ms. Roy stated, "It's not a secret, it's public record."

Chairman Russell Rachal asked Mr. Verret, "Are those trucks still running or are they completely down?" Mr. Verret stated, "They are not working, they are down."

Parish President stated the Parish has been paying mileage to one of the Grader operators.

Mr. Leland LaCaze stated he worked with DOTD, Police Jury, and back with the Parish Government. He wanted to let the Council know that he will be happy to do the job, less the money he's getting now.

Councilman Bedgood asked, "What you're getting now?" Mr. LaCaze replied, "\$20." Councilman Bedgood stated that is more than what the grader operators get. Councilwoman stated, "Is this full time or part time?" Parish President stated, "Temporary." Mr. LaCaze stated it was part time. Councilman Bedgood stated, "We pay more to you than the grader men that's been out there." Mr. LaCaze stated he wouldn't take it for anything less. Chairman Rachal stated, "We got off track. We're talking about trucks and we got off on salaries."

Parish President stated, "The question is whether we're going to purchase the two trucks or not. That was a legitimate question, we had to pay mileage to one of the grader operators that's been using his own personal vehicle and that's not a good practice, but you have to do what you have to do. If you don't buy the trucks he has to get to work, so we have to pay the mileage."

Councilman Bedgood asked, "Who do you pay to drive his own truck?" Mr. Verret replied, "Charles Vasocu." Councilman Bedgood stated, "He's part-time." Mr. Verret explained he was made full-time when another employee turned in his resignation.

Councilwoman Hoover made a motion that we table this matter, and Councilman Rachal offered to remove his motion and second Councilwoman Hoover's. Councilman Chris Paige said, "Hold on, we don't want him without a truck, walking either. Where are we at with all this? That's why there needs to be Committee meetings to discuss all of these things before you come a meeting." Councilman Paige stated, "We shouldn't table it if the person needs a way to get his work done. We need to find facts out."

Mr. Verret stated, "The most critical aspect of this is the ability to have people to respond to call outs, this is the most critical aspect of this."

Councilman Bedgood, stated the mechanic truck is worn out. Everybody stated, "No, it's wrecked." Chairman Rachal, stated that's a separate line item. Councilman de Graffernied advised, "It still comes under the same thing."

Parish President wanted to make the recommendation that the Council on item 10 to Authorize the Parish President to reject the bid and not to

purchase anything on State Contract at this time. And we will get by some how, and move on to the Mechanic truck after that, that's the one that's really critical.

On motion by Councilwoman Patsy Ward Hoover, duly seconded by Councilman Chris Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby authorize the Parish President to reject the bid for the purchase of two new pick up trucks for the Highway Department and not to purchase on State Contract.

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

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

Motion Passed.

Chairman stated the next item on the agenda was to consider authorizing the Parish President to solicit bids for the purchase of a replacement mechanic truck for the Highway Department and to award to the lowest bidder or to purchase from State contract if more cost effective.

Mr. Verret stated, "On May 2, 2016 Mr. Robert Foster, who was assigned to the vehicle previous Mechanic work truck he was involved in a vehicle accident, that was not his fault. He was struck by another vehicle. Through the process of time it was determined by the other person's insurance that it will cost more to repair it than to replace it. The other person's insurance settled with the Parish at a cost of \$13,135.00 to replace the vehicle. That vehicle there is the most critical. That's the vehicle that carries all the tool boxes. He's been scratching by this is the most serious needs. We recommend to purchase this mechanic truck from State Contract."

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by Councilman Russell Rachal that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby authorize the Parish President to purchase a replacement mechanic truck for Highway Department from State contract.

Parish President stated, "It's guaranteed if you go the way of State Contract you're going to save money, but before we knew about the State Contract, we had said award to lowest bidder. With the advise of District Attorney we added or from purchase of State Contract, we can go on with the motion, but we need to discuss this at a later time.

Chairman Russell Rachal, wanted to know about this mechanic truck that was awarded \$13,135.00. Will that be applied to purchase of the new truck, the answer was yes. Councilman Rachal wanted to know if the toolbox or bed is salvageable. Mr. Verret stated it was destroyed and is already gone. So Chairman Rachal stated, "It's already gone.

