

Ouachita Council of Governments
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 25, 2018

Members Present:	Mayor Jamie Mayo City of Monroe	Scotty Robinson OPPJ
	Jack Clampit OPPJ	Mayor Dave Norrie City of West Monroe
Others Present:	Tom Malmay Recovery Manager	Kim Golden City of Monroe
	Neal Brown OHSEP	Robbie George City of West Monroe
	Z. Parker Ouachita Citizen	Kevin Crosby OPPJ
Staff Present:	David Creed Executive Director	Doug Mitchell Director of Planning
	Loretta Young North Delta	

The Ouachita Council of Governments meeting was called to order by Mayor Jamie Mayo, Chairman. The meeting was held in the Council Chambers of the Monroe Government Plaza.

A public hearing was held at 11:30 a.m. to hear comments from the public regarding the TIP amendments. There were no comments from the public.

Mayor Jamie Mayo, Chairman, recognized Mayor Dave Norris, for his dedication and commitment, to OCOG. He mentioned Mayor Norris has worked many years on the OCOG board, and this will be his last meeting. Mayor Mayo, expressed his gratitude to working with the City of Monroe and the Parish, and wished him well. He also, stated Mr. James Bennett last meeting was May 29th, he also served on the OCOG

board for many years, his dedication and commitment is well appreciated.

Minutes

A motion was made by Mayor Dave Norris and seconded by Mr. Jack Clampit to approve the minutes of the May 29, 2018 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mayor Dave Norris and seconded by Mr. Scotty Robinson to recess the OCOG meeting and go into the Long-Term Recovery Executive Board. Motion carried unanimously.

Long Term Recovery Executive Board

Mr. Kevin Crosby briefly reported on the Ouachita Strong Resiliency Strategy. He mentioned the Resiliency Strategy Public Meetings was held June 19th in Monroe and June 21st, in West Monroe, both meeting was successful. The next meeting of the Restore Louisiana Task Force is scheduled for Friday, July 13th at 9:30 a.m. in the House Committee Room 5 at the State Capitol. They are asking the representatives from Ouachita to strongly attend.

Neal Brown gave a Flood report update. He mentioned they are closer to meeting the targeted threshold that has been set, Ouachita target amount is around 2.5 million. To request a Presidential Disaster in Ouachita the damage amount is \$565,000, and the state threshold is 6.6 million. Before a Federal declaration can be requested, the state must have damages totaling 6.6 million, and the state is about \$150,000 to \$200,000 short of their total. FEMA has granted a 4-day extension to review the figures from Ouachita andatchitoches to check for over looked money between the two. Neal stated he will send out an email on Friday to give an update.

A motion was made by Mr. Scotty Robinson and seconded by Mayor Dave Norris to accept the Ouachita Strong Resiliency Strategy report. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mayor Dave Norris and seconded by Jack Clampit to reconvene the OCOG meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Scotty Robinson and seconded by Mr. Jack Clampit to ratify the action of the Long-Term Recovery Executive Board. Motion carried unanimously.

OCOG Budget to Actual 2017-2018

Mr. Mitchell stated from the prior auditors a budget to actual must be presented to the board monthly, he briefly explained the Budget to Actual, there was no change.

A motion was made by Mr. Jack Clampit and seconded by Mr. Scotty Robinson to approval the Budget to Actual for the month of June. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Jack Clampit and seconded by Mayor Dave Norris to recess OCOG meeting and go into Transportation Policy Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Transportation Policy Committee

A. TIP Amendments

- 1) H.008221 LA 134 Improvements at US 165
- 2) Row Phase
- 3) Utility Phase
- 4) Construction Phase

Mr. Doug Mitchell briefly explained the TIP Amendments.

A motion was made by Mayor Dave Norris and seconded by Mr. Jack Clampit to approve the TIP Amendments. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Jack Clampit and seconded by Mayor Dave Norris to recess the TIP and reconvene OCOG meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Scotty Robinson and seconded by Mayor Dave Norris to ratify the action of the TIP. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mayor Dave Norris and seconded by Mr. Scotty Robinson to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.



OUACHITA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Monroe

West Monroe

Ouachita Parish

3000 Kilpatrick Blvd ● MONROE, LOUISIANA 71201

AMENDED

MEMO:

TO: Members of the Ouachita Council of Governments
FROM: Mr. David Creed, Executive Director
DATE: June 20, 2018
RE: Regular Meeting Agenda

A meeting of the Ouachita Council of Governments is scheduled for Monday, June 25, 2018, at 12:00 Noon., at the Council Chambers of the Monroe Government Plaza. A public hearing will be held at 11:30 a.m., to hear comments from the public regarding the TIP Amendments.

