

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATCHITOCHE PARISH COUNCIL  
PARISH OF NATCHITOCHE, STATE OF LOUISIANA  
TAKEN A REGULAR MEETING HELD, MONDAY,  
July 19, 2021, Large Courthouse Room  
5:30 p.m.

The Natchitoches Parish Council met in regular and legal session in the Large Courtroom, on Monday, July 19, 2021 for a Regular of Natchitoches Parish Council meeting at five (5:30) o'clock p.m. for the Natchitoches Parish Council Meeting.

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

The invocation was given by Councilman Marty Cheatwood, and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman John Salter.

After the roll call there were present Council: Chris Paige, Patsy Hoover, James Kilcoyne, Marty Cheatwood, and John Salter.

Absent: None.

Chairman Paige stated the next agenda item will be Invited guests and special presentations.

1. Mr. JD Oliphant-Retirement from Louisiana State Troopers

Chairman Paige asked Parish President Mr. John Richmond to read the Resolution for Mr. Oliphant and after that is read the Council members will present him with a plaque and take a picture. A Copy of the Resolution will be kept on record. Parish President replied, "This is something that I always look forward to do is recognizing people who do good work and do it for a long time." After, the Resolution was read and plaque was given and pictures were taken by Ms. Carolyn Roy of the Natchitoches Times, Mr. Oliphant expressed his appreciation by saying, "One of my most proudest moments in law enforcement is the fact that I worked 30 years for the State of Louisiana, Parish of Natchitoches and also the City of Natchitoches and I have never had to raise my gun to take a life and that is one of the most proudest moments of my life in all of my law enforcement career. One thing that I would like to do is to impose on all officers is to first and foremost to be professional, and be courteous, and treat someone that you would want your mother to be treated on the side of a road and also rely on your training it will take you a long way in law enforcement as it has taken me. Thank you."

At this time Councilman Salter, stated, "JD do you remember in 2006 when you pulled up on me on I-49 and I was rolling a Prince Albert?" Mr. Oliphant, replied, "Not quite, but I hope it was a good confrontation." Councilman Salter, replied, "I was rolling a Prince Albert, you pulled up there and you said, what are you doing? I said, I'm rolling one, you want one, I held that red can up, you said, I got to go." Mr. Oliphant, replied, "I see you all have a lot of honesty." Everyone laughed.

Councilwoman Hoover, replied, "JD. I just want to say Congratulations, again and I thought I was leaving my daughter with you to take care of her." Mr. Oliphant, replied, "She's in good hands."

Chairman Paige, begins, "I tell you; JD is a family member and I tell you it's been a lot of sleepless nights, but thank God that he survived to retire and enjoy the rest of his life and we are certainly happy."

Chairman Paige, stated second guest we have is Thomas, Cunningham, Broadway & Todtenbier-2020 Audit Presentation

Ms. Jessica Broadway was the one to present the 2020 Audit for the Parish of Natchitoches. Ms. Jessica Broadway, begins, "I am here to present the audit, but I guess, I am not getting an award, I am going to go give you the audit, I am not going to go through this with you guys you each have a copy there was an unmodified opinion, you guys are doing a good job, internal controls seems to be working that is one of the main things we look at, like I said I am not going to bore you with everything, you guys have my number if you have any questions, you can just give me a call and let me know if you have any questions."

Councilman Kilcoyne, replied, "Can you hit the highlights for the record just a few things?" Ms. Broadway, replied, "I sure can, one thing is December 31, 2020, the General Fund had a fund balance of 3.3 million dollars and cash for the Government was 18.8 million in comparing revenues to last year due to COVID there was some decreases, but it was due mostly those were grants that was received in 2019 versus 2020. We do see a decrease in Capital, the Sales Tax was actually an increase, which was a good thing; so, overall COVID didn't affect the Government Revenue."

