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LAFAYETTE PARISH COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

BROUSSARD • CARENCRO • DUSON • SCOTT • YOUNGVILLE • LAFAYETTE CITY-PARISH CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT • LAFAYETTE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

## MINUTES OF AUGUST 15, 2024 MEETING – CITY OF SCOTT

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Jan-Scott Richard, COG President & Scott Mayor, called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

### 2. SILENT PRAYER & PLEDGE

Mayor Richard offered a silent prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### 3. INTRODUCTIONS

All in attendance were introduced. All COG entities were in attendance.

### 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the COG meeting of May 16, 2024. The motion was unanimously approved.

### 5. APPROVAL OF TRESURER'S REPORT

It was moved and seconded to adopt the Treasurer's Report with a balance of \$439.98. The motion was unanimously approved.

### 6. TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

#### a. UPDATES

- i. **U. S. Senator John Kennedy** – Sarah Dake of Senator Kennedy's office offered an overview of services provided by their office to municipalities and public agencies, along with information on their physical office location.
- ii. **League of Women Voters** – Jo Ann Lejeune announced that the Louisiana League of Women Voters was recently awarded a Make Democracy Work grant.
- iii. **Assessor** – Lafayette Parish Assessor Conrad Comeaux reminded everyone that this is a reassessment year and about the requirement to notify his office of proposals to roll forward, in addition to related publication requirements.
- iv. **SLEMCO** – Landon Boudreaux gave a favorable report from SLEMCO on their relationship and recent efforts in their service area within Lafayette Parish.
- v. **One Acadiana** – Andre Breaux shared updates on the upcoming 1A Leadership Exchange trip to Grand Rapids, Michigan.

- vi. **Parish Fire Protection/Scott Fire Department** – Scott Fire Chief Chad Sonnier noted \$1 million in state funding for sleeping quarters at the fire station. He also discussed the firefighter training program being offered at Acadiana High School and thanked LPSS for its support with this program.
- vii. **University of Louisiana at Lafayette** – Dr. Patricia Lanier of UL’s Business Management Department announced that this fall will welcome the largest freshman class for the University.
- viii. **Louisiana Municipal Clerks Association** – Lafayette Clerk of the Council Veronica Arceneaux, who serves as President of the Louisiana Municipal Clerks Association (an affiliate organization of LMA) reported on the week-long conference to be held October 20-25, 2024 and encouraged Mayors to allow their municipal clerks to participate.

**b. MUNICIPALITY UPDATES**

- i. **Broussard** – Mayor Ray Bourque congratulated the City of Youngsville and the City of Scott for the awards they recently received at the Louisiana Municipal Association (LMA) Conference. He reported that the City of Broussard’s fire rating has been improved to a 2 rating and that the City has released its water system master plan, which is available on their website. Mayor Bourque announced that the City of Broussard has been named in the top 10 safest cities in Louisiana for a third consecutive year, as well as having received garden club accolades, and finally noting that the City will be pursuing two (2) public improvement bonds.
- ii. **Carencro** – Mayor Clavier announced that the City of Carencro’s first C’est Bon Seasoning Festival will be held November 8-10, 2024 and that Carencro is recognized as the Seasoning Capital of the World. She reported that the City is working on the next phase of its water project, which will replace more water lines and will address some sidewalks. Mayor Clavier gave an overview of Carencro’s receipt of state capital outlay funds, its forthcoming sewer plant, and the City’s master plan, which is anticipated for November 2024.
- iii. **Duson** – Mayor Johnny Thibodeaux congratulated Broussard Mayor Ray Bourque for his attainment of the position of First Vice President of LMA. He provided updates on the swearing in of the new Town Alderman who will replace Alderman Carrol Pepper. Mayor Thibodeaux added that water improvements are underway in the Town, coupled with the forthcoming bid process for improvements to their water plant. He closed with a report of roundabout projects in development, renderings for which are available, and by congratulating the new Justice of the Peace serving their area.
- iv. **Scott** – Mayor Richard gave updates for the City of Scott, to include recreation efforts, hiring of a master planner, and the recent Council approval of a master transportation improvement plan. He announced the City’s receipt of a grant from Lafayette Convention and Visitors Commission for improvements to entertainment and leisure facilities and he also gave an update on overlay projects with the tentative timeframes. Mayor Richard celebrated the City of Scott’s Best In Show award from the LMA for the Apollo Road project, while acknowledging the contributions of his predecessors for the roles they played in the development of the Apollo Road project. He recognized his team from the City of Scott in attendance, to include members of the Planning Commission staff.
- v. **Lafayette Consolidated Government** – Lafayette Mayor-President Monique Boulet’s Chief of Staff Christina Dayries offered updates on the LCG budget process and

highlighted that Lafayette was recently ranked among the 50 Best Places to Live. She also gave updates on recreation improvements, the juvenile assessment center, and Lafayette Police Department's Citizens Police Academy that recently concluded, with four (4) LCG employees having graduated from the program.

- vi. **Youngsville** – Mayor Ken Ritter also congratulated the City of Scott for its award from LMA. He discussed the City of Youngsville's water and sewer needs, emphasizing the need to reduce relying on LUS. Mayor Ritter provided updates on Youngsville's wastewater treatment plant. He took a moment to thank the members of the Youngsville City Council who attended tonight's meeting, then offered an update on the Youngsville Sports Complex and discussed the eatsweetyoungsville.com restaurant week event. Mayor Ritter provided an update on roads and roundabout projects, noting a forthcoming two-lane roundabout and the Larriviere Road project with its associated improvements. He stated that there is a lot of development interest in the downtown area, so a public hearing is planned for August 27, 2024 with downtown stakeholders, hosted by the Youngsville City Council, to determine the vision for development in this vital part of the City.
- vii. **Lafayette Parish School Board** – Superintendent Francis Touchet gave a status update on the beginning of the school year, which was a positive report. He discussed LPSS's priorities of safety, culture, and opportunities for growth, efforts which will be publicized soon. Mr. Touchet offered an overview of the new schools throughout the System and forecasted a 2025-2026 opening of the new Lafayette High School, noting that he would be approaching the Board for funding and resources to address facilities needs and improvements throughout LPSS. Mr. Touchet highlighted the promotion of transparency in the operations of LPSS, so he visits several schools throughout the System each week to remain focused on operations. School Board Member Hannah Mason commended Lafayette Parish for its support of LPSS and expressed hope for the future.

## 7. OTHER MATTERS

- a. Mayor Richard thanked the officials and his staff from the City of Scott, along with the staff of Don's Specialty Meats, for hosting the meeting and for providing the meal. He reminded everyone that the next COG meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 20, 2024 and that the meeting will be hosted by Lafayette Economic Development Authority.

## 8. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.