

**COMMUNITY CENTER AND PLAYGROUND  
DISTRICT #4 WARD #1  
MEETING Monday, October 18th, 2021**

Meeting was called to order by David Nixon at 6:00pm.

**Board Members in attendance:** David Nixon, Bill Willis, and Connie Hoffpauir,

**In attendance:** Ashton Richard-Police Juror Ward 1, Mitch Robertson, Richard Dow, John Miguez: Moss Bluff Little League; Cody White, Moss Bluff Little League; Thiel Pete: District 1 Board Member for Council on Aging.

**Prayer/Pledge:** Prayer was led by Bill Willis; followed by the Pledge of Allegiance by board members.

**Visiting Guest Agenda Items:** Guests were asked about their agenda items, and it was decided that if they were not items being already brought up that they would be given another chance to ask their questions.

**Previous Meeting Minutes:** There was an error in sending the minutes electronically prior to the meeting for review. It was asked that Septembers minutes be presented in November with the minutes of this meeting.

**Police Jurors Comments:** Ashton Richard was in attendance and said the meeting would cover the items he had come to discuss. LR-15 and others. Ashton did ask who the new Senior Center manager was now that Mary Jane Sensat is no longer there. It was confirmed the new manager was Sandi Chambers who took the position in June.

**Treasurers Report:** Board Members were presented with a copy of report. Capital balance is \$3,547,608.07. Community Center Maintenance fund is \$2,317,853.91. And Senior Center balance is \$757,914.37.

**Committee Reports:**

**Park:** Richard said the Conex that previously had been stored at the Senior Center has been moved to the Soccer/Football Complex for football to use as storage. The shingles on the East and West bathrooms and the Concession Stands have been replaced and repaired. Football is up and going. The park is awaiting 60' lights to add light to the field created. Cleanup on the Main Complex continues at a good pace, assisted by the temporary labor that has been hired to help do such jobs. The soccer recreation league started late because of bad weather and has extended their needs at the soccer complex through October 28<sup>th</sup>. Football has just started and plans to continue through November 27<sup>th</sup>. Brothers Keepers, who has used the football field in the past to run a league will not be having a league but has asked for the fields November 20<sup>th</sup> and a date in December TBD. The Southwest Louisiana Knights homeschool that has used Field 6 at the main complex in the past is now requesting use of the soccer fields for league play. Brothers Keepers and SWLA Homeschool league will both be asked for insurance and to sign an agreement with the District before play will be allowed. Bill asked about the takedown of the playground equipment that had been discussed at previous meetings. Richard said that would be taken down by park staff soon. Discussion of the removal of the downed wooden poles. A plan of action is still being submitted. Bill asked about where the park was with architect Brossette for fencing and lighting. Richard said lighting engineers should be onsite within the next two weeks. Brossette has begun

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drawings and continues to do damage assessments. David said the board would like a schedule on the three phases of park. Fencing, Lighting and then awnings and canopies. Bill relayed that he was disappointed that there was nothing to hang our hat on and that as a Board we needed to see some action. What is we need to do as a District to speed up the process?

**Office:** Richard has gone through Weststaff who was referred to by the Parish and hired two maintenance staff and an office worker.

**Senior Center:** Richard explained that there was a need for janitorial work at the Senior Center as the ladies there cannot handle it all. Richard's idea is to have the janitorial service come in one time a week to clean bathrooms and floors in both the Senior Center and the offices at the main complex. Richard also explained that Mitch has been at the Center and is working with the ladies there in creating shelves in a closet and helping reorganize what the Senior Center is currently working with. Connie was fearful that there was a breakdown in communication between the Senior Center and the District. Ms. Pete did say Mary Jane never did ask about these things, but that the two ladies were new and still working their way through getting things done.

**Capital Planning:** No Capital Planning to discuss tonight.

**Old Business:**

**L-15 Drainage Project:** While there are culverts are being brought out, Richard was told that the problem was more of a trucking issue than a personnel issue. The agreement with Gravity Drainage and Asphalt Associates. Project completing is scheduled for December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021. There hasn't been a lot of push to this point, but Ashton said his office is beginning to push. The question is whether the project will still be in process when ball teams begin practice at the start of the year

**Senior Center Parking Lot Phase III:** Richard again said that he would contact Cole Thompson and find out about any final payments needed and paperwork that needed to clear.

**Hurricanes Laura and Delta:** Weekly meetings continue with Richard, the Sulzer Group and the FEMA PMG to keep all parties in the ready for continued work and progress.

**Soccer and Football Complex Lighting:** Most issues were discussed in Park report prior in the meeting.

**New Business:** David read the following RESOLUTION ordering and calling an election for April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

**See attached:**

Discussion: Bill asked Ashton what the process was to reduce the proposed tax. It was decided that at whole new mileage would have to be created. There was discussion regarding the challenges and opportunities to the taxpayers. The District has been in contact with FEMA and other entities to hopefully produce funding as to relieve funding

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needed for future projects by the District. Connie suggested it was important to pass the tax to allow the District to do what has to be done project wise. John Miquez commented on the community concern that the fields will not be ready and that not getting things done at the park is a bad look. Bill commented on the frustration comments he has heard. David suggested that he has heard the comments as well, and that while the work with FEMA has slowed things down, as an elected official it was important to cover all bases. It was suggested that it would not be a traditional start date. Connie pointed out that she was not confident about any construction time frame based on what she has seen in the marketplace. David said that the Board would shore up a better timeframe before next meeting. John stated that a solid registration timeframe was essential for the smooth operation of the baseball league.

Motion made by David Nixon to accept the resolution of election  
Seconded by Bill Willis

YEAS- David Nixon  
Bill Willis  
Connie Hoffpauir

ABSENT- Jonathan Simien  
Billy Wilcox

The Board was presented with a proposed 2022 budget. It was decided that Board would review the numbers that Richard presented and meet later to ratify.

Some discussion was made about new lighting for the football field. Richard said there was more information to come.

**Commissioner's Comments:** The next regular meeting for the Board of Commissioners for the Community Center and Playground District 4 of Ward 1 will be Monday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, at 6pm.

*Bill made a motion to adjourn meeting; second by Connie. All in Favor. Motion passed.  
7:24 pm.*

Minutes recorded and reported by Richard Dow.