Chairman, Paige stated the next agenda item we will hear the report of the Public Works Director, Mr. Johnny Salard, "Thank you and good evening. We had a total of 268 jobs done last month and we are done of the pulverizing of the roads we went back and cap them all off and dried the back out, they seem to be holding up very good. We had numerous ditching projects that were done Emanuel Road was one of them and it is going to be a long ditching project, it still going to take a little while, we are still working on it. The Bridge on Shady Grove is now opened and completed, it was something it was three days, but we got it done. We did a section of overlay on Hicks with cold mix, and it turned out good and we plan on doing another one this week on Johnson Chute on the top of the hill there we are going to cut it out and do the base failure and fix it just like we done Hicks. Any further questions."

Chairman Paige asked about the Perma-Zyme, but it is still too wet to start that project have to get it to dry out some.

Chairman, Paige, then recognizes Ms. Sharon Harris, OCS Executive Director, Ms. Harris, "Good afternoon to everyone, you received my report in the mail Do you have any questions in reference to the report. One thing you are going to see on here is the Summer Feeding Program we did start the Summer Feeding program in June, and these are the figures that we had on a daily basis our average participation was 206, which is really good. It is grab and Go boxes each household child receives a box for 5 days and we do that on Wednesday's; so, we are going to do it again on July 21 and the last day will be on July 28<sup>th</sup>."

Chairman, Paige, then recognizes Parish Treasurer Julie Lockhart "Good evening, I sent out the Check Registry, the posted transactions, our inmate report, sent out the latest guide that came out for the ARPA Funds that was also included in your packets. So, if anyone have any questions or anything they would like to point out."

Chairman, Paige then recognizes Interim Director of Planning and Zoning Mr. David Kees, Jr. "I mailed out my report. I will entertain any questions."

Chairman, Paige then recognizes Parish President.

John Richmond, "Thank you Chairman Paige, there's a number of things that is on the report of course the Fish Hatchery Road will be ongoing and of course I think everyone knows about the road pulverization that Johnny said is basically done, put a cap on it and let those things dry out. Building Maintenance issues, over at the Live Oak Building, which is right around the corner here we started some painting on that to try to better the appearance and seal the outside of that old brick it is a historical structure and the Health Unit in late July we should have that roof going on, Terry's roofing is going to be doing that. On the Solid Waste look like we may have a lead on a new bin site out in the Kisatchie area for those people who is missing the site that is now closed that was part of the National Forestry asking for all those bin sites to remove from the National Forest. By any luck by the time, we get to the next Council meeting we will have something to put in front of you for that. Of Course, there are some more good Samaritan CEA's that is taken place. The back page is good news The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 we have come up with a plan that we will be bringing to the Council next month you have something on your agenda asking you to think about that tonight and which we will also essentially be splitting the majority of that money we would like to split it between water systems, our rural water system that we all know is suffering greatly and have them come to us with some "Shovel ready projects" and we will partner with them through a matching funds kind of the way we do Block Grants at the State level and also the second part of that will be using some of that money for to establish a drainage plan for the Parish; so, we can begin the implementation and better drainage throughout the Parish. That is 3.7 million dollars that will be available at some point. Also, some more good news, I know some of you saw Louisiana Watershed Initiative Grant that is 3.4 million dollars that will drain a lot of East Natchitoches and the rural areas heading out of town towards Laird Fletcher, Hampton Road keeping that water from flowing down that way. And another thing we are excited about Mr. Salter was involved in a meeting with me, Kisatchie Falls Road, what a natural scenic beauty that is and we are preparing with the National Forest Service to work with them to rehabilitate that road; so, it more passable and people can get down there and enjoy the beautiful Kisatchie Falls. That is the end of my report, unless there are other questions."

Chairman, Paige stated the next item to adopt the minutes of the regular meeting of the Natchitoches Parish Council held Monday June 21, 2021.

On motion by Councilman Patsy Hoover, duly seconded by, Councilman John Salter 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 June 21, 2021.

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

Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover  
Ayes: Councilman Salter  
Ayes: Councilman Kilcoyne  
Ayes: Councilman Paige  
Ayes: Councilman Cheatwood

**Motion Passed**

Chairman, Paige stated next agenda item consider adopting a resolution confirming re-appointment/appointments to the following boards/commissions:

- A. Council to consider confirming the re-appointment of Mr. Johnny Nobles on the Fire District No. 2 Board.

