

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATCHITOCHE PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH OF NATCHITOCHE, STATE OF LOUISIANA
TAKEN A REGULAR MEETING HELD, MONDAY,
July 20, 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, July 20, 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 Ms. Janice Perry 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, and Chris Paige.

There was absent: None.

Chairman Salter then asked if there were any visitors who would like to have a word and Mr. Masson wanted to express his concerns about agenda item #12 the Confirmation of Mr. Ludlow McNeely for appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Waterworks District 2 Board. Mr. Masson felt that Mr. McNeely is very capable of doing the job he doesn't have anything against him. Mr. Masson, is asking for future appointments to these boards be done by selecting members who lives in that district. He feels people who is known in that district and from that district should be the ones given the opportunity to serve on boards in their own districts.

Ms. Janice Perry wanted clarification on item #14 Council consider authorizing the Parish President to execute a revised Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the State of Louisiana Office of Facility Planning and Control for the Coco Bed Road project, for the inclusion of costs associated with the acquisition of additional right-of-way that will be required for proper construction of the proposed hard-surfaced road. She stated that Mr. Verret and Mr. Nowlin stated that work would begin on the Coco Bed road in the Spring. Now Mr. Verret is stating something differently and the residents of Coco Bed Road wants to know exactly what is going on.

Mr. Verret, stated the road size ditch the depth of the slope has backed it farther than what they have so they need more space for ditches to get it done correctly, and by doing it correctly they need a right-away from the residents, because it will be on property of those residents. Ms. Perry asked will getting the right away will be simple, Mr. Verret answered no it will not be simple, due to the it being State Funds, have to obtain an appraisal, and they residents have to be offered Fair Market Value, and everything must be done by the Uniform Right Away Acquisition Act. The other option is that Residents could donate the property needed to speed up the process.

Residents of the Coco Bed Road was present and they stated they were promised only 9/10 (nine tenths) of a mile and now Mr. Verret is stating 2.3 miles to be paved. The residents stated is this not was promised to them last Fall. Mr. Verret stated he has a meeting set up with the Jefferson at 10:00am tomorrow morning on site to discuss issues that he feels needs to be addressed.

Chairman Salter asked Mr. Verret when did this become an issue about the road, Chairman Salter, stated it was promised to the residents that work would begin on the road in the Spring. Mr. Verret stated he didn't make any promises that Mr. Salter misunderstood the conversation, and Chairman Salter, said no misunderstanding on the

matter it was stated. Mr. Verret stated when they were in the design process this is when the issue came up. Mr. Verret stated he notified Mr. Nowlin, and Mr. Nowlin instructed Mr. Verret he should let the residents know about this problem.

Mr. Verret stated the Parish has \$280,000 State funds to pave as much road as they can make maximum utilization of it. This will help Parish maintenance and they would not have to grade the roads. Mr. Verret feels to use the money to the farthest extent.

Councilman Paige, stated the original request was to give attention to the part of the road that haven't receive any attention to in the previous long years. He stated, that Representative Gallot and Representative Cox talked about trying to get help to those residents that lived in the 9/10 of a mile on the road, and now Mr. Verret is talking about doing the entire road. The other side is already paved.

Councilman Paige asked Mr. Verret, Who would get out and obtain the right away? Mr. Verret answered the Parish would have to get the right away by following the rules and regulations .

Mr. Verret stated, as far as the length of the road he doesn't understand what the problem. They have \$280,000 to spend on the road to make it better for everyone.

Ms. Perry stated that she wasn't there to bash Mr. Verret but the residents felt they were blindsided on this matter. Mr. Verret stated he kept everyone in the loop when he found out about it two weeks ago. He contacted Ms. Jefferson via email, but she didn't get it, but he resent it again. Ms. Perry stated when she said blindsided she was referring to residents of the Coco Bed road was looking forward for work to begin in the Spring when it was told to them last Fall. They wasn't dreaming that all this about a right away and donating property or anything else. They just thought the work on their roads was about to begin.

Councilman Paige asked is there a time frame on this. would the Parish lose the money? Mr. Verret and Nowlin stated, no. Ms. Perry, stated that she will be involved with this process until Coco Bed Road is done.

Mr. Verret stated that good of this, is when all this is completed, the road will be done correctly.

Chairman Salter asked were there anymore visitors and Ms. Veronica Hargrove from Posey road wanted to speak on the condition of the Posey Road along with other resident present from the Posey Road. She was soliciting help on how to get something done on this road. She had a petition with 56 residents to sign. Ms. Hargrove, stated they have craters in the road, people are tearing up their vehicles on the road, and if someone gets ill out there it will take emergency vehicles time to get there, and every second counts when it comes to saving a life.

