

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF  
THE ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL OF THE  
PARISH OF ST. MARY, STATE OF LOUISIANA

FEBRUARY 26, 2020  
FRANKLIN, LOUISIANA

The St. Mary Parish Council met on this date in Regular Session with Chairman Dean S. Adams presiding and the following members present: Rev. Craig A. Mathews, J Ina, Rodney Olander, Scott Ramsey, Leslie “Les” Rulf, Jr., Patrick J. Hebert, James W. Bennett, Jr., Mark A. Duhon, Gwendolyn L. Hidalgo, and Kristi Prejeant Rink, M.D.

The Invocation was pronounced by Rev. Mathews and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Bennett.

Mr. Olander moved that the reading of the minutes of the First Regular Meeting, February 11, 2020, be dispensed with and that the same is approved. Dr. Rink seconded the motion, which carried.

Greg Rochel appeared before the Council to discuss the road conditions on Victoria-Riverside Road in Patterson, Louisiana. He is very concerned because the road is in poor condition, has no lighting, and is unmarked.

Parish President, David Hanagriff stated that Victoria-Riverside Road is a priority but funds are limited.

Mr. Ramsey stated that funding is limited to repair roads due to the economy and that the new Council will do their best to help with Victoria-Riverside Road.

Mr. Hanagriff congratulated State Senator R. L. “Bret” Allain, II as King Sucrose LXXX. He also informed that he will be speaking at the Louisiana Association of Conservation Districts Area 4 meeting on February 27, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. at the Baldwin Community Center in Baldwin, Louisiana.

Mr. Ina asked Mr. Hanagriff to discuss the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision of the Social Security Act with our congressmen when he attends the NACO Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. Mr. Ina explained that if a teacher who receives a retirement benefit and who has also paid into social security, they may not be able to collect all of its social security benefits. He stated that there are only five (5) states where these provisions apply.

Mr. Ramsey explained that Medicare is also excluded and that the retirees will only have their private insurance.

Mr. Adams informed that it affects all government employees (i.e. firemen, police, etc.)

Chief Administrative Officer, Henry “Bo” LaGrange, presented his report for a two (2) week period ending February 26, 2020. (all items are informational)

In response to Mr. Ina’s inquiry regarding St. Joseph Road Project, Mr. LaGrange stated that two road projects were advertised today and it is anticipated that the next project to be advertised will be the St. Joseph/Oaklawn Areas Project.

Rev. Mathews moved that the Public Hearing Report, February 11, 2020 – 5:45 and the Public Hearing Report, February 11, 2020 – 5:50 be approved. Mr. Bennett seconded the motion, which carried.

Mr. Duhon introduced the following ordinance:

**ORDINANCE NO.**

An ordinance creating Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 2A of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana, describing the territory to compose the district and the boundaries thereof, and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

**WHEREAS**, the Home Rule Charter of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana, as well as the provisions of Chapter 22, Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, (La. R.S. 33:7702 *et seq.*) (the “Act”), and other constitutional and statutory authority supplemental thereto, permit the St. Mary Parish Council (the “Parish Council”) to create one or more consolidated gravity drainage districts in its jurisdiction; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to and in compliance with the provisions of the Act, the Parish Council, acting as the governing authority of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana (the “Parish”), adopted a resolution on January 8, 2020, declaring the intent of the Parish Council to create Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 2A of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana (the “District”), describing the territory to compose the District and the proposed boundaries thereof, ordering and directing the publication of a notice of intention to create said District, and providing for the hearing of any and all objections to the creation thereof; and

**WHEREAS**, notice of the intent of the Parish Council to create the District was published one time pursuant to the Act in the *Franklin Banner-Tribune*, the official journal of the Parish, with said publication occurring on January 15, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the Parish Council, acting as the governing authority of the Parish, hereby determines that the creation of the District is in the best interests of the Parish and the inhabitants of the area affected;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Parish Council, acting as the governing authority of the Parish, that:

SECTION 1. In accordance with the provisions and authority conferred the Act, and other constitutional and statutory authority, there is hereby created Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 2A of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana (the “District”), which shall comprise and embrace all of that territory within the boundaries of Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 2 (“CGDD2”) and Gravity Drainage District No. 6 (“GDD6”) as those boundaries are presently constituted.