On motion by Councilwoman Patsy Hoover, duly seconded by, Councilman John Salter that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt the appointment of Mr. Travis Brossette replace Mr. Harvis Johnson on the Fire District No. 1 Board.

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

Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Salter	
Ayes:	Councilman Cheatwood	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilman Kilcoyne	Motion Passed

- B. Council to consider confirming the re-appointment of Mr. Marc Custis on the Fire District No. 4 Board.

On motion by Councilman John Salter, duly seconded by, Councilman Marty Cheatwood that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt the appointment of Mr. Marc Custis on the Fire District No. 4 Board.

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

Ayes:	Councilman Salter	
Ayes:	Councilman Cheatwood	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Kilcoyne	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	Motion Passed

Chairman Paige stated the next agenda item:

**First Introduction of proposed Ordinances: None**

Public Hearings:

- A. Council to consider Adopting Ordinance 012-2021 to affect a zoning change from a Business-3 (B-3) and an Industrial - Agricultural (I-A) District to a Residential-1 (R-1) District for the purpose of placing a single-family residence on a 1.154-acre tract of land (parcel #0010054500). The property is located in Section 42, T9N, R6W, along Highway 494 in Natchitoches, as shown on the Survey attached hereto, approved by the Parish Planning Commission on June 7, 2021.

- B. Council to consider Adopting Ordinance 013-2021 to affect a zoning change from an Industrial-Agricultural (I-A) District to a Residential-1 (R-1) District for the purpose of a developing a single family, residential subdivision on a 15.21-acre tract of land (parcel #0090071700P). The property is located in Section 31, T8N, R6W, with a physical address of 315 Rose Hill Plantation in Natchitoches, as shown on the Survey attached hereto, approved by the Parish Planning Commission on June 7, 2021.

On motion by Councilman Jim Kilcoyne, duly seconded by, Councilwoman Patsy Hoover that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby open Public Hearing to hear the following:

- A. Council to consider Adopting Ordinance 012-2021 to affect a zoning change from a Business-3 (B-3) and an Industrial - Agricultural (I-A) District to a Residential-1 (R-1) District for the purpose of placing a single-family residence on a 1.154-acre tract of land (parcel #0010054500). The property is located in Section 42, T9N, R6W, along Highway 494 in Natchitoches, as shown on the Survey attached hereto, approved by the Parish Planning Commission on June 7, 2021.
- B. Council to consider Adopting Ordinance 013-2021 to affect a zoning change from an Industrial-Agricultural (I-A) District to a Residential-1 (R-1) District for the purpose of a developing a single family, residential subdivision on a 15.21-acre tract of land (parcel #0090071700P). The property is located in Section 31, T8N, R6W, with a physical address of 315 Rose Hill Plantation in Natchitoches, as shown on the Survey attached hereto, approved by the Parish Planning Commission on June 7, 2021.

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

Ayes:	Councilman Kilcoyne	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Salter	
Ayes:	Councilman Cheatwood	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	Motion Passed

Discussion A.

Ms. Carolyn Roy asked for an address on this property. Mr. Kees, replied, "I couldn't find an official address of the Assessors listing, I can tell you when you make that bend by Tommy's Grocery on 494 its on the Riverside right across from that and the Methevin Farms."

Chairman Paige asked, "Is there's a number or something that is going to be associated to that particular lot?" Mr. Kees, replied, "When they go to build, they we can confirm with the 911 Coordinator what is the physical address, or they will assign a new one to it."

Discussion B.

No Discussion on B.

On motion by Councilwoman Patsy Hoover, duly seconded by, Councilman John Salter that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby close the Public Hearing.

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

Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Salter	
Ayes:	Councilman Kilcoyne	
Ayes:	Councilman Cheatwood	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	Motion Passed

Chairman Paige stated the next agenda item:

Action on Proposed Ordinances:

On motion by Councilman John Salter, duly seconded by, Councilman Jim Kilcoyne that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby Introduce Ordinance 012-2021 to affect a zoning change from a Business-3 (B-3) and an Industrial - Agricultural (I-A) District to a Residential-1 (R-1) District for the purpose of placing a single-family residence on a 1.154-acre tract of land (parcel #0010054500). The property is located in Section 42, T9N, R6W, along Highway 494 in Natchitoches, as shown on the Survey attached hereto, approved by the Parish Planning Commission on June 7, 2021.