Ms. Hargrove, feels the residents needs due consideration about the conditions of their roads. She understands the funding problems, and she know all parishes have funding issues, but its been since 16 years and the roads are still not been maintained. She reported that three weeks (3) weeks ago they came out and put some black tar substance in the holes, but when it rains this substance come out and makes a bigger problem.

Chairman Salter, told Ms. Hargrove that Mr. Verret would be the person to address this problem to.

Mr. Verret, stated that Ms. Hargrove would like to road made into a gravel road it would be better than a paved road. Ms. Hargroved agreed because when it was a gravel road it worked.

Mr. Verret stated it would take the approval of the Council to change the paved road back into a gravel road. Mr. Verret stated the edges of the road are completely gone and it would have to be done with Hot Mix Asphalt and with the LGAP money it still would not be enough to fix the road. This road can not be maintained with the edges like they are. Mr. Verret also state, there are two opposite viewpoint on this road, some what it gravel and some what it to remain the same. Ms. Hargrove, stated only one resident, Mr. Posey, himself want the road to remain paved, but she feels majority rules in this situation, and the petition proves that.

Ms. Hargrove stated we as resident travel down this road everyday, residents are tearing up their cars and they have receipts to show the damage to their vehicles by the roads being so bad.

Councilman Bedgood, stated the Posey Road is in his District, he visited Posey Road, Allen Beleuh Road, and the Marthaville Road yesterday and it looked like a log truck road, just like where he travel everyday on the Goldonna Road. Councilman, Bedgood stated, if the road is chip and done right he has no problem with turning it back into a gravel road, but it has to be graded, rocks kept on it, and ditches graded, but if its not done correctly it will be the same way as a paved road, it will tear up your cars also.

Ms. Hargrove, asked the question again, what do we have to do as residents to get some help on this road. Mr. Verret stated again, he don't have any objection in turning it back into a gravel road, but the Parish does not have the proper equipment and this would have to be contracted out. There would have to be a soil stabilizer to keep those large chunks out the road. Councilman Bedgood, ask would a 3 shot work, Mr. Verret said it possible could work. It would take about \$75,000 for a mile and if you overlay it, about \$100,000, a with a base it would be about \$250,000 a mile.

Ms. Hargrove, asked would that be in the budget and Mr. Verret stated that the Advisory Commission on Parish Roads will address that later on the agenda.

At this time Chairman Salter called Ms. Donna Isaacs and Mr. John Masson come up to give their report from the Advisory Commission on Parish Roads so this might help give Ms. Hargrove some information about what's going on.

This was a very lengthy report with recommendations given for the Parish Council to consider on how to improve the conditions of the Parish roads.

To give a brief summary of the report the Parish has 977 Roads totaling 818 miles. 492 miles of unpaved roads and 326 miles of paved roads. More than 90% of the paved roads are in poor or very poor conditions. The Natchitoches Parish Road Funding solutions have three (3)scenarios to be considered:

1. Do Nothing/Stay the Course
2. Restructure Financing, Grant Funding of Equipment and Additional \$1,346,000/year to build Maintenance Capacity, \$1,750,000/year towards Capital Improvements.
3. Major Capital Improvement with New Bond Issue.

Also the commission would like also for the Council to look at three (3) options for revenue:

1. Option 1: Sales Tax. 1/2% sales tax parish wide will generate approximately \$3.1 million annually. The advantage of this option is that 90-120 days after it is implemented it will generate approximately \$250,000 per month in revenue but it will increase sales tax in some municipalities to 9.5 -10%.

2. Option 2: Ad Valorem Tax. Additionally 10 Mills parish wide will generate approximately \$3.2 million in the parish and \$1.2 million in the city of Natchitoches. The advantage is that the revenue will increase as property values increases, the disadvantage however, is that this option will not begin to generate revenue for approximately two years.

3. Option 3: Hybrid. 1/2% sales tax that sunsets in 5 years and 10 mills of ad valorem tax parish wide, to be implemented in increments over succeeding election cycles. However, it may be incompatible with supporting a bond issue within a reasonable period of time. This will address the immediate short fall with the least impact on small businesses.

