MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED ROAD ABANDONMENTS

The Lincoln Parish Police Jury held a public hearing on Tuesday, August 9, 2016, at 6:00 p.m., at its regular meeting place in the Courthouse, Ruston, Louisiana. Present were: Theresa Wyatt, District One; Hazel D. Hunter, District Two; Bobby Bennett, District Three; Randy Roberson, District Four; David Hammons, District Five; Walter Pullen, District Six; Jody Backus; District Seven; Skip Russell, District Eight; Joe Henderson, District Nine; Nancy Wilson, District Ten; Sharyon Mayfield, District Eleven and Annette Straughter, District Twelve.

Absent: None

President Jody Backus called the meeting to order, read the Hearing Notice and Statement of Purpose, and presented the public hearing procedure and rules of conduct.

President Backus called for comments on the abandonment of Alexander Road. No one from the public appeared to present comments. Juror Randy Roberson stated that there was an occupied home on this road and that he could not support the abandonment until further study was done to determine any negative effects on the property owners.

President Backus called for comments on the abandonment of Buck Branch Road. No one from the public appeared to present comments. Juror Randy Roberson stated that there were eight properties owners on this road as well as several oil and gas facilities. He also noted that there was a boat ramp used by citizens to access Bayou D’Arbonne. It was noted that there were no structures on this road.

President Backus called for comments on the abandonment of Grover Road. No one from the public appeared to present comments. Juror David Hammons stated that there was one residence on this road.

President Backus called for comments on the abandonment of Hanks Road. No one from the public appeared to present comments. Juror Randy Roberson stated that the property owners did not want the road to be abandoned and that there was one structure on this road which was seasonally occupied.

President Backus called for comments on the abandonment of Hayhouse Spur Road. No one from the public appeared to present comments. Juror Randy Roberson stated that he had spoken to the landowner’s involved and that they supported the road abandonment.

President Backus called for comments on the abandonment of Lake Foursome Road. No one from the public appeared to present comments. Juror Bobby Bennett stated that there was a lake and camp house on this road which was used frequently, but that the use was private in nature.

President Backus called for comments on the abandonment of Lester Road. No one from the public appeared to present comments. Juror Bobby Bennett stated that there was one occupied residence on this road.

President Backus called for comments on the abandonment of Liggin Bluff Road. Juror Randy Roberson stated that there were eight property owners and two dwellings on this road. Mr. Harry Cook addressed the Police Jury. Mr. Cook indicated that he was fine with whatever the decision was and asked questions about the process required.

President Backus called for comments on the abandonment of McFerring Road. No one from the public appeared to present comments. Juror Randy Roberson stated that there were two or three property owners involved and one unoccupied structure on the road.

President Backus called for comments on the abandonment of Millie Road. Claire Carroll addressed the Police Jury. Ms. Carroll stated that her family owned the property at the end of the road and that there was one structure which was used by her family. She also stated that her family raises cattle on the property and feels that abandonment of the road would create a hardship. Ms. Carroll requested the road not be abandoned. Mr. Jacob Haymon addressed the Police Jury. Mr. Haymon indicated that he had a small business on this road and had concerns about emergency vehicle access and utilities should the road be abandoned. Mr. Haymon requested the road not be abandoned.
President Backus called for comments on the abandonment of Mill Creek Road. Mr. Leonard Goree addressed the Police Jury and presented a petition in favor of keeping the road maintained by the Parish. Mr. Goree indicated that the area could potentially be developed at some time. Reverend Julius Hill addressed the Police Jury. Reverend Hill indicated that abandonment of the road would adversely affect property owners and asked that the road not be abandoned. President Backus noted the owner of the residence at the end of the road had requested that the road be abandoned.

President Backus called for comments on the abandonment of Murphy Road. No one from the public appeared to present comments. Juror Bobby Bennett stated that the road was in good condition and there was one structure at the end of the road. Mr. Bennett indicated that he would like the road to remain public.

President Backus called for comments on the abandonment of Ruel Road. No one from the public appeared to present comments. Juror Randy Roberson stated that there was one structure on the road and that he would prefer to delay action until the landowner was contacted.