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

Ayes:	Councilman Salter	
Ayes:	Councilman Kilcoyne	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Cheatwood	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	Motion Passed

On motion by Councilman John Salter, duly seconded by, Councilman Jim Kilcoyne that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby Introduce Ordinance 013-2021 to affect a zoning change from an Industrial-Agricultural (I- A) District to a Residential-1 (R-1) District for the purpose of a developing a single family, residential subdivision on a 15.21-acre tract of land (parcel #0090071700P). The property is located in Section 31, T8N, R6W, with a physical address of 315 Rose Hill Plantation in Natchitoches, as shown on the Survey attached hereto, approved by the Parish Planning Commission on June 7, 2021.

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

Ayes:	Councilman Salter	
Ayes:	Councilman Kilcoyne	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Cheatwood	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	Motion Passed

Chairman Paige stated the next agenda item:

**Resolutions:**

- A. Council to approve Resolution 032-2021 for a permanent polling place change. Moving the polling place for Ward 4 Precinct 9 from the Christian Worship Center on Hwy 494 to 244 Cedar Road Natchez LA 71456 (Cane River Waterway Commission Office)

On motion by Councilwoman Patsy Hoover, duly seconded by, Councilman John Salter that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby approve Resolution 032-2021 for a permanent polling place change. Moving the polling place for Ward 4 Precinct 9 from the Christian Worship Center on Hwy 494 to 244 Cedar Road Natchez LA 71456 (Cane River Waterway Commission Office)

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

Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Salter	
Ayes:	Councilman Cheatwood	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilman Kilcoyne	Motion Passed

Chairman Paige stated the next agenda item:

**Other Agenda Items:**

- A. Council to consider authorizing the Parish President to enter into Cooperative Endeavor Agreements with the following good Samaritans, and to sign and execute all documents related to the agreements:

- 1- Dave Merrell - Merrell Cemetery Road
- 2- Charles Guin - Lena-Flatwoods Road
- 3- Randy Yopp - Craig Loop
- 4- Troy Gardner - Holman Loop

On motion by Councilman John Salter, duly seconded by, Councilman Marty Cheatwood that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does authorize the Parish President to enter into Cooperative Endeavor Agreements with the following good Samaritans, and to sign and execute all documents related to the agreements:

- 1- Dave Merrell - Merrell Cemetery Road
- 2- Charles Guin - Lena-Flatwoods Road
- 3- Randy Yopp - Craig Loop
- 4- Troy Gardner - Holman Loop

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

Ayes:	Councilman Salter	
Ayes:	Councilman Cheatwood	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Kilcoyne	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	Motion Passed

Chairman Paige stated the next agenda item:

- B. Council to consider authorizing the Parish President to seek proposals from rural water systems and to develop a storm water drainage project for potential funding through the American Rescue Plan Act money.

Councilman Salter, stated, "We have one gentleman here with one Water District. Will Jenkins with Bellwood Water System, but I think he has already talked with Mr. Richmond about this, do you all want to have any discussions about this and let everyone know what is going on?" Parish President, replied, "I will be glad to give some more data if that helps." Councilman Salter, replied, "You have any questions, Will?" Mr. Jenkins, replied, "I spoke quite a bit with Mr. Richmond on the phone over last week and until you all can flash it out to a point to where I know the way we need to proceed and what our concern is simply that we have received grant monies and loan monies to upgrade our water system due to some contaminations problems we are having and that was begun about a year and a half ago and the problem with it know, due to COVID we have received our grant and funding from USDA the cost has gone up for construction we are basically at this point a \$130,000 dollars shy of it being a complete project and we felt this is a good bit."