After the presentation was given by Ms. Donna Isaacs and Mr. John Masson there were other residents that had words to say about their roads and more words from the Council themselves. Councilman Rodney Bedgood wanted everyone to know that the Council does not make any of the decisions on what road gets done in the Parish. Mr. Verret is the Director of Public Works and he makes all decisions on the roads due to priority. Mr. Paige wanted to know about schedules and why Mr. Verret is not sticking to schedules. Mr. Paige stated when a road is called in to be repaired, and it states they have 16 holes and you only patch 5 and leave 11 holes and move on to another project, why don't you just complete all holes so you don't have to come back. that's all he wanted to say.

Mr. Nowlin, wanted to say money has always been the problem, and still is the problem. They are trying to make all roads passable and safe. If schedules are made they can be change due to any type of weather change or any other problems that may come up. In an "Ideal world and money wasn't an issue then we can do what Mr. Paige is stating, but this is not an "Ideal World".

Mr. Scott Stetson of White Oak Lane stated that his road is in terrible condition the road after the 1st mile of paved road. He stated, "We all know why that part was only done". Residents have to make repairs to their cars from the potholes in the road. To have accountability when bidding out contracts, you must include in your contract the upkeep of the road, if you include maintenance in your contract you will not have all these problems concerning the upkeep of roads. You must read the fine prints to make sure everything is needed for maintenance is included in that contract.

Mr. Stetson also commented the Parish needs to look to other resources other than taxes. Check into Citations when people are on the cell phones running people off the roads or other sources of revenues to help with parish roads. Just don't restrict yourselves to taxes themselves.

Mr. John Hobson, asked Mr. Verret what is the status on the Pardee road, Mr. Verret, stated as soon as we can do something we'll try to get to it. Mr. Hobson stated, Mr. Verret promised him that he would come out and do something on the Pardee road, he understand that he couldn't do anything in the Spring due to weather, but now he wants something done, Mr. Verret, stated I didn't promise anything. Mr.

Hobson didn't agree with what Mr. Verret stated. Mr. Hobson, again told Mr. Verret he wanted something done to that road. He said I been telling you about having a Road and Bridge tax, for those who own property not one piece but any property would be taxed and this money will go directly for roads and this will be accounted for and the people would know exactly where there money is going.

There were one public comment directed to Mr. Verret from Mr. John McAlpin about the ditches. Mr. McAlpin wanted to know have the Highway department began any work on ditches. Mr. Verret stated, they have began some, but will get going again, because now the equipment is fixed to do it.

On motion by Mr. Ricky LaCour, duly seconded by Mr. Aaron Johnson, 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 15, 2015.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman LaCour	<u> x </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Johnson	<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 to consider entering into a Multi-Jurisdictional Consortium Agreement through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act(WIOA)for the purpose of the establishment of a consortium or Multi-Jurisdictional Agreement for carrying out programs and activities authorize by public law and authorizes the Parish President to sign said agreement.

On motion by Mr. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Aaron Johnson, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby approve entering into a Multi-Jurisdictional Consortium Agreement through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act(WIOA)for the purpose of the establishment of a consortium or Multi-Jurisdictional Agreement for carrying out programs and activities authorize by public law and authorizes the Parish President to sign said agreement.

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 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.

- B. 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 motion by Mr. Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by Mr. Ricky LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby open the public hearing.

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

	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

Ms. Sandi Easterling from GNF Management came to give the status on projects that may or may not be funded. Ms. Easterling stated that ratings have been changed on roads for the upcoming application period. Focus is primarily will be focused on sewer projects, potable water, fire protection and other public health concerns may have a better chance of being funded. The deadline to submit the application will be November 20, 2015.

- a) Citizen Participation Plan/Citizen Complaint Procedure;
- b) the approximate amount of funds available for proposed community development and housing activities; Awaiting Congressional appropriation
- c) the range of activities that may be undertaken, including the estimated amount of funds proposed to be used for activities that will principally benefit persons of low and moderate income:

Sewer Treatment	\$ 1,000,000.00	November, 2015
New Sewer Collection	\$ 800,000.00	November, 2015
Existing Sewer Collection Rehab	\$ 800,000.00	November, 2015
Potable Water	\$ 800,000.00	November, 2015
Water for Fire Protection	\$ 500,000.00	November, 2015

Any eligible applicant may apply for the following activities under the current LCDBG program; even those applicants previously funded under public facilities components of the LCDBG program.

Demonstrated Needs	\$ 250,000.00	None
LaStep	\$ 500,000.00	None
Economic Development	\$1,000,000.00	None

- d) the plans of the applicant for minimizing displacement of persons as a result of activities assisted with such funds and the benefits to be provided to persons actually displaced as a result of such activities;

If funded, adoption and implementation of a Residential Anti-displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan under Section 104(d) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended.

e) the applicant's performance in prior LCDBG programs funded by the state;

Discussion of prior LCDBG programs (if applicable)

There were no discussion on Item B.

