

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATCHITOCHE PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH OF NATCHITOCHE, STATE OF LOUISIANA
TAKEN A REGULAR MEETING HELD, TUESDAY,
February 17, 2015
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 Tuesday, February 17, 2015 for regular Natchitoches Parish Council meeting at five-thirty (5:30) o'clock p.m.

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

The invocation was given by Mr. Nick Verret and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Rodney Bedgood. After the roll call there were present Chairman John Salter and Councilmen Chris Paige, Rodney Bedgood, Aaron Johnson.

There was absent: Councilman Ricky LaCour.

Chairman Salter then asked if there were any visitors who would like to speak. Mr. Michael Lewis, Chairman of the Board from the Council of Aging, he wanted to thank The Parish and Sheriff Department for helping in the demolition of the old Council Aging building. He said this has been a long time coming. This will be the One Stop Shop For Seniors. This building will house the Council of Aging, OCS, and Veterans Affairs Office. Mr. Lewis wanted to let everyone know the new building will be coming soon.

Mr. John Hodson, resident from Pardee Road. He began by saying it has been twenty days after the all the rain, and nobody from the Parish Highway Department have not been down their road to patch it. Mr. Hodson, stated if you don't have a 4 wheel drive you will not be able to come down that road after it rains. He said he don't want to be a bother, but if no one comes down that road to fix it, he will be bothering somebody. Mr. Nick Verret told Mr. Hobson he was aware of the problem, but he only has one Pothole Patching crew, he also said that the Inmate Crew is very limited now, and they only have one Sheriff Deputy to oversee them, and one day he patched some roads himself. Mr. Hobson asked Director of Public Works, Nick Verret to come drive down the road with him or Parish President Rick Nowlin, just to see how bad the road is. Director of Public Works, Nick Verret said he has a prior engagement, but if he can't make it he will send someone in his place from his department, Parish President Rick Nowlin, told Mr. Hodson, he also have prior engagements, but when finished, he will call him, to meet up with him to look at the roads with him.

Mr. George Posey, resident from Posey Road, spoke on his road, Posey Road. He also stated no one have done anything with his road either. Mr. Verret, stated that work has been done on that road, but Mr. Posey didn't agree with that. He stated that Mr. Verret wasn't doing anything about the roads, and doesn't deserve what salary he's making. Parish President, Rick Nowlin, interrupted Mr. Posey and told him he's not going to let anybody talk negatively about his employees. Parish President stated that Mr. Verret is worth everything he's been paid. And this type of matter should not be discussed at a open public meeting.

Mr. George Posey, didn't agree with that either, but went on to discuss roads conditions and he also wanted them to come ride down his roads and see the condition they are in. He stated he has called the Highway Department at least two times and plus told two highway workers about problems on his road, they told him they would check it out, but didn't. Mr. Verret asked, when did he report it to his office, but Mr. Posey couldn't give an exact date, but told him it was bout 7 months ago, and within two weeks of telling the two workers.

Parish President Rick Nowlin, told him also after he finish with Mr. Hobson, he will call him too and come ride down the Posey Road.

Councilman Bedgood wanted to express his feelings about discussing anyone salaries at an open meeting. He stated at a public meeting this type of discussion should not be done. He hope that in the future that everyone will try not to discuss salaries of anyone at an open public meeting.

There were no public comments.

On motion by Mr. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Rodney Bedgood, 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 Tuesday, January 20, 2015.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Paige	<u> x </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u> x </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Johnson	<u> x </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	___	___	<u> X </u>	___
Councilman Salter	<u> x </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter then stated that the next item on the agenda was to consider authorizing the Parish President to enter into a revised agreement with Scott Equipment Company to lease a 2015 Case CX55B compact excavator in lieu of the 2014 Case 580SN rubber-tire tractor/loader/backhoe that is currently being leased.