President Backus called for comments on the abandonment of Shelby Road. Mr. Steven Ray addressed the Police Jury and indicated that he was concerned with the loss of property value should the road be abandoned. Mr. Ray also expressed concerns that KCS might close the railroad crossing and he would be unable to access his property. Mr. Tram Jones addressed the Police Jury and also indicated his concerns for property owner access should the railroad crossing be closed.

President Backus called for comments on the abandonment of Straughter Road. No one from the public appeared to present comments. Juror Randy Roberson stated that he had been unable to speak with the landowner but that there was one structure on the road.

President Backus called for comments on the abandonment of Washington Spur Road. Mr. Ralph Collier addressed the Police Jury and indicated that several property owners used the road to access their properties. Mr. Collier also indicated that the structure on the road may be of historical value and requested that the road not be abandoned.

President Backus called for comments on the abandonment of Woodard Road. No one from the public appeared to present comments. Juror Bobby Bennett stated the road was well used.

The Police Jury members then began a discussion concerning the merits and disadvantages of abandoning the roads under consideration. Following discussion and an expression of views on the matter, President Backus adjourned the Public Hearing.

____________________________  _______________________
Courtney Hall                   Jody Backus  
Parish Administrator           Parish President
The Lincoln Parish Police Jury met in regular session on Tuesday, August 9, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., at its regular meeting place in the Courthouse, Ruston, Louisiana. Present were: Theresa Wyatt, District One; Hazel D. Hunter, District Two; Bobby Bennett, District Three; Randy Roberson, District Four; David Hammons, District Five; Walter Pullen, District Six; Jody Backus; District Seven; Skip Russell, District Eight; Joe Henderson, District Nine; Nancy Wilson, District Ten; Sharyon Mayfield, District Eleven and Annette Straughter, District Twelve.

Absent: None

Mr. Jody Backus called the meeting to order and Bobby Bennett delivered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Annette Straughter offered a motion, seconded by Randy Roberson, to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion carried with the following votes:

Yeas: Wyatt, Hunter, Bennett, Roberson, Hammons, Pullen, Backus, Russell, Henderson, Wilson, Mayfield and Straughter

Nays: None

Mr. Backus called for any public comments on the agenda as approved. There were no public comments by anyone in attendance.

Annette Straughter offered a motion, seconded by Sharyon Mayfield, to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2016 regular meeting. The motion carried with the following votes:

Yeas: Wyatt, Hunter, Bennett, Roberson, Hammons, Pullen, Backus, Russell, Henderson, Wilson, Mayfield and Straughter

Nays: None

Following a brief description of the procedural requirements for conducting a Board of Review and holding the necessary Public Hearings for property tax assessment purposes for the year 2016, Bobby Bennett offered a motion, seconded by Hazel Hunter, to recess the regular meeting of the Police Jury and convene as the Property Assessment Board of Review for the purpose of setting public hearing dates for the year 2016. The motion was voted upon and carried with the following votes:

Yeas: Wyatt, Hunter, Bennett, Roberson, Hammons, Pullen, Backus, Russell, Henderson, Mayfield, Wilson and Straughter

Nays: None

Convened as the Board of Review, the body reviewed the procedural requirements and the time table for conducting public hearings and certifying the assessment listing to the Louisiana Tax Commission. Skip Russell made a motion, seconded by Annette Straughter, that a public hearing be scheduled September 13, 2016 for the purpose of the Board of Review to consider the written or oral complaints of persons desiring to be heard, who had filed timely reports as required by state law relative to assessment of real or personal property in Lincoln Parish, Louisiana, for the year 2016. The motion was voted upon and carried with the following votes:

Yeas: Wyatt, Hunter, Bennett, Roberson, Hammons, Pullen, Backus, Russell, Henderson, Mayfield, Wilson and Straughter

Nays: None

Walter Pullen offered a motion, seconded by Joe Henderson, to recess the Board of Review and reconvene the Police Jury meeting. The motion was voted upon and carried with the following votes:

Yeas: Wyatt, Hunter, Bennett, Roberson, Hammons, Pullen, Backus, Russell, Henderson, Mayfield, Wilson and Straughter

Nays: None
Next on the Agenda was consideration of an Ordinance for the Adjusting and Levying of Tax Millage Rates for 2016. Joe Henderson offered a motion, seconded by Annette Straughter, to adopt the Ordinance adjusting and levying the 2016 tax millage rates as presented.