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

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

Motion Passed.

Chairman Rachal stated the next item on the agenda was to consider adoption of Resolution 036 of 2016 to authorize the Parish President to execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Natchitoches Parish Council on Aging for the sharing of certain operating expenses incurred in the operation of certain Council on Aging facilities.

Mr. Nowlin gave a summary of before the Parish, Police Jury and the Council of Aging agreed to consolidate operations for work facility on Keyser Avenue. The Resolution is for the Parish and the Council of Aging to share some of the operating expenses on pro rata basis. The Council of Aging is going to pay the line share of it, because the own 70 percent of the building will be Council of Aging.

Councilman Paige wanted to know for public record, "Whose paying the bill, The Parish and Council of Aging to the City". All the bills will be paid by the Council of Aging, and in return they will submit a bill to the Parish and we'll do the reimbursement of our share to the Council of Aging. Councilman Paige wanted to know if we had a dollar amount? Parish President stated the cost is going to vary so we can't project a dollar of amount.

Councilman Paige asked, "Is there money allotted for this" and Ms. Miley, we have to have an agreement for the Grant to be able to pay. Ms. Sharon Harris stated, "Make sure that in this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement must we have OCS included in it, or the grant will not pay any cost."

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by Councilman Russell Rachal that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt Resolution 036 of 2016 to authorize the Parish President to execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Natchitoches Parish Council on Aging for the sharing of certain operating expenses incurred in the operation of certain Council on Aging facilities.

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

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

Motion Passed.

Chairman Russell Rachal stated the next item on the agenda is to consider of adoption of Resolution 037 of 2016 to authorize the Parish President to execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with LSU Agriculture Center in connection with the relocation of the LSU Agriculture Center to the former OCS office located at 415 Trudeau Street, Natchitoches, Louisiana.

On motion by Councilwoman Patsy Hoover, duly seconded by Councilman Russell Rachal that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt Resolution 037 of 2016 to authorize the Parish President to execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with LSU Agriculture Center in connection with the relocation of the LSU Agriculture Center to the former OCS office located at 415 Trudeau Street, Natchitoches, Louisiana.

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.

Councilman Paige wanted to know will this cost the Parish any more money? Different ones stated no. Ms. Harris stated, "The Department of OCS is moving out of the building". Councilman Paige wanted to know is it going to cost more for the LSU Agriculture Center to move over there? Councilman Paige stated, "We give them money now," Parish President stated, "We give them \$7500 now." Councilman Paige wanted to know will be there be additional monies?

Parish President stated, "This will not change the original agreement with the LSU Agriculture Center, the Parish has been paying \$7500 for the longest. They want the entire building."

Councilman Paige wanted to make sure he stated that he asked the question if additional money will be needed to assist with the LSU Agriculture Building.

At the time Councilman Rachal would like to amend the agenda to add for Council to approve the Natchitoches Parish Head Start Calendars for School year 2016-2017 for Natchitoches Parish and DeSoto Parish Head Start School year.

Councilman Rachal, stated it was in the packets, but it was accidental omitted from the agenda by oversight.

On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by Councilman Doug de Graffernied that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby amend the agenda to add to approve the Natchitoches Parish Head Start Calendars for School year 2016-2017 for Natchitoches Parish and DeSoto Parish Head Start School year.

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

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

Motion Passed.

On motion by Councilman Doug de Graffernied, duly seconded by Councilwoman Patsy Hoover that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby to approve the Natchitoches Parish Head Start Calendars for School year 2016-2017 for Natchitoches Parish and DeSoto Parish Head Start School year.

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

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

Motion Passed.

Chairman Russell Rachal stated the next item on the agenda for Council to authorize Parish President to advertise for bids for Courthouse renovations: 1. Restrooms to make ADA compliant and 2. Office of Parish Clerk.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by Councilman Rodney Bedgood that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby to authorize Parish President to advertise for bids for Courthouse renovations: 1. Restrooms to make ADA compliant and 2. Office of Parish Clerk.