SECTION 2. Pursuant to the Act, the governing body of the District shall be the Parish Council. The Parish Council shall appoint a Board of Commissioners (the “Board”) for the District to assist in the operation and administration of the affairs of the District pursuant to all powers and responsibilities provided for in the Act. The Board shall consist of five (5) members appointed by the Parish Council. Three (3) of the members shall be a resident of the City of Morgan City (the “Municipality”), and two (2) of the members shall be a resident of the unincorporated area of the District. Each member of the Board shall be a resident property taxpayer and registered voter of the District and shall serve a four (4) year term, or until a successor is appointed by the Parish Council. No member of the Board shall serve more than three (3) consecutive terms. If an individual serves any portion of a term, such time is to be considered one full term for the purposes of calculating the aforementioned term limitation. The individual shall be eligible for reappointment after one full four-year term has passed since the individual’s removal from office or the expiration of his or her third consecutive term. The initial terms of the newly appointed board members shall be staggered at the

discretion of the Parish Council.

SECTION 3. The domicile of the District is hereby designated as the St. Mary Parish Council Office, St. Mary Parish Courthouse, 500 Main Street, Franklin, Louisiana. The Board shall meet once a month, at a date and time to be designated by the Parish Council, consistent with all state and parish laws and ordinances.

SECTION 4. The Board shall take any and all actions required by the Act, and any other constitutional and/or statutory authority, in order to secure, account for, and allocate all funds collected or otherwise received by the District, including but not limited to maintaining appropriate accounting records for the District.

SECTION 5. CGDD2 and GDD6 shall continue in existence. Any existing taxes and service charges in both CGDD2 and GDD6 will remain in effect and continue to be collected. Such taxes and service charges shall be paid to the District and administered by the Board; however the Board shall allocate all of the revenues from the existing taxes and service charges to the specific districts from which said revenues were derived.

SECTION 6. The entire proceeds of all funds collected or otherwise received by the District shall be used by the Board for gravity drainage purposes within the District as permitted pursuant to the Act.

All funds received shall be promptly deposited in bank account(s) established and maintained with the regularly designated fiscal agent of the District, provided, however, any amount which is paid under protest or which is subject to litigation may be transferred to a separate account established by the Board pending the final determination of the protest or litigation.

SECTION 7. Pursuant to applicable authority, the District will assume the rights and responsibilities surrounding any cooperative endeavor agreements entered into by CGDD2 and/or GDD6, to the extent they exist, and the Board shall have the power to act pursuant to said agreements on behalf of the District. In the event any cooperative endeavor agreement exists exclusively by and between the CGDD2 and GDD6, the Board shall have the ability to accept, amend, or abolish said agreement(s).

SECTION 8. The Chairman and Clerk of the Governing Authority are hereby authorized to do any and all things necessary and incidental to carry out the provisions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 9. All other ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 10. If any provision of this ordinance shall be held to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this ordinance, but this ordinance shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provisions had not been contained herein. Any constitutional or statutory provision enacted after the date of this ordinance which validates or makes legal any provision of this ordinance which would not otherwise be valid or legal, shall be deemed to apply to this ordinance.

SECTION 11. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately upon execution by the Parish President.

This Ordinance having been offered and read on this the 26<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2020; having been published in accordance with law.

Mr. Hebert moved that the following Resolutions be adopted. Mr. Olander seconded the motion, which carried by the following 11-0-0-0 Roll Call vote:

YEAS: Mathews, Ina, Olander, Ramsey, Rulf, Hebert, Bennett, Duhon, Hidalgo, Rink, and Adams

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

#### **RESOLUTION**

Resolution approving and authorizing the President of St. Mary to execute an Intergovernmental Agreement with the St. Mary Levee District, the Port of West St. Mary Parish, Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 1 of the Parish of St. Mary, Iberia Parish Government, and Port of Iberia District relative Central Coast Historical Hydrological Restoration Project (CCHHRP).