Parish President, responded, "Mr. Chairman, if I could, this is a perfect kind of project that we are looking for it's a "Shovel Ready" this is something where we don't need a bunch of Engineering and design done, we know the cost they have been qualified, they can bring that to us and the American Rescue Plan was put forth in it's specifically talks about being able to help water systems, so we can help these rural water systems with their funds ,bridge the gap for them so they can get safe potable water more expeditiously than their current rate structure would allow, we got a number of those in the Parish. If it is okay, I would like to encourage officially all those water systems if this is voted on positively and confirm it by our Parish Council lets jump on this quick and get this done, because I know the needs are great and money is very limited; so, lets see what we can do. Thank you for the opportunity to speak on this."

Chairman Paige, asked, "So it's ready to go, is that what you are saying?" Parish President, replied, "Yes, Sir. We got the funds, we are among the few that has received the funds, is that correct, Julie?" Ms. Lockhart, replied, "Yes, Sir the funds are in the bank. We going to have to figure out a way to review these projects, get the match and make sure that we can justify and qualify and send it back to you." Parish President, replied, "I'm sorry, as this says, that all of those projects we would go through them and review them, but of course you would be notified of anything that is in your District and you can advocate for it or against it, this is something that you would have to approve, because we will be spending Parish monies, this will not be something that would be handed over in a lump sum, at all. Also hats off truly to Julie, she gets calls at least weekly where people are wanting to know how we got our money already. And hats off for Julie for doing such a great job, making sure that she followed the rules and got that stuff rolling our way."



Ms. Roy, asked, "So, you are saying that the Parish will give this Water System \$130,000." Parish President, replied, "No, Ma'am, I am saying we would evaluate that project and if the Parish Council decides if that is worthy of those funds, they would approve that."

Ms. Roy, asked, "When will that be." Parish President, replied, "It depends on the voting process, and we will begin that process tonight, this is the first the Council has had a chance to discuss this publicly."

Councilwoman Hoover, replied, "The only thing we are doing here tonight is actually authorizing the President to move forward." Parish President, replied, "To start receiving projects."

On motion by Councilman John Salter, duly seconded by, Councilman Marty Cheatwood that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby authorizing the Parish President to seek proposals from rural water systems and to develop a storm water drainage project for potential funding through the American Rescue Plan Act money.

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

Ayes:	Councilman Salter	
Ayes:	Councilman Cheatwood	
Ayes:	Councilman Kilcoyne	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	Motion Passed

Chairman Paige stated the next agenda item:

- C. Council to consider authorizing the Parish President to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the National Forest Service for the rehabilitation of Kisatchie Falls Rd.

On motion by Councilman John Salter, duly seconded by, Councilman Marty Cheatwood that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby authorize the Parish President to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the National Forest Service for the rehabilitation of Kisatchie Falls Rd.

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

Ayes:	Councilman Salter	
Ayes:	Councilman Cheatwood	
Ayes:	Councilman Kilcoyne	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	Motion Passed

Chairman Paige stated the next agenda item:

12. Visitors for Non-Agenda Items. (3 minutes)

Mr. Eric Rachal from 190 Fulton Road, Mr. Rachal begins, "Good Evening, this last rain we got we got tons of water down

the road and water in our drains before Rhodes put this property in, this is what you all allowed them to put in, across the streets from me, this subdivision. There are three roads over there that holds water in our neighborhood they put in a drainage behind their property which is supposed to drain this water from us, which they told us that this ditch would help the drain, but it has not helped the drainage it has made it worse. I want to know what the Council is going to do relieve this problem, that we have down there on Fulton Road?"

Councilman Salter, replied, "That is what Mr. Richmond can fill you in that is that big drainage project they fix to start with that 3.4 million they are going to bring all that water all the way to Natchitoches and dump it in Cane River." Parish President, replied, "That is not exactly it, but so let me catch you up to speed on it, some just happened in the last couple of hours. I spoke with, so Friday night I am aware, and I will catch you and everybody else up, I do not know how much rain, but a ton of rain fell, and it fell in that part of the Parish right there, primarily right around Fulton Road. A lot of water came down and that is not unique there has been a drainage problem there for some time this is not the first time, right?"