The Agenda will include:

1. Review and Approval of minutes of May 29, 2018 meeting.
2. Long -Term Recovery Executive Board
 - a) Update Report from Steering Committee- Kevin Crosby
3. Transportation Policy Committee
 - A) Approval of the TIP Amendments
 - a) H.00221 LA 134 IMPROVEMENTS AT US 165
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4. OCOG Budget to Actual June 2018
5. Reconvene OCOG
6. Ratify the Action of the Transportation Policy Committee
7. Adjourn

Report from the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness



OUACHITA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Billed through 12-Jul Expended</u>	<u>%</u>
Local	32,929	32,929	100.00%
FTA	66,703	66,703	100.00%
FHWY	265,398	265,398	100.00%
Safety	<u>142,000</u>	<u>142,000</u>	100.00%
	507,030	507,030	100.00%

100% COMPLETE

Publisher of

The News-Star
www.thenewsstar.com

MONROE, LOUISIANA
PROOF OF PUBLICATION

The hereto attached advertisement was published in The News Star. A daily newspaper of general circulation. Published in Monroe, Louisiana. Parish of Ouachita in the issues of :

June 02, 2018

Subscribed and sworn to before me by

The person whose signature appears above in Monroe, LA on this

This 4 day of June, 2018 AD



Notary Public

Rocio Turner
Notary No. ~~59250~~
Expires at Death

CONFIRMATION

The News-Star
www.thenewsstar.com

RECEIVED

JUN 08 2018

411 North 4th Street
Monroe, LA 71201

OUACHITA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT
3000 KILPATRICK BLVD
MONROE LA 71201-

Account	AD#	Net Amount	Tax Amount	Total Amount	Payment Method	PO#	Payment Amount	Amount Due
SHR-304416	0002955130	\$27.09	\$0.00	\$27.09	Invoice		\$0.00	\$27.09

Sales Rep: aholbrook Order Taker: aholbrook Order Created: 05/31/2018

Product	# Ins	Start Date	End Date
SHR-MON-News Star	1	06/02/2018	06/02/2018
SHR-MON-News Star Online	1	06/02/2018	06/02/2018

* ALL TRANSACTIONS CONSIDERED PAID IN FULL UPON CLEARANCE OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTION

Text of Ad: 05/31/2018

Legal Notice

The Transportation Improvement Program Plan for the Monroe Metropolitan Planning area will be amended (amendment listed below) and available for public review for the next 14 days at the North Delta Office, 3000 Kilpatrick Blvd., Monroe, Louisiana. A public hearing will be held on Monday, June 25, 2018 at 11 a.m., at the Monroe City Council Chambers prior to the OCOG meeting.

The following will be amended:

TIP AMENDMENT

H.008221 LA 134 IMPROVEMENTS AT US 165 ROW PHASE
Add phase at a cost of \$200k STPFLEX at 80/20 in FFY 2018
cost - \$200k Total cost - \$200k
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Fed share - \$4.4M

Monroe, LA
June 2, 2018
0002955130

282

Publisher of

**The
News-Star**
www.thenewsstar.com

**MONROE, LOUISIANA
PROOF OF PUBLICATION**

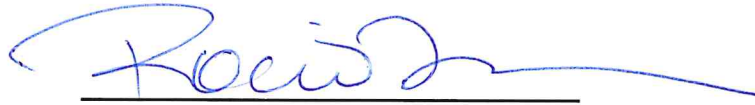
The hereto attached advertisement was published in The News Star. A daily newspaper of general circulation. Published in Monroe, Louisiana. Parish of Ouachita in the issues of :

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Subscribed and sworn to before me by

The person whose signature appears above in Monroe, LA on this

This 12 day of June, 2018 AD



Notary Public

*Rocio Turner
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CONFIRMATION

RECEIVED

JUN 15 2018

NORTH DELTA

The News-Star
www.thenewsstar.com

411 North 4th Street
Monroe, LA 71201

OUACHITA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT
3000 KILPATRICK BLVD
MONROE LA 71201-

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SHR-304416	0002973925	\$18.49	\$0.00	\$18.49	Invoice	\$0.00	\$18.49

PO#

Sales Rep: aholbrook

Order Taker: aholbrook

Order Created 06/11/2018

<u>Product</u>	<u># Ins</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
SHR-MON-News Star	1	06/12/2018	06/12/2018
SHR-MON-News Star Online	1	06/12/2018	06/12/2018

* ALL TRANSACTIONS CONSIDERED PAID IN FULL UPON CLEARANCE OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTION

Text of Ad: 06/11/2018

The regular meeting of the Ouachita Council of Governments is scheduled for Monday, June 25, 2018, at 12 noon, in the Council Chambers of the Monroe Government Plaza. A public hearing will be held at 11:30 a.m. to hear comments from the public regarding the Transportation Improvement Program Plan.