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that David Hanagriff, President of the Parish of St. Mary, be and he is hereby authorized and directed, for and on behalf of the Parish Council, to execute an Intergovernmental Agreement with the St. Mary Levee District, the Port of West St. Mary Parish, Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 1 of the Parish of St. Mary, Iberia Parish Government, and Port of Iberia District relative Central Coast Historical Hydrological Restoration Project (CCHHRP), with said Agreement to contain such terms, conditions, and stipulations as he may best see fit, he being fully authorized in the premises, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this agreement is contingent upon the participation of the St. Mary Levee District, the Port of West St. Mary Parish, Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 1 of the Parish of St. Mary, Iberia Parish Government, and Port of Iberia District fairly sharing the costs and obligations associated with the studying, planning, and presenting relative to the Central Coast Historical Hydrological Restoration Project (CCHHRP).

**ADOPTED AND APPROVED** by the St. Mary Parish Council in regular session convened on this the 26<sup>th</sup> day of February 2020.

**APPROVED:**

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**DEAN S. ADAMS, CHAIRMAN  
ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL**

**ATTEST:**

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**LISA C. MORGAN, CLERK  
ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL**

**RESOLUTION**

A resolution authorizing David Hanagriff, President to execute a Professional Services Agreement with Miller Engineers & Associates, Inc. relative to maintenance dredging at Wilson's, J.C. Russo, Jessie Fontenot, and Michel Boat Launches.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that David Hanagriff, President of the Parish of St. Mary, be and he is hereby authorized and directed, for and on behalf of the Parish Council, to execute a Professional Services Agreement with Miller Engineers & Associates, Inc. relative to maintenance dredging at Wilson's, J.C. Russo, Jessie Fontenot, and Michel Boat Launches, with said Contract to contain such terms, conditions, and stipulations as he may best see fit, he being fully authorized in the premises.

**ADOPTED AND APPROVED** by the St. Mary Parish Council in regular session convened on this the 26<sup>th</sup> day of February 2020.

**APPROVED:**

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**DEAN S. ADAMS, CHAIRMAN  
ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL**

**ATTEST:**

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**LISA C. MORGAN, CLERK  
ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL**

**RESOLUTION**

A resolution authorizing David Hanagriff, the President of St. Mary Parish to execute an Architect/Engineer Contract with Firmin Architects, Ltd., relative Waterproofing, Interior Modernization, Elevator Code-Upgrade, and Associated Work at Fairview Treatment Center.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that David Hanagriff, President of the Parish of St. Mary, be and he is hereby authorized and directed, for and on behalf of the Parish Council, to execute an Architect/Engineer Contract with Firmin Architects, Ltd., 503 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Morgan City, LA 70380, relative Waterproofing, Interior Modernization, Elevator Code-Upgrade, and Associated Work at Fairview Treatment Center, with said contract to contain such terms, conditions and stipulations as he may best fit, he being fully authorized in the premises.

**ADOPTED AND APPROVED** by the St. Mary Parish Council in regular session convened on this the 26<sup>th</sup> day of February 2020.

**APPROVED:**

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**DEAN S. ADAMS, CHAIRMAN  
ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL**

**ATTEST:**

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**LISA C. MORGAN, CLERK  
ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL**

**RESOLUTION**

A resolution authorizing David Hanagriff, President to execute a Professional Services Agreement with Miller Engineers & Associates, Inc. relative to Repairs to Bunkers at Atchafalaya Golf Course.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that David Hanagriff, President of the Parish of St. Mary, be and he is hereby authorized and directed, for and on behalf of the Parish Council, to execute a Professional Services Agreement with Miller Engineers & Associates, Inc. relative to Repairs to Bunkers at Atchafalaya Golf Course, with said Contract to contain such terms, conditions, and stipulations as he may best see fit, he being fully authorized in the premises.

**ADOPTED AND APPROVED** by the St. Mary Parish Council in regular session convened on this the 26<sup>th</sup> day of February 2020.

**APPROVED:**

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**DEAN S. ADAMS, CHAIRMAN  
ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL**

**ATTEST:**

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**LISA C. MORGAN, CLERK  
ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL**

**RESOLUTION**

A resolution authorizing David Hanagriff, the President of St. Mary to execute a contract with LA Contracting Enterprise, LLC relative to the St. Peter Street and surrounding area Sanitary Sewer Collection System Project.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that David Hanagriff, President of the Parish of St. Mary, be and he is hereby authorized and directed, for and on behalf of the Parish Council, to execute a contract with LA Contracting Enterprise, LLC, 1645 St. Patrick Street, Thibodaux, Louisiana 70301, relative to the St. Peter Street and surrounding area Sanitary Sewer Collection System Project, said contract to contain such terms, conditions and stipulations as he may best see fit, he being fully authorized in the premises.