Mr. Rachal, replied, "This is not the first time, but this is the worse it has ever been, I had water come into my garage and I have been there for 20 something years and I never had water come into my garage." Parish President, replied, "I didn't know that." Mr. Rachal, replied, "The drainage ditch that the Rhodes cut back there, the Engineers said that would drain the water from us, you can go down there and look at that drainage ditch it does not drain, it has trees growing in that ditch, it has grass, this high growing in the ditch, there's nothing can drain through it." Parish President, replied, "I understand, and I understand that it also stacks up when it gets to the State Hwy, the culverts." Mr. Eric Rachal, replied, "It does, if you go down 494..." and President replied, "Just when it crosses under." Mr. Rachal, replied, "Yes, right there when it crosses over, they need to clean that up to."

Parish President, replied, "DOTD is sending an Engineer tomorrow I spoke to their District Office Leader this afternoon and they are sending one of their Regional Engineers tomorrow he supposed to call me when he gets here, and I am going to meet him there and we are going to start from the State Highway and work our way back. Because right now based on the volume of water that I saw on the pictures that I saw and I have seen this time and time again, it looks like one problem is it those culverts maybe undersized. We will take a look at that and let them look at it and tell us if that is enough drainage, working back through that property I absolutely know what you're talking about that water supposed to drain away from Fulton Road go into that retention pond which is really just a narrow pond like a ditch and then it supposed to head out and make it way down and cross under the 494 and I know it is not doing that very well, right now. We have some Planning and Zoning issues there about those properties that we need to work through and see what we can do, but we are going to be looking at it tomorrow hopefully with the State."

Mr. Rachal, replied, "That was one of my biggest concerns when they wanted to put that subdivision in was the drainage problems. The Planning Commission and this Council approved that."

Councilman Salter asked, "Isn't that a drainage problem coming from Fulton, is that right?" Parish President, replied, "It won't totally eliminate this problem, it the water that falls on Fulton, it will keep more water from making it down that way, but it's not going to affect the water that lands on specifically on Fulton Road and that is what happened it was a spot, some hyper shower or something, how much rain did you get?" Mr. Rachal, replied, "I am not sure how much water it was." Parish President, replied, "It was about an hour and a half, and it just dumped on yawl." Mr. Rachal, replied, "Like a said again, I've been there over 20 years and never had that problem before, we have water in the yards, but to come into my garage, I have never had it." Parish President, responded, "We have it and we are going to look for a resolution tomorrow with Planning and Zoning, we have legal, you have me and you have the State, we are all on it."

Ms. Roy, asked, "Do you all have the authority to make the Developers clean that pond out?"

Parish President, replied, "I don't know the answer to that." Ms. Roy, responded, "Does it depend on the passage that they would put that pond there?" Parish President, replied, "I wasn't involved when they did it, I don't know." Mr. Kees, replied, "I wasn't either." Ms. Roy, replied, "Can you find out?" Parish President, replied, "Sure we can find out, we are in that process now."

Mr. Wesley Harrold, from the Subdivision across from Fulton Road. Mr. Harrold, stated, "I am a resident from 10 households here from the Farm on Fulton, we need some help, some guidance, some assistance we have small children, families from every where 52 properties on the Farm side, Fulton, and at the end is another 25 properties. In this last rain it was about 40 minutes in length which was up to about 3 inches, maybe not quite 3 inches and it did that. We had several years and there been definite some issues, just need some help and some assistance. The thing that scares me the most is that I have small children and our electric boxes is going under, which scares me, I know they supposed to shut off when water gets in them, but what happens when it doesn't, and it electrocute us or my children or any other children in the community? That is a lot of households we just need some guidance; so, please help us."

Parish President, asked, "How deep was the water out in the road?" Mr. Harrold, replied, "On Ranch Boulevard about 8 inches, and on the next street, the middle street, maybe a foot, if not more than a foot. What we are getting on Ranch Boulevard we are getting a lot of the water from Vienna Bend Drive, it use to go to Cane River, but it doesn't, now, it goes straight across Fulton, it fills Fulton and it's one culvert that fills to Ranch Boulevard, basically in my yard and we talked about ditching Fulton and Mr. Kilcoyne came out an did a wonderful job speaking with us, he seen it first hand and if any of the members would

like to talk to any of the residents on Fulton that has many years of experience with the water, it is just a scary situation, and we are just asking for some guidance and help and thank you for your time and if you have any questions for me, feel free, or maybe there may be a few more that would like to say something. Thank you and I have more pictures if you would like to see them."