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

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

Motion Passed.

Parish President stated this work will be done through the Building Fund and no other funds from any other department is being used.

Chairman Rachal then recognizes Mr. Nick Verret, Director of Public Works.

Mr. Verret expresses, "There is really a need for the second pothole patching crew, which is the inmate pothole patching crew but waiting on the crew, but the crew has not yet been provided to the Highway Department, hopefully they have hired an officer to oversee them."

Storm Damage Repairs - FEMA site visits have begun for road repair work completed by Parish crews following the March 8 disaster [Category C] and they will continue through the month of July. FEMA has also completed the Project Worksheet for Category B work completed by Parish forces [placing barricades on flooded roads Parish-wide and constructing a temporary crossing on Tausin Island Road], so reimbursement of the eligible costs [75% of \$16,382] should be forthcoming in the near future.

Discussions continue with FEMA as to whether or not the construction of a temporary low-profile runaround at the site of the damaged bridge on Good Hope Road will be eligible for reimbursement. A meeting is scheduled with them on Thursday, July 14. The required Section 404 permit has been submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. A survey of the proposed limits of construction will be necessary in order for the wetlands determination to be completed for issuance of the permit.

A FEMA representative has advised that the replacement of the washed-out bridge on Miller Drive will not be eligible for reimbursement, since its age and condition, not the March 8 & 9 flood event, are primarily responsible for its failure. Therefore, plans are to fund the replacement of this bridge with a portion of the \$500,000 provided for Phase 1 of the Payne Subdivision street rehabilitation project, since the bridge replacement was previously included in the State Capital Outlay application.

Corey Poole asked the question, "If FEMA reimbursement felt like the bridge wasn't an allowable cost, what about the roads? What if we don't get reimbursed for the roads?"

Mr. Verret stated, "If FEMA is to reimburse to put the structure back into pre-disaster condition up to 75% percent of our cost, We had to prove to FEMA that the roads was in passable condition before the disaster."

Asphalt Zipper Demonstration - Scheduled for 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 26, on Sisson Road. All Council members are invited to attend.

Councilman Rachal wanted to know if all the graders are up and running, Mr. Verret stated they are all running at this time all 6 graders are going. They rented 1 grader to make it 6.

Councilwoman Hoover wanted to know if the job opening is still open and Mr. Verret stated he will let Mr. Nowlin. comment on that. Mr. Nowlin, stated, "If she know anyone tell them to apply." Councilwoman Hoover, stated she's ok, just wanted to know was it still open.

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, they have moved to Keyser Avenue as most people will call them the Council of Aging building. The Grand opening will be July 27 and everyone will get an invitation to that.

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program(LIHEAP)

Office moving to location office no application were taken. On July 1, 2016 they started to take application but the phone system were down so they have to notify everyone to let them know the new date August 4, 2016.

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

Food boxes will be issued on the Parkway Cinema Lot on July 28, 2016 from 6:00am 9:30 am.

Commodity Food Program: provided food items to: 141 families.

HEADSTART:

- A. Attendance Report-Not available, School Closure for Summer
- B. Enrollment Not available , School Closure for Summer
- C.CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM (CACFP): Not available, School Closure for Summer.
- D. Compressive Services/School Readiness (CSSR) review-Overview of Finding
- E. 2016-2017 Natchitoches and DeSoto Parish Head Start School Calendar was approved by Council, so they can get that to the employees to come back to work on August 1, 2016

Summer Feeding Program

Average Daily Participation (ADA)

Total Meals: Breakfast 9264; ADA=491 Lunch -10,229; ADA =544

Total Reimbursement Request-\$58,63.09

2016 SFSP Monitoring Review-Thursdays June 16, 2016, no operational weakness noted during the visit.

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.

She went over the Head Starts spending. She also went over the CCFP spending. Both of these reports will be attached to minutes. Head Start Credit card spending that will be attached to minutes.

Ms. Miley also stated we have a certified appraiser that will be able to do a certified appraisal of all the Head Start Building. This

haven't been done since 2004, it's a costly project but it has to be done.