**ADOPTED AND APPROVED** by the St. Mary Parish Council in regular session convened on this the 26<sup>th</sup> day of February 2020.

**APPROVED:**

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**DEAN S. ADAMS, CHAIRMAN  
ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL**

**ATTEST:**

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**LISA C. MORGAN, CLERK  
ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL**

Mr. Ina moved to adopt Item 13F, "Resolution to disband the St. Mary Parish Charter Advisory Committee." Rev. Mathews seconded the motion.

Mr. Hebert informed that he spoke with Jason Watson and Nickolas LaRocca, Jr.'s office today and was told that they needed only one (1) more meeting in order to finalize their recommendations to the Parish Council and is intending to schedule it for March 9, 2020.

After lengthy discussion, Mr. Ina moved to table Item 13F to March 25, 2020 Parish Council Meeting. Rev. Mathews seconded the motion, which carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Discussion and action relative to the St. Mary Parish Home Rule Charter. (Mr. Ina)

Mr. Ina stated that the St. Mary Parish Charter Advisory Committee was having issues with a quorum on several occasions. However, he feels that a lot was accomplished at the meetings that were held. He stated that the Charter needs revising and that the goal is to allow changes to be made and then voted on by the citizens.

In response to Rev. Mathews' inquiry, Mr. Ina stated that the Charter Advisory Committee has reviewed other Parish's Home Rule Charter.

Mr. Hanagriff stated that he spends 40-50 hours per week doing duties as Parish President. He stated that changes need to be made to the Charter to correct the Parish Presidents duties.

In response to several Council Members inquiry, Mr. Ina explained that the Charter Advisory Committee Members elected a secretary to create an agenda and keep minutes of the meeting.

Several Council Members suggested having a town hall meeting to properly inform citizens of the recommendations received from the Charter Advisory Committee.

Jeremy Chesteen, former Charter Advisory Committee Board Member appeared before the Council to discuss the Charter Advisory Committee. He stated that the issue was getting members to attend the scheduled meetings and suggested that input is needed from the Council.

In response to Mr. Ramsey's inquiry, Council Clerk, Lisa C. Morgan stated that the current Charter Advisory Committee Board Members are Jason Watson, Ricky Armelin, Deborah Price, Rev. Allen Randle, Nicholas LaRocca, Jr., Chris Lipari, Edward B. Jones, Ty Burdett, and Paul T. Tholen.

In response to Rev. Mathews' inquiry regarding reappointing Jeremy Chesteen to the Charter Advisory Committee Board Member, Legal Advisor, Eric Duplantis stated that he can be reappointed tonight.

In response to Dr. Rink's inquiry, Mr. Duplantis stated that the Charter Advisory Committee is required to have a quorum in order to conduct a meeting.

Mr. Ina moved that Jeremy Chesteen be reappointed to the St. Mary Parish Charter Advisory Committee. Rev. Mathews seconded the motion, which carried.

Lee Dragna, Morgan City, Louisiana appeared before the Council to discuss a full time Parish President.

B. Appointments to the following Boards and Commissions:

**Drainage District No. 6 (Amelia area) – 2 Vacancies**

Newton Gaudet

Larry J. Aucoin

Clerk of the Council, Lisa C. Morgan stated that Royal Young, Jr. telephoned after the deadline.

Mr. Duhon moved that Newton Gaudet and Larry J. Aucoin be appointed to Drainage District No. 6. Mr. Ramsey seconded the motion, which carried.

Mrs. Morgan informed that Paul Haydel will bring the Inauguration pictures to the March 11, 2020 Parish Council meeting.

Farley Matte, resident of Victoria-Riverside Road appeared before the Council to discuss road conditions on Victoria-Riverside Road.

Mr. LaGrange explained that at the February 11, 2020 Parish Council meeting, bids were received and the contract was awarded on the first three (3) miles which will begin at the Jennings Bridge. Once the contracts are signed, a preconstruction meeting will be held to give the contractor notice to proceed to begin the first three (3) mile section. The plan is to re-sealcoat the rest of the road in the spring of 2020.

There being no further business, Mr. Olander moved for adjournment. Dr. Rink seconded the motion, which carried.

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Lisa C. Morgan, Clerk

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Dean S. Adams, Chairman