Councilman Kilcoyne, responded, "I thank you Mr. Harrold, and I just want to commend our crew that came out Friday with the Backhoe it was getting dark and they did a good job, what we found was the ditches has not been maintained on Fulton Road on either side culverts was not adequate and what happened was when we identified the problem when you walked down that road started back around Harvest Lane and you start walking towards 494 you can see the pattern and movement of the water and the crew, our Parish crew identified the cork in the bottle and with the backhoe they opened up one side of the ditch and that water started to flow you could white water raft through it, that think, it got to the Highway though, the State Highway and it looks like the water was rolling across Fulton road because it could not go through the culvert and we know water going to go where water wants to go, but they opened up the culvert down by the intersection of Fulton and 494 it was some signs that has floated and blocked the culvert and that helped alleviate the problem too. Tomorrow, I am going to be meeting with some folks in Vienna Bend they recognized that their water is flowing towards Fulton Road, and we may have a proposal or solution on that, I hope so. As far, as the Farm, itself, I will have Mr. Kees, I do not want to put him on the spot, Mr. Kees will verify for us that it is all private property, what we can do as a Parish is along Fulton Road and Vienna Bend Road those are Parish roads, we can ditch those and do things with culverts on those, that is the center of the problem, that is where the problem manifested most and then it may alleviate some the problems the people are experiencing in the Fulton Farm community the Subdivision itself; so, Mr. Kees can you please explain what we found in the record today?"

Mr. David Kees, replied, "The roads that are in the subdivision, itself, those are part of the subdivision, they are not public/Parish roads and then you and I looked on google maps and we found several instances along Vienna and Fulton that appears that culverts, if they were ever there to allow water to flow under the driveways they have grown up to the point you can't even see them." Councilman Kilcoyne, replied, "Thank you Mr. Kees, yes we looked back in old photographs before Fulton Farms were developed and you can see under driveways you can see one end of the culvert and you couldn't find the other end of the Culvert and we know that you have to have two ends to a culvert for it to work; so, we do have along those two roads they are filled in, but that is something the Parish help and address with, that is something we can do. Thank you, David."

Chairman Paige, asked, "You stated that it wasn't a Parish, those roads have not been adopted into the Parish?" Councilman Kilcoyne, replied, "That is correct."

Mr. Rachal, asked, "How can those roads be adopted into the Parish?"

Mr. Salard, answered, "They would have to be brought up to State Standards and we will have to inspect them, like Mr. Ralph Ingram did, it is a criterion that you would have to meet for us to adopt the roads." Mr. Rachal, asked, "So, when they build new roads, they don't have to build it to standards? They just build it the way the want to do." Mr. Salard, replied, "They do and if they don't do it to our standard, we don't adopt them." Mr. Rachal, asked, "How could the Government allow them when they were doing it?" Mr. Salard, answered, "They can do what they want to do on private property. Rhodes Reality bought the property and did the subdivision."

Mr. Kees, responded, "For instance, Lambre's Gin is a private subdivision and has a private road into that Subdivision that subdivision has covenants between the individual homeowners about road maintenance and that is where their road maintenance comes from. So, the Parish, as Johnny was stating, does not really have a say on how they build that road if they are going to keep it private."

Chairman Paige, replied, "When they put a gate there, we don't have the rights to go back there, but as a covenant you should have some teeth to buy there, it is a lot to it, but that is why our office is there is to try to lead you, if it is something we can do, to do that, we can have a discussion with you, but we have no say."

There was more discussion from Mr. Rachal about how things should be done with the inspections of the roads when they are being built, but he was told that is private property and the Parish has no say in that, but Mr. Rachal expressed the owners of the private property should still be held responsible for following the same guidelines for the street constructions, whether it is private or public.

