

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATCHITOCHE PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH OF NATCHITOCHE, STATE OF LOUISIANA
TAKEN A REGULAR MEETING HELD, MONDAY,
 June 15, 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 Monday, March 16, 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 Chairman John Salter and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Rodney Bedgood. After the roll call there were present Chairman John Salter and Councilmen Rodney Bedgood, Ricky LaCour and Aaron Johnson.

There was absent: Councilman Chris Paige.

Chairman Salter then asked if there were any visitors who would like to have a word and there were none.

There were no other public comments.

On motion by Mr. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Ricky LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt the minutes of the regular meeting of the Natchitoches Parish Council held Monday, May 18, 2015 with the amendment of Parish Treasurer, Debbie Miley wanted a word for word Dialogue added to the minutes concerning the article in the Natchitoches Parish Journal that were written as she had stated all the information that was given .

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Johnson	_x_	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	_x_	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	_x_	___	_ _	___
Councilman Paige	_ _	___	_x_	___
Councilman Salter	_x_	___	_ _	___

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter then stated that the next item on the agenda was to consider introducing an Ordinance 06-2015 for the purpose of requesting the judges in the tenth (10th) to implement a \$10.00 fee on every defendant who is convicted after trial or plea of guilty, except for traffic violations, which fee shall be dedicated solely to defraying the operational costs of the office of the coroner of the parish in which the conviction occurred.(R.S. 13:5722)

On motion by Mr. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Ricky LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby introduce an Ordinance 06-2015 for the purpose of requesting the judges in the 10th to implement a \$10.00 fee on every defendant who is convicted after trial or plea of guilty, except for traffic violations, which fee shall be dedicated solely to defraying the operational costs of the office of the coroner of the parish in which the conviction occurred.(R.S. 13:5722)

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Johnson	<u> x </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	<u> x </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<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 for Council consider adopting a Resolution authorizing the payment of \$50.00 per week to Mr. Charles Cloud for maintenance of the bin site we are supposed to be maintaining near Goldonna.

Councilman Bedgood at that time got up and showed the other Councilmen pictures of other dump sites that are being maintained by Progressive Waste in Readhimer and the part of the Mammy Trail and they were horrible. Councilman Bedgood questioned Are we going to pay someone in Goldonna to maintain bins when there are others that needs to be kept up also? Councilman Bedgood felt it was Progressive Waste job to keep the area clean. Public Works Director Nick Verret stated in Progressive's contract with the Parish it doesn't have in it collecting garbage off the ground. They sometimes might do it but it's not required.

There were no motion for this item so this item was not voted on.

Chairman Salter then stated that the next item on the agenda was for Council consider adopting a Resolution authorizing the Parish President to advertise for public bids the improvements to Coco Bed Road upon completion of the construction plans and specifications and the approval of the same by the Louisiana office of Facility Planning and Control.

On motion by Mr. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Ricky LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt a Resolution authorizing the Parish President to advertise for public bids the improvements to Coco Bed Road upon completion of the construction plans and specifications and the approval of the same by the Louisiana office of Facility Planning and Control.

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

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

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter stated the next item on the Agenda was to conduct a public hearing to hear any and all comments or objections relative to the adoption of the following items:

- A. The submission of an application for funding under the State of Louisiana FY 2016/2017 Louisiana Community Development Block Grant (LCDBG) Program.

The Council Clerk informed the Council, that Ms. Sandy Easterling, from GNF Management Company, Inc would like for the Council to have the public hearing in July; so that she could advertise it correctly in the official Journal with all the appropriate figures, and also after June 24, 2015 we will know exactly what funds the Parish could apply for.

On motion by Mr. Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by Mr. Ricky LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby table the public hearing for July to hear any and all comments or objections relative to the adoption of the following items:

- A. The submission of an application for funding under the State of Louisiana FY 2016/2017 Louisiana Community Development Block Grant (LCDBG) Program.

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

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

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter stated the next item on the agenda was for Council to consider adopting a Resolution approving a MOU between the Parish of Natchitoches and the Natchitoches Community Alliance. The MOU requires the Parish to issue payment to NCA in the amount of \$10,000 for services to be rendered by NCA.

On motion by Mr. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Ricky LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt a Resolution approving a MOU between the Parish of Natchitoches and the Natchitoches Community Alliance. The MOU requires the Parish to issue payment to NCA in the amount of \$10,000 for services to be rendered by NCA.

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

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

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter stated the next item on the Agenda was to consider authorizing Parish President to solicit proposals for the rental of two additional temporary motor graders for use by the Parish Highway Department during the summer and fall months, and authorization to enter into a rental agreement, provided that the rental cost does not exceed what was allocated in the approved 2015 budget.

On motion by Mr. Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by Mr. Ricky LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby authorize Parish President to solicit proposals for the rental of two additional temporary motor graders for use by the Parish Highway Department during the summer and fall months, and authorization to enter into a rental agreement, provided that the

rental cost does not exceed what was allocated in the approved 2015 budget.