Ms. Miley also went over the 2016 Active Bookings for Inmates and Outstanding Coroners/Inmate Expenses, this report will also be part of the minutes.

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

Ms. Teresa Gibson, Executive Director, retired effective July 1, 2016. The Housing Authority board has selected Ms. Rhonda Kay to be the new Executive Director. We look forward to working with Ms. Kay.

The Richard Johnson Regional Improvement Foundation, Inc. has adopted a project to build a community park in Payne Subdivision. Upon request of the Foundation, the Parish contacted Builders Supply Company, Inc. to see if the firm would be willing to assist in the project. Mr. Carlton Golden, a principal of the firm offered to make a donation of the first \$1,500.00 of concrete used in the park construction. The Parish is fortunate to have good corporate citizens like Builders Supply who are willing to assist in improving our community.

Parish Road Damage Ordinance.

The hauling of heavy loads on Parish roads is allowed in the Parish through the issuance of a permit by the Public Works Department. Our Parish Code of Ordinance addresses the permit process and the penalties for causing road damages.

Parish President and Mr. Verret met with the Office of the District Attorney on June 28th to review the situation as a first step in drafting potential revisions for consideration by the Parish Council.

The objective is to revise the present ordinances and procedures so that our local industries can continue to operate while providing the means for the Parish to protect and repair, when necessary our roads for all motorists.

Chairman Rachal stated the next item on the agenda was to discuss the alleged misconduct of Chairman Russell Rachal.

Councilman de Graffernied stated, discuss.

Councilman Rachal stated he did received a complaint dated June 1st from the Attorney General, alleging that he violated the opening meeting law. On April 18, was the date reported, that the Chairman took an item off the agenda by another Council member that previous had put the item on the agenda and introducing a Ordinance to regulate or limit public Comments at a meeting.

Councilman Rachal stated, "I met with the District Attorney's Office and they told me they couldn't be involved because they represent the Council as a body, that I would have to seek private Counsel, in which I did. I don't know where it came from. I would like someone to step up and say." Councilman Rachal stated he has no problem with someone filing a complaint. He was inquiring as to what they were seeking.

Councilman Paige stated, "Why are we entertaining this? Why Chris Paige District 1 entertaining this particular item? Are we just having a general discussion on the block discussion as the Five elected officials and Mr. Nowlin, included or anybody out

there can ask a question of these people." Chairman Rachal stated he got out of line. He will make a motion to hear a second for this. Councilman Paige stated, "You don't have to make a motion to discuss something, I'm just asking what is the validity of us having this discussion bogging the meeting down, if they find something they find something. Are they done with the investigation?" Councilman Rachal stated, "Yes, they are done."

Councilman Rachal wanted a motion to put it out there for discussion.

On motion by Councilman Doug de Graffernied, duly seconded by Councilman Russell Rachal that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby to discuss the allege misconduct reported to the Attorney General Office

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

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

Motion Did Not Pass.

Councilman Rachal stated, "I will go on record to say since there has been a letter..." At that time, Councilman Paige stated, "We have voted and you need to move to another agenda item."

Councilman Rachal called upon the District Attorney, "Since you represent all of us, I would like to meet with you, because the Parish owes me \$1,000 for what I had to spend on attorney fees, because I represented the whole Council. The letter stated they weren't just looking at me, they were looking at the whole Council. I paid \$1,000 to represent the whole Council and I think the Parish owes me the money back and I would like to go on record for the public to hear that, and I will give a report to the newspaper or radio station if they want to talk with me."

