

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

JUNE 8, 2022
FRANKLIN, LOUISIANA

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

The Invocation was pronounced by Mr. Hebert and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Adams.

Mr. Olander moved that the reading of the minutes of the Second Regular Meeting, May 25, 2022 be dispensed with and that the same be approved. Mr. Hebert seconded the motion, which carried.

In response to Mr. Bennett's inquiry, Dr. Rink stated that she is unaware when the next Budget Finance Committee Meeting will be held. Mr. Bennett stated that he will email Chairman Mathews.

Mr. Adams informed that the Louisiana State Double Horseshoe Tournament will be held on June 11, 2022 at 8:30 a.m. at Kemper Williams Park. He thanked Mayor Rodney Grogan, City of Patterson for hosting a Town Hall Meeting that was held on June 6, 2022 with St. Mary Parish Mayors in an effort to address issues pertaining to gun violence, drug epidemic, and home invasions. He stated that town hall meetings will be held every Monday for the next five (5) weeks and that the public is invited to attend.

Mr. Bennett informed that the Juneteenth Bike Ride will be held in Morgan City on June 18, 2022 beginning at 8:00 a.m. at E. F. Jacquet Elementary School and ending at Jimmie Johnson Memorial Park.

Alfreida Edwards, resident of Franklin informed that in celebration of the Juneteenth Holiday, the Soul Food Festival will be held on June 16, 2022 at the Teche Theater and on June 17 & 18, 2022 on Teche Drive in Franklin.

Per Ms. Edwards' inquiry relative to redistricting, Dr. Rink informed that Mr. Hebert has called for a Special Meeting to be held on June 13, 2022 and that she has called for a Special Meeting to be held on June 15, 2022 regarding current maps that have been presented.

Mrs. Hidalgo moved that the Parish Council, Legal Counsel Eric Duplantis, and Chief Administrative Officer Henry "Bo" LaGrange go into Executive Session to receive an oral or written report regarding potential litigation related to the filing and litigation of a civil action for Pump Station 2 & 2A Drainage Improvements project pursuant to the provisions of R.S. 42:17 that, in pertinent part, reads as follows:

A. A public body may hold an executive session pursuant to R.S. 42:16 for one or more of the following reasons:

(2) Strategy sessions or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining, prospective litigation after formal written demand, or litigation when an open meeting would have a detrimental affect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body.

Mr. Hebert seconded the motion, which carried.

Following Executive Session, Mr. Adams moved that the June 8, 2022 Regular Meeting be reconvened. Mr. Bennett seconded the motion, which carried.

Chief Administrative Officer Henry “Bo” LaGrange presented his report for a two (2) week period ending June 8, 2022.

Mr. Duhon thanked Mr. LaGrange and the Parish for grading the sides of the roads in Amelia.

Mr. Bennett thanked Mr. LaGrange and the Parish for maintaining Russo Boat Landing.

Mr. Adams moved that the Public Hearing Report, May 25, 2022 be accepted. Mr. Hebert seconded the motion, which carried.

In response to Dr. Rink’s inquiry relative to grant funding for public safety, Mr. LaGrange stated that he will research this.

Mrs. Hidalgo moved that the following Resolution be adopted. The Council seconded the motion, which carried by the following 8-0-0-3 Roll Call vote:

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Mathews, Ina, and Rulf

RESOLUTION OF RESPECT

WHEREAS, the Lord Almighty in His Infinite mercy and goodness has seen fit to remove from our midst, Mrs. Sherry Broussard Darce, and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Darce was a lifelong resident of St. Mary Parish who worked for St. Mary Parish Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 1 for 33 years before retiring in May 2016, and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Darce was a loving and devoted wife, mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, and friend who always took care of everyone, and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Darce was a member of the Good Samaritan Group of Sacred Heart Church and enjoyed playing Pokeno, gardening, cooking, and baking, and

WHEREAS, the members of the St. Mary Parish Council wish to acknowledge publicly their sorrow and sympathy to the family of Mrs. Darce, and

WHEREAS, the St. Mary Parish Council hopes that her family will find comfort in the thought that their grief and sorrow are shared by their friends.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the St. Mary Parish Council through the unanimous adoption of this resolution that they solemnly deliberate with sincere condolences, sympathy, and understanding during this time of grief.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the St. Mary Parish Council in regular session convened on this the 8th day of June 2022.

APPROVED:

**KRISTI P. RINK, M.D., CHAIRPERSON
ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL**

ATTEST:

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

Mr. Olander moved that the following Resolutions be adopted. Mrs. Hidalgo seconded the motion, which carried by the following 7-0-1-3 Roll Call vote:

YEAS: Olander, Hebert, Bennett, Duhon, Adams, Hidalgo, and Rink

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Ramsey

ABSENT: Ina, Rulf, and Mathews

RESOLUTION

A resolution authorizing the Parish President to execute a Cooperative Agreement between LSU AgCenter and St. Mary Parish Government relative to support and administer Louisiana Cooperative Units Off Campus.

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 Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between LSU AgCenter and St. Mary Parish Government relative to support and administer Louisiana Cooperative Units Off Campus, with said Agreement 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 8th day of June 2022.

APPROVED:

**KRISTI P. RINK, M.D., CHAIRPERSON
ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL**

ATTEST:

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

RESOLUTION

A resolution authorizing the Parish President to execute an agreement with Cypress Swamp Retriever Hunt Club relative to the use of a portion of the property belonging to the Parish located at Kirch-Clausen Road, Patterson, Louisiana.

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 Agreement with Cypress Swamp Retriever Hunt Club relative to the use of a portion of the

property belonging to the Parish located at Kirch-Clausen Road, Patterson, Louisiana, with said Agreement 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 8th day of June 2022.

APPROVED:

**KRISTI P. RINK, M.D., CHAIRPERSON
ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL**

ATTEST:

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

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Discuss and take action, if necessary, on items discussed in Executive Session.

Dr. Rink stated that an updated report relative to the work progress was received in executive session and that no discussion or action is necessary.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Appointments to the following Boards and Commissions:

Elizabeth B. Davis Memorial Park Advisory Committee (Four Corners) – 5 Vacancies

Eva D. Rollins – Present Member
Juanita Marie Hines

Eric Randle

Due to Rev. Mathews' absence, Mr. Olander requested to table this item to the June 22, 2022 Parish Council meeting. Mr. Hebert seconded the motion, which carried.

- B. Mr. Scott Blanchard has written to resign effective immediately, May 21, 2022, from the Board of Commissioners for the Water and Sewer Commission No. 5.

Mr. Blanchard will be sent a letter thanking him for his service and the vacancy will be advertised.

Discussion was had relative to the scheduling of the Special Meetings.

In response to Mr. Adams' inquiry, Legal Counsel, Eric Duplantis explained that redistricting requires an ordinance, which has to be introduced, laid over for twenty days, and then voted on. The Special Meeting that is scheduled for June 13, 2022 will not include the ordinance.

Per Mr. Ramsey's inquiry, Dr. Rink stated that according to the contract with South Central Planning there has to be a formal introduction to the public of the three maps that they presented to the Council. She also stated that the three maps that were presented can have nine permutations and that Kevin Belanger with South Central Planning will be present at the Special Meetings. She

further stated that redistricting will not be discussed in detail tonight because it is not an agenda item.

Per Mr. Olander's inquiry relative to having two Special Meetings next week, Dr. Rink stated a few Council Members could not make the Special Meeting on Wednesday.

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

Lisa C. Morgan, Clerk

Kristi P. Rink, M.D., Chairperson