Since there were no discussion on the public hearing items:

On motion by Mr. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Ricky LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby close the public hearing.

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

	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

Relative to the items discussed during the public hearing, the following action was taken:

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 table voting on the project for submission of an application for funding under the State of Louisiana FY 2016/2017 Louisiana Community Development Block Grant(LCDBG) Program, until August Meeting.

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 special and legal session convened, does hereby adopt 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 Bedgood	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	<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 adopting a resolution confirming appointments and re-appointments to the following boards/commissions.

- a. Confirmation of Mr. William R. Zeigler for re-appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Tourist Commission.
- b. Confirmation of Mr. Ludlow McNeely for appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Waterworks District 2 Board.
- c. Confirmation of Mr. Henry Kinberger for appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Planning and Zoning Board.

On motion by Mr. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Aaron Johnson, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby approve adopting a resolution confirming Mr. William R. Zeigler for re-appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Tourist Commission.

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 LaCour	<u> X </u>	___	__	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Salter	<u> X </u>	___	__	___

Motion Passed

On motion by Mr. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Ricky LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby approve adopting a resolution confirming Mr. Ludlow McNeely for appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Waterworks District 2 Board.

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

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

Motion Passed

On motion by Mr. Ricky LaCour, duly seconded by Mr. Aaron Johnson, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby approve adopting a resolution confirming Mr. Henry Kinberger for appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Planning and Zoning Board.

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

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

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter then stated that the next item on the agenda for council to consider introducing Ordinance 07-2015 to remove Parish Road 343-A known as Bud Boyd Road located in Campti, LA from the Parish Road System.

On motion by Mr. Ricky LaCour, duly seconded by Mr. Aaron Johnson, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby introduce Ordinance 07-2015 to remove Parish Road 343-A known as Bud Boyd Road located in Campti, LA from the Parish Road System.

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

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

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter then stated that the next item on the agenda Council to consider authorizing the Parish President to execute a revised Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the State of Louisiana Office of Facility Planning and Control for the Coco Bed Road project, for the inclusion of costs associated with the acquisition of additional right-of-way that will be required for proper construction of the proposed hard-surfaced road.

On motion by Mr. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Ricky LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby authorize the Parish President to execute a revised Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the State of Louisiana Office of Facility Planning and Control for the Coco Bed Road project, for the inclusion of costs associated with the acquisition of additional right-of-way that will be required for proper construction of the proposed hard-surfaced road.

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

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

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter then stated that the next item on the agenda for Council to consider authorizing the Parish President to enter into contracts as needed for the required property surveys, appraisals, acquisitions, and environmental assessment for the additional required right-of-way for this project, with the procurement of the required professional services to be in accordance with State law.

On motion by Mr. Ricky LaCour, 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 contracts as needed for the required property surveys, appraisals, acquisitions, and environmental assessment for the additional required right-of-way for this project, with the procurement of the required professional services to be in accordance with State law.

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

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

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter then stated that the next item on the agenda Council to consider authorizing the Parish President to contract for the sale of timber removed from the newly- purchased Parish property located at the intersection of LA-117 and LA-478.

On motion by Mr. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Rodney Bedgood, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby authorize the Parish President to contract for the sale of timber removed from the newly- purchased Parish property located at the intersection of LA-117 and LA-478.

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 Council to consider authorizing the Parish President to solicit proposals for the repair of voids on the north abutment of the bridge on Johnson Chute Road and to execute a contract, following selection of the proposal that will most effectively address the problems that exist at this location at the best value to the Parish, subject to the constraints of the approved Highway budget for the current fiscal year.

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 the Parish President to solicit proposals for the repair of voids on the north abutment of the bridge on Johnson Chute Road and to execute a contract, following selection of the proposal that will most effectively address the problems that exist at this location at the best value to the Parish, subject to the constraints of the approved Highway budget for the current fiscal year.

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 Paige	<u> X </u>	___	__	___
Councilman Johnson	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Salter	<u> X </u>	___	__	___

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter then stated that the next item on the agenda Council to consider authorizing the Parish President to execute an "Act of Transfer and Acceptance" between the Parish of Natchitoches and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development for the transfer to the Parish of the DOTD right-of-way in the bypassed state route LA. 9, as described in the Act of Transfer and the Resolution adopted by the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury on September 20, 2006.