Monroe, LA
June 12, 2018
0002973925

CONFIRMATION

The News-Star
 www.thenewsstar.com

JUN 08 2018

411 North 4th Street
 Monroe, LA 71201

OUACHITA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT
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Monroe, LA
 June 2, 2018
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TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM - STP PROJECTS
MONROE URBANIZED AREA-FINANCIALLY CONSTRAINED-FINANCIALLY CONSTRAINED
5.29.2018 TIP AMENDMENT

H.008221 La 134 Improvements at US 165						
Route: La 134 Cntrl Section: 000-37 End Log Mile: 0.00 Parish: OUACHITA Off-System Road:						
Urbanized Area: MONROE						
Status			Type Improvement			Work Type
						STP FLEX
Project Phase	Project Cost	Cost(w/CE&I+IDC	Federal Share	Fund	Year	Sponsor
ROW PHASE	200,000.00	220,000.00	160,000.00	STP FLEX	2018	LADOTD
UTILITY PHASE	200,000.00	220,000.00	160,000.00	STP FLEX	2018	
Construction	5,500,000.00	6,050,000.00	4,400,000.00	STP FLEX	2018	
Total Cost	5,900,000.00	6,490,000.00	4,720,000.00			

Loretta Young

From: Legal Advertising - Monroe <legalads@monroe.gannett.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 31, 2018 10:18 AM
To: Loretta Young; Legal Advertising - Monroe
Subject: RE: OCOG

I have your legal ad set up as Ad#2955130, set to publish on June 2, 2018, at a cost of \$27.09.

Thank You,

Antoinette Holbrook
Administrative Assistant
P 318.362.0325
411 North 4th Street
Monroe, LA 71201
www.thenewsstar.com

-----Original Message-----

From: Loretta Young [mailto:loretta@northdelta.org]
Sent: Thursday, May 31, 2018 9:50 AM
To: Legal Advertising - Monroe <legalads@monroe.gannett.com>
Subject: OCOG

Please publish, Thank You.

Loretta

-----Original Message-----

From: taskalfa@northdelta.org <taskalfa@northdelta.org>
Sent: Thursday, May 31, 2018 9:46 AM
To: Loretta Young <loretta@northdelta.org>
Subject:

TASKalfa 5052ci
[00:17:c8:62:71:04]



OUACHITA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Monroe

West Monroe

Ouachita Parish

3000 KILPATRICK BLVD • MONROE, LOUISIANA 71201

AMENDED

MEMO:

FROM: David Creed, Executive Director

RE: Meeting Agenda

DATE: June 22, 2018

A meeting of the Ouachita Council of Governments is scheduled for Monday, June 25, 2018, 12:00 Noon, at the Council Chambers of the Monroe Government Plaza.

The Agenda will include:

1. Review and Approval of minutes from May 29, 2018 meeting
2. Long Term Recovery Executive Board
 - a) Update Report from Steering Committee-Kevin Crosby
3. Transportation Policy Committee
 - A) Approval of TIP Amendments
 - a) H.00221 LA 134 Improvements at US 165
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4. Budget to Actual
5. Reconvene OCOG
6. Ratify the Action of the Transportation Policy Committee
7. Adjourn

Report from the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Billed through 12-Jul Expended</u>	<u>%</u>
Local	32,929	32,929	100.00%
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FHWY	265,398	265,398	100.00%
Safety	<u>142,000</u>	<u>142,000</u>	100.00%
	507,030	507,030	100.00%

100% COMPLETE

http://www.hannapub.com/ouachitacitizen/news/local_state_headlines/ocog-drops-amr-selects-acadian-as-parish-ambulance-provider/article_7a0be6fa-9028-11e8-adc9-8fa484e7ae60.html

TOP STORY

OCOG drops AMR, selects Acadian as parish ambulance provider

By Zach Parker | zach@ouachitacitizen.com Jul 25, 2018

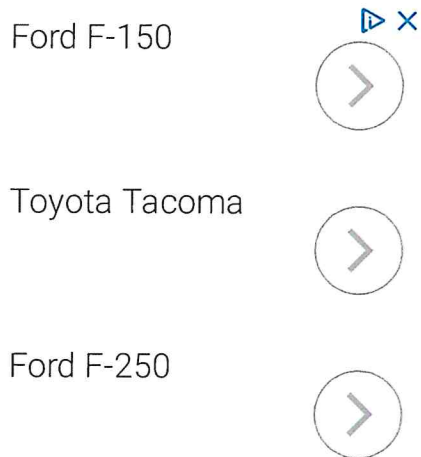


OUACHITA PARISH Police Jury President Scotty Robinson, left, speaks with West Monroe Board of Aldermen member Thom Hamilton, right, prior to the Ouachita Council of Governments' meeting Monday. Robinson, Hamilton and other OCOG members voted unanimously at that time to make Acadian Ambulance the sole provider of ambulance services in the parish, instead of AMR.