On motion by Mr. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Aaron Johnson, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby authorize the Parish President to enter into a revised agreement with Scott Equipment Company to lease a 2015 Case CX55B compact excavator in lieu of the 2014 Case 580SN rubber-tire tractor/loader/backhoe that is currently being leased.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Paige	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Johnson	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	___	___	<u> X </u>	___
Councilman Salter	<u> X </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter then stated that the next item on the agenda was Consider authorizing the Parish President to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Natchitoches Fire Protection District 4 for the construction of a driveway at their new fire station located at 1757 Central Loop.

On motion by Mr. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Rodney Bedgood, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does authorize the Parish President to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Natchitoches Fire Protection District 4 for the construction of a driveway at their new fire station located at 1757 Central Loop.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Paige	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Johnson	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	___	___	<u> X </u>	___
Councilman Salter	<u> X </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter then stated that the next item on the agenda was to consider adopting a resolution confirming the re-appointments/appointments to the following boards/commissions:

Mr. Doug Birdwell for re-appointment to the Natchitoches Parish 911 Communication Board.

Ms. Deanna Fowler for re-appointment to the Northwest Louisiana Human Services District Board.

On motion by Mr. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Rodney Bedgood, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby approve adopting a resolution confirming the re-appointments/appointments to the following boards/commission:

Mr. Doug Birdwell for re-appointment to the Natchitoches Parish 911 Communication Board.

Ms. Deanna Fowler for re-appointment to the Northwest Louisiana Human Services District Board.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Johnson	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	___	___	<u> X </u>	___
Councilman Paige	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Salter	<u> X </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter then stated that the next item on the agenda was "Discussion Only" on 2015 Millage Rates. Roll Forward or Remain the Same. Each Councilman had a different view on this agenda item. They wanted to roll forward some funds, but some funds they want to remain the same. The Council, asked for more time to discuss this matter and will let Ms. Miley, Parish Treasurer, and Ms. Frederick, Council Clerk know in enough time to get with the Tax Assessor for further steps if they chose to Roll Forward.

Also, Ms. Miley gave each councilman a printout out of The fund, the Current Levy, Max Auth. Levy, if they shall roll forward, and the Estimated of Additional Tax if Rolled forward. Ms. Miley also gave a printout of the fund, 2012 Collections, 2013 Collections, 2014 Actual Collection, and Estimated 2015 Collections if Roll Forward. All this will help the Council to make their decisions on the different funds.

Chairman Salter then stated that the next item on the agenda was consider Introducing Ordinance 01-2015 for continued participation in the NFIP and to adopt the new FIS and FIRM.

Director Planning and Zoning, Mr. Greg LeMoine stated this was for continued participation in NFIP. These are the new revised FEMA Maps, to be used to determine Flood zoning.

On motion by Mr. Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by Mr. Aaron Johnson, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does consider Introducing Ordinance 01-2015 for continued participation in the NFIP and to adopt the new FIS and FIRM.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Bedgood	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Johnson	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	___	___	<u> X </u>	___
Councilman Paige	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Salter	<u> X </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter then stated that the next item on the agenda was consider approval in adopting a Proclamation to promote reading and adult involvement in the education of our community's students.

On motion by Mr. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Chris Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does approve in adopting a Proclamation to promote reading and adult involvement in the education of our community's students.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Johnson	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Paige	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	___	___	<u> X </u>	___
Councilman Salter	<u> X </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter then stated that the next item on the agenda was consider Council approval to consider executing a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Natchitoches Public Shooting Range for the Parish Highway Department to haul and spread 28 cubic yards of Winn rock on the access road to the range.

There were discussion on this agenda item and the Council wanted Mr. Nick Verret to go back and make some additional requests on this matter with the Natchitoches Public Shooting Range and then they will discuss this at a later date.

On motion by Mr. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Rodney Bedgood, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, will make a decision when Mr. Verret talks back with the Natchitoches Parish Shooting Range with the added requests.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Johnson	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Paige	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	___	___	<u> X </u>	___
Councilman Salter	<u> X </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter then stated that the next item on the agenda was consider Council approval authorizing the Parish President to execute resolutions received from incorporated municipalities within the Parish of Natchitoches for the performance of road maintenance activities in accordance with Chapter 15 Roads and Drainage, Sec. 15-2 Work incorporated municipalities, of the Parish Code of Ordinances.