Councilman de Graffernied wanted to know how he got in trouble with the Attorney General? As an elected official the people has the right to send question down there and if they find something, you take that up with them and not this body, we didn't fine you anything. Councilman de Graffernied stated he thinks it derived out of this body. Mr. Bedgood stated, "I had nothing to do with this. It might have come from one person." Councilman Paige said he didn't either and then stated this matter needs to be taken care out there not around this horseshoe. Councilman Rachal stated, "It started here. And, if you're not man enough to own up to it, then tell us if you're not man enough to own up to it, you're the one who did it. Councilman Paige said, "Who? Councilman Rachal stated, "You." Councilwoman Hoover was about to say something and Councilman Paige stated, "No. If I send to Baton Rouge a question about anything, I'll tell you, I did it, that I wrote the letter, I'll pin it on a donkey, whatever, I don't have any questions for them. And let me tell you something I have had several inquiries on me, and I thank God that they haven't ever found anything on me to fine me, now if they fine you, that's them, You take it up

with them, I don't see no Council paying your fine. If you want to go back through the years to see how many have been fined, Councilman Rachal stated, "I haven't been fined, sir. I've been exonerated."

Councilwoman Hoover stated she did have something to say. She stated, "I did request some opinions from the Attorney General, to get a legal opinion to make sure that the business of this Council has been done correctly. As Council members, we have the right to request an opinion at any time, not only the Council, but as citizens as well." Councilwoman Hoover asked Councilman Rachal if he could show her a law that makes her wrong for asking for an opinion. "I think we should be about the business of the people of Natchitoches Parish. As we can see tonight, people are concerned about their roads and that's what I think we should about, but as Council members. Councilman Rachal stated, "I have no problem with anyone asking a question or filing a compliant, but I do when I have to spend my money, personal money to represent the entire Council, and you called me the day after meeting last month and checked on me." Councilwoman stated, "First of all," and then she went on to say, "We need to close this out and I'm finished." First of all the Council did not tell you to go out seek outside Council, we have a Parish Counsel. Councilman Rachal stated, "They could not represent me as an individual." Councilman Rachal confirmed that with Assistant District Attorney Fair. Councilwoman Hoover state. "The Council didn't ask you to get one." Councilman Rachal stated, "I didn't ask you to complain on me either." Councilman Rachal, again asked the Asst. District Attorney Fair, that if he was correct, that the Office of the District of Attorney couldn't represent him as an individual, it has to be the entire Council. Asst. District Attorney Fair stated, "It has to be the whole Council." So Councilman Rachal stated, "Since I was advised by the District Attorney's office to go find my own counsel, that in return if I'm exonerated, the Parish would owe me money back."

Councilman Bedgood stated, "It's not like you have shot somebody? What is the big deal, that somebody has asked a question? Was it legal for you to take an agenda item off the agenda? Wasn't that all it was?" Councilman de Graffernied stated, "No. He feels the question was mis-formed. Councilman Rachal stated it still cost him out of his pocket. Councilman Bedgood stated, "We didn't tell you to go hire a counsel." Councilman Rachal stated, "I didn't tell you to complain on me either." Councilman Bedgood stated, "I didn't complain on you, Russell. Don't start saying you. I'll get all in your face with this crap. Don't start this crap with me now." Councilman Paige stated, "Let's move to the next agenda item." Councilman Rachal stated he was not through with it yet. Councilman Paige stated, "You're not through? This Council has voted, and you need to move on." Councilman Rachal, stated, "Sit down and be quiet then."

The Chairman stated the next item on the agenda is to go out of regular meeting an into an "Executive Session"

Councilman Paige stated, "It's not on the agenda correctly, it need to be if the Council is going to discuss going into an "Executive Session", and for years we had Ms. Roy and everybody in here, saying

why are you're going into an "Executive Session" Is it a reason to go out and for an "Executive Session"? I think we should first say, Can we have a discussion and if we plan to go into an Executive Session."

Councilman Paige stated he would like to make a motion to not to go into an Executive Session, Chairman Rachal stated, "Do you really want

our business out in the streets?" Councilman Paige stated, "Well you put it out there. You're going to find yourself with another law suit, or some other kind of disagreement with you." Councilman Paige stated again he would like to make a motion that this governing body do not to go into Executive Session, duly seconded by Councilman Bedgood.

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

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

Motion Passed

On motion by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by Councilman Chris Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in special and legal session convened, does hereby adjourn until the next regular or called meeting of the Natchitoches Parish Council.

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

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

Motion Passed

Since there was no other business the meeting was adjourn:

Attest:

Russell Rachal, Chairman

Sheryl Frederick,
Council Clerk