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 the Parish President to execute an "Act of Transfer and Acceptance" between the Parish of Natchitoches and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development for the transfer to the Parish of the DOTD right-of-way in the bypassed state route LA. 9, as described in the Act of Transfer and the Resolution adopted by the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury on September 20, 2006.

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 Paige	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Johnson	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Salter	<u> X </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter then stated that the next item on the agenda a discussion of proposed Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Campti Field of Dreams organization in connection with the use of three tracts of Parish property for its Agri-business operations.

Ms. Donna Isaacs gave a report of what she is wanting to do within the three tracts of land from the Parish. She wants the Campti site to be a Slater facility, Robeline area to be set up for Organic vegetable and fruit production and Cloutierville to be a center for Agri-Business for Goat Cheese and Goat Yogurt.

After her discussion with the Council, the Council proposed that Ms. Isaac to take another look at the property she is referring about, to make sure the land is suitable for what she's wanting.

Chairman Salter then stated that the next item on the agenda Council to consider introducing Ordinance #08-2015 a Budget Amendment for the 2015 Operating Budget.

On motion by Mr. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Aaron Johnson, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby introduce Ordinance #08-2015 a Budget Amendment for the 2015 Operating Budget.

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 LaCour	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Salter	<u> X </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter then stated that the next item on the agenda Council to consider approving the holding of an election in Fire Protection District 4 of the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana on Saturday, November 21,2015, to authorize the renewal of a special tax therein.

On motion by Mr. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Aaron Johnson, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby approve the holding of an election in Fire Protection District 4 of the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana on Saturday, November 21,2015, to authorize the renewal of a special tax therein.

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 LaCour	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<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.

Cold-mix patching has been limited in the past several weeks because of lack of inmates. Bushhogging operations began last month, but have not been consistent due to a shortage of available personnel to cover all highway maintenance operations from day to day, as, for the first time in many months, all three tandem dump trucks have been operational on a daily basis.

Solid Waste-Efforts continue to resolve the property ownership issue at Readheimer for enclosure of that bin site.

Red River Backwater Flood Event- A total of 27 roads in the Parish system experienced some degree of flooding from this event, although not all were damaged by the flooding. A preliminary damage assessment was made by FEMA and GOHSEP staff on June 25.

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 79 households totaling \$27,600.00
Call for an appointment on August 4, 2015.

Food for Seniors which provided 40-pound box to 210 individuals 60 years or older.

June: 210 individuals.

Next distribution date August 4, 2015

Commodity provided food items to:

May: 137 families.

Next distribution date July 23, 2015

Certification ongoing.

HEADSTART:

1. Enrollment as of today, 259 children
2. Waiting List 34 include all centers
3. Operating Days: Not Operational
4. Attendance
5. Staff returns on August 3, 2015

Ms. Maugarra Walker-Hazley, Program Specialist will be conducting an onsite visit July 20th and 21st. OCS/HS

Head Start Director in-house search- 2 employees responded by deadline.

SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM (SCP)

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

Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) OCS/HS

Number of days meals served-22
Total Meals Allowed/Average Daily Attendance (ADA)
Breakfast-10,000-ADA=451
Lunch-11,495-ADA=520
Total Reimbursement=\$62,674.28

Chairman Salter then recognizes Ms. Debbie Miley, Parish Treasurer, Ms. Miley was absent but Mr. Terrance Holden then went on to discuss her reports giving status updates on the 2015 Active Bookings for Inmates & Outstanding Coroners/Inmate Expenses.

Mr. Holden also gave out a Parish of Natchitoches Consolidated Report, Quarterly Budget Report for 2015 Quarter 2

He said if any questions was need to be answered they could contact Ms. Miley upon her return.

Mr. Holden also gave out the General Funds for review for the requested Budget Amendment for the 2015 Operating Budget. He also stated that Credit Card was used for payment of Workers' Compensation, and New hire background check. The total spent was \$813.65

He asked the Council did they have any questions for him 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. Now included in HB 2 are: Harmony Road and Fish Hatchery Road.

OCS/HEAD START:

A. Facilities: The repairs and improvements to the gym at the MLK Head Start Center are nearly complete. The new HVAC system has been installed and the wall and floor padding materials have been received. We expect to have the gym ready for service before the start of the 2015-2016 school year.

B. HS Director Search: The director search committee has received two applications from existing program employees. The committee will interview the two candidates and submit its recommendations to the Parish President.

Court House Power Supply: Early in the morning of Sunday, July 19, the City power supply to the courthouse was interrupted. The City electrical department responded to assist us in the determination of the problem and we found that one phase of the underground high voltage cable that feeds the courthouse transformers (located in the basement) had failed.

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