On motion by Mr. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Aaron Johnson, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session will approve authorizing the Parish President to execute resolutions received from incorporated municipalities within the Parish of Natchitoches for the performance of road maintenance activities in accordance with Chapter 15 Roads and Drainage, Sec. 15-2 Work incorporated municipalities, of the Parish Code of Ordinances.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Paige	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Johnson	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	___	___	<u> X </u>	___
Councilman Salter	<u> X </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter then stated that the next item on the agenda was consider Council approval authorizing Parish President to solicit statements of Qualifications and Experience from architecture firms for services in connection with the design and construction of courthouse security improvements. (LA FP&C Project No. 50-J35-14-01).

On motion by Mr. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Rodney Bedgood, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session will approve authorizing the Parish President to solicit statements of Qualifications and Experience from architecture firms for services in connection with the design and construction of courthouse security improvements. (LA FP&C Project No. 50-J35-14-01).

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Johnson	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Paige	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	___	___	<u> X </u>	___
Councilman Salter	<u> X </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter then stated that the next item on the agenda was consider Council approval authorizing Parish President to execute an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Parish of Natchitoches and the Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office in connection with the continued employment of Mrs. Betsy Cook by the Parish for services to be provided to the Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office, with reimbursement to the Parish by the Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office.

On motion by Mr. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Rodney Bedgood, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session will approve authorizing the Parish President to execute an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Parish of Natchitoches and the Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office in connection with the continued employment of Mrs. Betsy Cook by the Parish for services to be provided to the Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office, with reimbursement to the Parish by the Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Johnson	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Paige	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	___	___	<u> X </u>	___
Councilman Salter	<u> X </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter stated he need to amend the agenda to add Council approval to discuss Blighted Property.

On motion by Mr. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Rodney Bedgood, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in special and legal session convened, does hereby amend the agenda for Council approval to discuss Blighted Property.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Johnson	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Paige	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	___	___	<u> X </u>	___
Councilman Salter	<u> X </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

The Councilmen, discussed Blighted Property and Parish President Rick Nowlin gave them a folder with examples of Blighted property Ordinances in other parishes. They will review these different Ordinances and get a committee together of residents from different areas to form a committee to further look into this needed Ordinance.

Chairman Salter stated he need to amend the agenda to add Council approval to authorize the Parish President to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement by and between the Parish of Natchitoches and the Village of Provencal for hauling and spreading (RAP) Reclaim Asphalt Pavement.

On motion by Mr. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Aaron Johnson, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in special and legal session convened, does hereby amend the agenda to add to authorize the Parish President to authorize the Parish President to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement by and between the Parish of Natchitoches and the Village of Provencal for hauling and spreading (RAP) Reclaim Asphalt Pavement.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Paige	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Johnson	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	___	___	<u> X </u>	___
Councilman Salter	<u> X </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

This agenda item was discussed by the Parish President, Director of Public Works and Council, and all agreed on doing this, but this item is already covered under an Ordinance already in place. No other action is required.

Chairman Salter then recognized Mr. Nick Verret, Director of Public Works, who presented his report. The loss of the inmate patching crew over the last two weeks has been an especially significant factor, and we were advised that a shortage of available inmates may result in the long-term loss of both inmate crews, patching and litter pickup.

Reclaimed Asphalt Pavement Donation by LA DOTD—Approximately 221 cubic yards of RAP was received on February 9 from the DOTD project to re-surface the portion of Posey Road within the I-49 right-of-way. A summary of all RAP donations and usage to date, and future donations to be received. The bulk of the remaining stockpiled RAP is planned for use in conjunction with the scarifying project.

Bridge Replacement Program Preliminary plans have been completed for the replacement of bridges on the Clark Road over Bayou Bourbeaux, Good Hope Road over an unnamed drain, and Robeline-Provencal Road over Coal Kiln Creek, and a Plan in Hand meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2015.