Councilwoman Hoover, stated, "I agree with him, and this is just a suggestion Mr. Richmond said tomorrow someone is supposed to come out. My suggestion is that all of the persons that live in that area will possibly have a meeting with DOTD, Parish Government and all persons involved and sit around the table see what type of solutions you can come up with, because you are not going to get the answers to what you need here, so I think when you bring all of those persons in then you can sit and talk about what needs to take place and why certain things has taken place so that it can be corrected and that is just a suggestion. Also contact your State Representative and all of those persons you all elected to come forth to help you with this as well."

Mrs. Denise Dubois, who lives on Dubois Road down in Lena Louisiana, she begins, "We have currently trying to get our road graded for a long time, I think it has been graded twice since after Christmas. January, when I called the road grader supposed to be not working, that they were looking for a part and then they were looking for an operator and finally they came out and graded it on Bay Springs Cemetery Road, Bay Springs Cemetery Road, T's into go left Dubois Road and goes right it continues into Bay Springs Cemetery Road they just graded a partial on top of the hill of Moss Hill you go right, goes down they did not do that part so for us to go through part of that road, you have to go way left on the ditch almost on a 45 degree angle and swoop down, it have become very dangerous, but they fixed that this last time, that they graded the road, that was the second time, but they just went a little ways then they stopped, supposedly that rain was coming, but the rain didn't come for about 2 or 3 more days and now when I went home last week, they had closed the whole road, there is barricades from Moss Hill all the way out to the Lena/Flatwood Road, we can't get through, so we are concerned. We want to know is it supposed to be closed permanently, we were told by someone, that it was requested by someone to close the road, we are concerned because we do not want that road closed. They said it was a sign up there and it says the road is closed coming out from the Lena/Flatwood road coming in, that sign been there since 1986 or 1987 and we was told that it was put up there to keep the big log trucks and 18 wheelers from cutting through there because they were tearing up the road, but literally we was surprised that the road has been closed there is a big washout right down towards the end of it and people was having a problem getting through, but it wouldn't take long to grade it, so we are just bringing that concern."

Mr. Salard, begins, "The road is not closed permanently we just closed it as the request of those folks at the end of Lena/Flatwood and the Sheriff's Office we will be working on it very soon possibly this week if the rain holds off, we are going to get it fixed and reopened we are not going to let it just sit." Ms. Dubois, replied, "We really appreciate that."

Ms. Bertha Crosby, replied, "It just needs to be as soon as possible, because I have to go 40 minutes longer to get over there."

Chairman Paige, replied, "Ms. Dubois and Ms. Crosby, you all get his number where you can call him directly until we get this matter taken care of." Chairman Salter, replied, "Bertha are you clear on what was going on at the end of her road at your place?" Ms. Crosby, stated, "He told me as soon as it got better, he would start working on it." Mr. Salard, replied, "I just spoke to Michael White with Roy O' Martin, and he said it was not his area to deal with the right and ways and all, for us to fix that deal with cutting the trees back, that he is going to talk to the guy, and I will contact him again tomorrow and find out where we at on that." Mrs. Crosby, replied, "Yes, it's been 2 years, and nothing has happened."

Parish President, stated, "Mr. Paige, with regards to the Fulton Road, I want to make sure, that I was clear and that I did not gloss over something that maybe helpful to you all, tomorrow, or whenever the Engineer from the State gets there, if I have someone that can be nice enough can be the point person and I will be glad to funnel that information back to you guys and tell you what I learned if there is one of two of you if you can get the word out to everybody else, but Planning and Zoning, and Legal and the Highway Department and me, we all are involved in this and we want to work this through whether that means working with what we got there or dealing with an representative from the developer we will do all that; so, just know I will do everything that I can do to keep you in the loop and I will not make you wait 30 days to hear back in this meeting, okay."

Chairman Paige, replied, "Fulton Road before you leave here tonight same thing, get his number stay in contact with him, if not we will see you back here with the same conversation."

Chairman Paige, stated the next agenda item:

To Adjourn.

On motion by Councilman John Salter, duly seconded by Councilman Marty Cheatwood, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adjourn.

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

Ayes:	Councilman Salter	
Ayes:	Councilman Cheatwood	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Kilcoyne	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	Motion Passed

Since there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned:

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sheryl Frederick,  
Council Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chris Paige, Chairman