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

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

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter then recognized Mr. Nick Verret, Director of Public Works, who presented his report.

Mr. Verret stated even though an emergency was declared by the Parish President, no federal emergency declaration was made for this event, so no FEMA reimbursements for the necessary tree removals and repairs washed out culverts and roadway sections are anticipated for this event {Parish costs totaled less than \$50,000. A federal emergency declaration is expected this week for the Red River flooding event, which should allow for reimbursement of eligible costs for road repairs after the flood waters recede. The Parish President has requested assistance from GOHSEP for the hauling of material for these repairs, and LA DOTD District 8 has committed to assisting in this regard.

Bushhogging operations began on June 9. Two vacant truck drivers positions were recently filled. Following repairs last week to two tandem dump trucks and the truck that pulls the dump trailer, all but the bobtail truck are running as of this date.

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 118 households totaling \$44,500.00
Call for an appointment on July 2, 2015.

Food for Seniors which provided 40-pound box to 217 individuals 60 years or older.

May: 217 individuals.

Next distribution date June 25, 2015

Commodity provided food items to:

May: 153 families.

Next distribution date June 25, 2015

Certification ongoing.

HEADSTART:

1. Enrollment as of today, 309 children full enrollment. Recruitment efforts are ongoing.
2. Operating Days: 15
3. Attendance 75.31%

Annual attendance Aug 2014-May 2015: 81.01%

SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM (SCP)

- 41 SCP volunteers
- 4,796 volunteer hours - \$12,709.40
- 6,146 miles
- 47 clients

CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM (CACFP):

Number of days meals served-15

Average Daily Participation (ADA)

Meals: Breakfast - 3,417- ADA=228; Lunch - 3,415- ADA=228;

Snack - 3,417- ADA=228; Total Reimbursement = \$19,359.39

Also, Ms. Sharon Harris informed the Council that they must approve the Head Start Calendars for 2015-2016 School Year. The new school year will begin with two calendars for Head Start, one for Natchitoches Parish and one for DeSoto Parish. The reason behind this, is because when school is out the older siblings are home and so the younger children remains home with them. This is causing attendance to be low at the centers. To eliminate these problems Head Start has done to calendars that will coincide with the School calendars for Natchitoches Parish and DeSoto Parish.

On motion by Mr. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Ricky LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby amend the agenda to add approving the two calendars for Head Start one for Natchitoches Parish and the other for DeSoto Parish for the School Year 2015-2016.

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

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

Motion Passed

On motion by Mr. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Ricky LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby approve the two calendars for Head Start one for Natchitoches Parish and the other for DeSoto Parish for the School Year 2015-2016.

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

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

Motion Passed

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 \$819,223.17.

Ms. Miley also gave out Reports from Head Start Fund 541,543, and 544. She also stated that Credit Card was used for payment of Workers' Compensation, New hire background check, and Dollar General supplies for Graduation. The total spent was \$943.11

She asked the Council did they have any questions for her and there was none.

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

CAPITAL OUTLAY UPDATE:

Payne Subdivision Streets, Goldonna Road, and Blanchard Road are all in the HB 2. Those not included in HB 2 are: Harmony Road and Fish Hatchery Road.

Parish President also went over some Legislative Bill of 2015. The one he discussed were HB 629 (Rep. Jackson) will reduce a large number of investment tax incentives, including the highly effective historic rehabilitation tax credit. The final conference committee report that was adopted reduces the credit by 28% during the three-year period during which the credit reductions would be in effect.

FIRE DISTRICTS:

Fire Districts 10 have requested for a letter to be drafted to be sent to district residents to solicit their support by volunteering to serve the District. Approximately 1500 letters were sent to property owners in the District. The cost of producing and mailing the letters was paid by the District.

Summer Youth Job Program:

The availability of the jobs program was advertised and 87 application were received.

OCS/HEAD START:

We have received a letter from Ms. Judie Barnum, Director of Head Start, which indicates that she will be retiring from service with the Parish Head Start program on August 31, 2015. We appreciate Ms. Barnum's service to the program and wish her well in her new retirement endeavors.

COALITION AGAINST BIGGER TRUCKS:

This coalition is a grassroots organization formed in opposition to proposed legislation in the Congress that would permit heavier trucks and tandem trailers. It includes law enforcement agencies and county/parish engineering associations nationwide. The Coalition has requested letters of opposition be sent to our delegation in Congress. The Louisiana Parish Engineers Association has endorsed the Coalition efforts.

Chairman Salter stated at this time he need a motion to go into an Executive Session.

On motion by Mr. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Rodney Bedgood, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby go into an Executive Session.

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

On motion by Mr. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Rodney Bedgood, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby end Executive Session.

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 stated now we are back into our regular session but since no one was present in the Board Room and since there was no other business, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Ricky LaCour, 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 Johnson	<u>X</u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	<u>X</u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u>X</u>	___	___	___
Councilman Paige	___	___	<u>X</u>	___
Councilman Salter	<u>X</u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Attest:

John Salter, Chairman

Sheryl Frederick,
Council Clerk