Chairman Salter then recognizes Ms. Sharon Harris, OCS/Head Start Executive Director, she gave her 2014 year report with other reports:

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program(LIHEAP)

Provided utility assistance to 127 households totaling \$49,380.55

Food for Seniors which provided 40-pound box to 225 individuals 60 years or older.

February 26, 2015 is the distribution date.

The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)

Total unduplicated families served 290

Total unduplicated individuals served 361 (males-109, females-252)

Drawdown Request—\$5,275.31

Commodity provided food items to 146 households. Distribution date February 26, 2015.

HEADSTART:

1. Enrollment as of today, 01/31/2015 is 309 children full enrollment. Recruitment efforts are ongoing.
2. Operating Days: 18
3. Attendance 83.15% (higher number of illness)

SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM (SCP)

41 SCP volunteers
3,329 volunteer hours -\$8,821.85
5,134.5 miles
48 clients.

Chairman Salter then recognizes Ms. Debbie Miley, Parish Treasurer, Ms. Miley then went on to discuss her reports giving status updates on the 2015 Active Bookings for Inmates & Outstanding Coroners/Inmate Expenses. We now have a balance on Arrears of \$879,227.17 This have gone down a little. Ms. Miley also gave a report of Head Start Finances with Credit Card purchases shown in red on the 441 Head Start Fund, 442 Extended Funds, 443 Extended Funds, and 444 TTA/CDA.

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

CAPITAL OUTLAY UPDATE:

CoCo Bed Road Improvements: \$180,000 P2 Cash. (In addition to \$100,000 previously approved)

The Parish is still waiting on the amended CEA that includes the additional \$180,000.

COURT HOUSE SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS:

2014 Capital Outlay:
\$30,000 P2 Cash and \$380,000 P5 Non-Cash
Status: The Parish has executed the CEA from the state and is waiting on State execution and authorization to proceed. No expenditures may be made until the CEA has been fully executed and authorization has been received.

EL CAMINO REAL CORRIDOR:

A FY2015-2016 Capital Outlay Application has been filed for the El Camino projects in Natchitoches, Winn and LaSalle Parishes. The total amount of the application over five (5) years is in excess of \$159,000.000.

The five State Commission will be visiting with our Congressional delegation in Washington, D.C. the week of March 23 thru March 26. The purpose of the visits is to promote additional federal support for the corridor development and to inform the new members of Congress of the project and solicit their support.

FIRE DISTRICTS:

Fire District No. 1 has requested that we issue a call for volunteers that are needed to improve its participation at fires and thereby improve the fire rating of the district.

Fire Districts No. 1, 3, and 10 have been notified by the PIAL that their districts will be evaluated soon for the purpose of confirming their existing fire ratings or to establish new ratings.

Parish President also asked the Council permission to not do advertisement for sealed proposals for the Mosquito Control services for the Parish of Natchitoches which was authorized in

the last Council meeting in January, he feels that spraying the different areas will be better and more cost effective.

On motion by Mr. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Rodney Bedgood, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in special and legal session convened, does hereby amend the agenda to add Council approval to not do advertisement for sealed proposals for the Mosquito Control services for the Parish of Natchitoches .

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Johnson	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Paige	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	___	___	<u> X </u>	___
Councilman Salter	<u> X </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

On motion by Mr. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Rodney Bedgood, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in special and legal session convened, does hereby agree to not do advertisement for sealed proposals for the Mosquito Control services for the Parish of Natchitoches but to spray all areas as usual for Mosquitoes with the Mosquito sprayer truck.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Paige	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Johnson	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	___	___	<u> X </u>	___
Councilman Salter	<u> X </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Since there was no other business, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by Mr. Aaron Johnson, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular 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:

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Bedgood	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Johnson	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	___	___	<u> X </u>	___
Councilman Paige	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Salter	<u> X </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Attest:

John Salter, Chairman

Sheryl Frederick,
Council Clerk