ORDINANCE NO. 352-16-(0)


SECTION I. BE IT ORDAINED by the Lincoln Parish Police Jury in regular session convened, this 9th day of August 2016, that in accordance with law and comfortable to the budget expenditures heretofore adopted by the Lincoln Parish Police Jury for the year 2016, and for the purpose of raising the necessary revenues to meet the charges and expenses of the Parish of Lincoln for the year 2016, there is hereby levied on all taxable property throughout the Parish of Lincoln, according to its value as may be finally assessed, the following taxes for the year 2016, to wit:

a. For general parish purposes (General alimony tax) on all taxable property inside the corporate limits of the City of Ruston, Louisiana.................................................. (1.68) MILLS

b. For general parish purposes (General alimony tax) on all taxable property outside the corporate limits of the City of Ruston, Louisiana.................................................. (3.37) MILLS

c. For the maintenance and/or improvements of public roads and bridges throughout Lincoln Parish, Louisiana................................................................. (4.08) MILLS

d. For the construction, improvement and/or hard surfacing of public roads and bridges throughout Lincoln Parish, Louisiana.................................................. (4.08) MILLS

e. For the purpose of operating, maintaining, constructing, and supporting a public library and its branches in Lincoln Parish, Louisiana............................................ (4.62) MILLS

SECTION II. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the Assessor of Lincoln Parish, Louisiana, be and he/she is hereby directed to extend the above levies of taxes on the tax rolls of Lincoln Parish, Louisiana, for the year 2016.

The foregoing ordinance was read in full, the roll was called on the adoption thereof, and the ordinance was adopted by the following votes:

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/s/ Jody Backus
Jody Backus
Parish President

Joe Henderson offered a motion, seconded by Annette Straughter to adopt an Ordinance setting forth the adjusted millage rates and rolling forward millages not to exceed maximum authorized millages for 2016 as presented.
After a lengthy discussion, Jody Backus called for a roll call vote on the motion; adopting an Ordinance setting forth the adjusted millage rates and rolling forward millages not to exceed maximum authorized millages for 2016 as presented.

**ORDINANCE NO. 353-16-(O)**

**AN ORDINANCE TO LEVY TAXES AFTER REASSESSMENT AND ROLL FORWARD THE MILLAGE TO A RATE(S) NOT TO EXCEED THE PRIOR YEAR’S MAXIMUM MILLAGE FOR THE REVENUE FOR EXPENSES OF THE LINCOLN PARISH POLICE JURY FOR THE YEAR 2016**

Section 1. BE IT ORDAINED by the Lincoln Parish Police Jury in regular session convened, in a public meeting held this 9th day of August, 2016, which meeting was conducted in accordance with the Open Meetings Law and the additional requirements of Article VII, Section 23(C) of the Louisiana Constitution and R.S. 47:1705(B), that the Police Jury voted to increase the millage rates, but not in excess of the prior year’s maximum rates, on all taxable property shown on the official assessment roll for the year 2016, and when collected, the revenues from said taxes shall be used only for the specific purposes for which said taxes have been levied. Said Millage rates are:

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<th>Section</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Adjusted Millage Rates</th>
<th>2016 Levy</th>
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<tr>
<td>a.</td>
<td>For general parish purposes (General alimony tax) on all taxable property inside the corporate limits of the City of Ruston, Louisiana</td>
<td>1.68 MILLS</td>
<td>1.82 MILLS</td>
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<td>b.</td>
<td>For general parish purposes (General alimony tax) on all taxable property outside the corporate limits of the City of Ruston, Louisiana</td>
<td>3.37 MILLS</td>
<td>3.64 MILLS</td>
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<td>c.</td>
<td>For the maintenance and/or improvements of public roads and bridges throughout Lincoln Parish, Louisiana</td>
<td>4.08 MILLS</td>
<td>4.41 MILLS</td>
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<td>d.</td>
<td>For the construction, improvement and/or hard surfacing of public roads and bridges throughout Lincoln Parish, Louisiana</td>
<td>4.08 MILLS</td>
<td>4.41 MILLS</td>
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<td>e.</td>
<td>For the purpose of operating, maintaining, constructing, and supporting a public library and its branches in Lincoln Parish, Louisiana</td>
<td>4.62 MILLS</td>
<td>3.50 MILLS</td>
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<td>f.</td>
<td>For the Purpose of constructing, improving, and acquiring equipment and furniture for the public library in Lincoln Parish, Louisiana</td>
<td>0.80 MILLS</td>
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Section II. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the Assessor of the Parish of Lincoln, shall extend upon the assessment roll for the year 2016 taxes herein levied, and the tax collector of Lincoln Parish shall collect and remit same to said taxing authority in accordance with law.

The foregoing ordinances was read in full, the roll was called on the adoption thereof, and the ordinance failed for lack of the required 2/3 majority vote:

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Annette Straughter offered a motion, seconded by Randy Roberson to declare various items as surplus property and authorize advertisement for bids.

**Surplus Property**

ITEM 1. 2008 Ford 12 Passenger Van - $2,500.00  
ITEM 2. 2008 Ford 12 Passenger Van - $2,000.00  
ITEM 3. 1999 Ford 15 Passenger Van - $600.00  
ITEM 4. 2004 Dodge Ram 2500 Truck - $1,000.00  
ITEM 5. 1996 Dodge 3500 Truck - $500.00  
ITEM 6. 2011 International 7400 - $25,000.00  
ITEM 7. 6’ Hercules Cutter - $300.00  
ITEM 8. 2001 Ford F-250 Truck - $500.00  
ITEM 9. Van Dorn Valve Grinder - $250.00  
ITEM 10. 1990 Ford 5900 Tractor - $3,500.00  
ITEM 11. 2008 New Holland TT60A Tractor - $5,000.00  
ITEM 12. 2010 New Holland Tractor - $5,000.00  
ITEM 13. Holtzer-Cabot Van Norman Boring Bar - $100.00  
ITEM 14. 1996 Dodge 3500 Pickup Truck - $1,000.00  
ITEM 15. 1991 Kubota Tractor - $1,000.00  
ITEM 16. 1990 Troy Built Tiller - $150.00  
ITEM 17. Bush Hog - $150.00  
ITEM 18. Bush Hog - $150.00  
ITEM 19. Woods Finish Mower - $300.00  
ITEM 20. Kubota Catch all bagger - $100.00  
ITEM 21. 1980 Case 580C Backhoe - $5,000.00  
ITEM 22. 2001 International 4700 Truck with loader - $7,000.00  
ITEM 23. 2003 Ford E-350 Super Duty - $800.00  
ITEM 24. Caterpillar M-D7G - $25,000.00  
ITEM 25. 1983 Caterpillar Motor Grader - $45,000.00  
ITEM 26. 1998 Fairbanks Scales - $500.00

The motion was voted upon and carried with the following votes:

Yeas:       Wyatt, Hunter, Bennett, Roberson, Hammons, Pullen, Backus, Russell, Henderson, Mayfield, Wilson and Straughter

Nays:       None

Sharyon Mayfield offered motion, seconded by Joe Henderson, adopting a resolution ordering and calling a special election to be held in the Parish of Lincoln, State of Louisiana, to authorize the levy of special taxes therein; making application to the State Bond Commission in connection therewith; and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

**RESOLUTION 2016-19**

A resolution ordering and calling a special election to be held in the Parish of Lincoln, State of Louisiana, to authorize the levy of special taxes therein; making application to the State Bond Commission in connection therewith; and providing for other matters in connection therewith.
BE IT RESOLVED by the Police Jury of the Parish of Lincoln, State of Louisiana (the “Governing Authority”), acting as the governing authority of the Parish of Lincoln, State of Louisiana (the “Parish”), that:

SECTION 1. Election Call. Subject to the approval of the State Bond Commission, and under the authority conferred by Article VI, Sections 30 and 32 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974, the applicable provisions of Chapter 5 and Chapter 6-A of the Louisiana Election Code, and other constitutional and statutory authority, a special election is hereby called and ordered to be held in the Parish on SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2016, between the hours of seven o’clock (7:00) a.m., and eight o’clock (8:00) p.m., in accordance with the provisions of La. R.S. 18:541, and at the said election there shall be submitted to all registered voters qualified and entitled to vote at the said election under the Constitution and laws of this State and the Constitution of the United States, the following propositions, to-wit:

PROPOSITION NO. 1 (MILLAGE RENEWAL)

Shall the Parish of Lincoln, State of Louisiana (the “Parish”), levy a special tax of four and forty-one hundredths (4.41) mills on all property subject to taxation within the Parish (an estimated $2,028,000 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for a period of ten (10) years, beginning with the year 2017 and ending with the year 2026, for the maintenance and/or improvement of public roads and bridges throughout the Parish.

PROPOSITION NO. 2 (MILLAGE RENEWAL)

Shall the Parish of Lincoln, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), levy a special tax of four and forty-one hundredths (4.41) mills on all property subject to taxation within the Parish (an estimated $2,028,000 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for a period of ten (10) years, beginning with the year 2017 and ending with the year 2026, for the construction, improvement and/or hard surfacing of public roads and bridges throughout the Parish.

SECTION 2. Publication of Notice of Election. A Notice of Special Election shall be published in The Ruston Daily Leader, a newspaper of general circulation within the Parish, published in Ruston, Louisiana, and being the official journal of the Parish, once a week for four consecutive weeks, with the first publication to be made not less than forty-five (45) days nor more than ninety (90) days prior to the date of the election, which Notice shall be substantially in the form attached hereto as “Exhibit A” and incorporated herein by reference the same as if it were set forth herein in full.

SECTION 3. Canvass. This Governing Authority shall meet at its regular meeting place, the Police Jury Meeting Room, Third Floor Lincoln Parish Courthouse, 100 West Texas Avenue, Ruston, Louisiana, on TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2017, at SEVEN O’CLOCK (7:00) P.M., and shall then and there in open and public session proceed to examine and canvass the returns and declare the result of the said special election.

SECTION 4. Polling Places. The polling places set forth in the aforesaid Notice of Special Election are hereby designated as the polling places at which to hold the said election, and the Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners, respectively, will be the same persons as those designated in accordance with law.

SECTION 5. Election Commissioners; Voting Machines. The officers designated to serve as Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners pursuant to Section 4 hereof, or such substitutes therefor as may be selected and designated in accordance with La. R.S. 18: 1287, shall hold the said special election as herein provided, and shall make due returns of said election for the meeting of the Governing Authority to be held on Tuesday, January 10, 2017, as provided in Section 3 hereof. All registered voters in the Parish will be entitled to vote at the special election, and voting machines shall be used.
SECTION 6. Authorization of Officers. The Parish Administrator of the Governing Authority is hereby empowered, authorized and directed to arrange for and to furnish to said election officers in ample time for the holding of said election, the necessary equipment, forms and other paraphernalia essential to the proper holding of said election and the President and/or Parish Administrator of the Governing Authority are further authorized, empowered and directed to take any and all further action required by State and/or Federal law to arrange for the election.

SECTION 7. Furnishing Election Call to Election Officials. Certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Secretary of State, the Clerk of Court and Ex-Officio Parish Custodian of Voting Machines of Lincoln Parish and the Registrar of Voters of Lincoln Parish, as notification of the special election, in order that each may prepare for said election and perform their respective functions as required by law.

SECTION 8. Application to State Bond Commission. Application is made to the State Bond Commission for consent and authority to hold the special election as herein provided, and in the event said election carries for further consent and authority to continue to levy and collect the special taxes provided for therein. A certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the State Bond Commission on behalf of this Governing Authority, together with a letter requesting the prompt consideration and approval of this application.

SECTION 9. Additional Notice Requirement. This Governing Authority made the announcement with respect to the adoption of this resolution required by La. R.S. 42: 19.1, at its public meeting on Tuesday, June 14, 2016 and published said announcement in the Official Journal on Thursday, June 23, 2016.

This resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

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And the resolution was declared adopted on this, the 9th day of August, 2016.

/s/ Courtney Hall     /s/ Jody Backus
Parish Administrator  President

Theresa Wyatt offered a motion, seconded by Sharyon Mayfield to adopt a resolution authorizing the President to execute the Annual Public Housing Authority Certification of Compliance.

Resolution No. 2016-20

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Lincoln Parish Police Jury convened in regular session this 9th day of August, 2016 does hereby certify that it will carry out the public housing program of Lincoln Parish in conformity with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, The Fair Housing Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and hereby authorizes the President, Jody Backus, to sign the Certifications.
The motion was voted upon and carried with the following votes:

Yeas: Wyatt, Hunter, Bennett, Roberson, Hammons, Pullen, Backus, Russell, Henderson, Mayfield, Wilson and Straughter

Nays: None

Walter Pullen offered a motion, seconded by Hazel Hunter, to adopt a resolution authorizing the President to execute an act of release of solid waste container servitude in Tremont Estates Subdivision and otherwise providing with respect thereto.

Resolution 2016-21

WHEREAS, on March 27, 1998, the Tremont Estates Subdivision was filed and recorded under the Instrument No. F3244, in Book 1018, Page 76, of the Conveyance Records of Lincoln Parish, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned subdivision dedicated to the Lincoln Parish Police Jury a refuse container servitude between Lots 11 and 12; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln Parish Police Jury has received a request from Mr. Gaylon D. Simmons, owner of Lot 11, to release this servitude; and

WHEREAS, the Solid Waste Collection Department of the Lincoln Parish Police Jury has no facilities within this servitude and has no objection to the release of this servitude;

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, by the Lincoln Parish Police Jury that the President is hereby authorized and empowered to execute an Act of Release of the Solid Waste Container servitude in Tremont Estates Subdivision, as shown and indicated on the plat attached hereto and made a part hereof.

BE IT Further Resolved, that a certified copy of this Resolution and Act of Release shall be filed and recorded in the official records of Lincoln Parish, Louisiana.

/s/ Jody Backus
Jody Backus
President

The motion was voted upon and carried with the following votes:

Yeas: Wyatt, Hunter, Bennett, Roberson, Hammons, Pullen, Backus, Russell, Henderson, Mayfield, Wilson and Straughter

Nays: None

Skip Russell offered a motion, seconded by Bobby Bennett to approve the final plat for Mosspoint Subdivision. The motion was voted upon and carried with the following votes:

Yeas: Wyatt, Hunter, Bennett, Roberson, Hammons, Pullen, Backus, Russell, Henderson, Mayfield, Wilson and Straughter

Nays: None

Next on the Agenda was to consider authorizing a request for damage compensation regarding oil and gas exploration activity. Parish Administrator Courtney Hall stated that this request was for fair and equitable reimbursement for damages to parish roads. Skip Russell offered a motion, seconded by Bobby Bennett, to authorize the request for damage compensation regarding oil and gas exploration activity. The motion was voted upon and carried with the following votes:

Yeas: Wyatt, Hunter, Bennett, Roberson, Hammons, Pullen, Backus, Russell, Henderson, Mayfield, Wilson and Straughter
Nays: None

Under reports, Sharyon Mayfield and Hazel Hunter gave brief reports on the NACo meeting. Courtney Hall gave a report on Sparta.

Under Public Comments, Walter Abbott asked about the December Road Millage Renewal. There being no other business to come before the Jury, the meeting was adjourned.

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Courtney Hall                Jody Backus
Parish Administrator         Parish President