In spite of protest from other ambulance companies, the Ouachita Council of Governments agreed earlier this week to make Acadian Ambulance the sole provider of ambulance services in Ouachita Parish.

OCOG’s decision replaced American Medical Response, or AMR, who has served as the sole provider for years. OCOG is made up of elected officials from Monroe, West Monroe and the Ouachita Parish Police Jury. Each governmental entity is expected to take a vote ratifying OCOG’s decision.

OCOG reached its decision based on the determination made by the Ouachita Parish Ambulance Advisory committee, which is made up of local hospital representatives, fire chiefs, and someone from the University of Louisiana-Monroe’s College of Business.



carpricesecrets.com

“They’ve been working on this process for more than a year,” said Assistant District Attorney Jay Mitchell, who serves as legal counsel for the Police Jury, OCOG, and the ambulance committee.

Of the three ambulance companies which offered proposals to provide ambulance services in the parish, Acadian, a Lafayette-based company, scored the highest with 934 points. AMR, of Colorado, scored 794 points. Pafford EMS, of Ruston, scored 702 points.

Acadian received not only the highest overall score but also the highest score on each individual committee member’s scoresheets. The committee’s recommendation to switch to Acadian was unanimous as was OCOG’s decision on Monday to accept the recommendation.

Failed motion to close

time for remarks

Shortly after the meeting began, Police Jury President Scotty Robinson made a motion to amend the agenda and delete an item allowing each ambulance service provider to offer remarks. Robinson also is a member of the OCOG.

“The ambulance committee already has a recommendation for us,” Robinson said. “I don’t think this is necessary.”

The vote to amend the agenda was 3-2, with Robinson, Police Jury Vice President Jack Clampit and Monroe Mayor Jamie Mayo voting in favor of denying time to offer remarks. West Monroe Mayor Staci Mitchell and West Monroe Board of Aldermen member Thom Hamilton voted against deleting the item.

After the 3-2 vote, Jay Mitchell — who also is Staci Mitchell’s husband — asked to approach the council. After an off-the-record conversation with Jay Mitchell, Mayo said legal counsel had informed the council that state law required a unanimous vote to amend the agenda. In other words, the 3-2 vote was insufficient to remove the item from the agenda.

After the meeting, Hamilton and Staci Mitchell explained they had voted to keep the original agenda in place and allow ambulance companies to speak, because they were new to OCOG. Mitchell took office earlier this month.

“I felt maybe we should hear them out because we’re new to OCOG,” Hamilton said. “Because we were voting on a such an important thing, I wanted to make sure I heard everything.”

Mitchell echoed Hamilton’s remarks and noted the extensive review completed by the Ambulance Advisory Committee.

“It’s hard to go against a committee when it has done all this work,” Staci Mitchell said.

Robinson said he had sought to remove the item from the agenda, because he believed the two losing ambulance companies would use the time for remarks to sling accusations.

“I just wanted to avoid the negativity,” Robinson said. “They’ve had a year, and they waited until today to complain.”

AMR, Pafford object

OCOG did not take a vote on the matter until after considering some heated remarks from AMR as well as some objections from Pafford as well.

Before and after OCOG's meeting, AMR distributed materials to the press criticizing the Ambulance Advisory Committee's work.

In his remarks to OCOG, Chris Cirillo, AMR's regional director, claimed the Ambulance Advisory Committee did not consider certain questions after sending out its Request for Proposals, or RFP.

"This RFP is very concerning," Cirillo said. "We believe the RFP process was flawed."

Later, Cirillo explained the RFP process did not provide certain information to ambulance companies seeking the parish's business.

"No bidders were provided detailed response data," Cirillo said.

Cirillo pointed out AMR had served as the parish's ambulance service provider for some 40 years.

If OCOG selected Acadian, the council would be choosing "slower response times" and "higher bills for citizens," according to Cirillo.

"If you select Acadian, there is no doubt citizens will have slower response times and higher costs," Cirillo said.

Cirillo claimed AMR had proposed a fleet of 25 ambulances while Acadian's proposal entailed only 19.

Mike Seymour, chief medical officer with Pafford EMS, claimed Pafford had faster response times than Acadian and referred to other qualifications in the RFP process as "fluff RFP."



No public subsidy?

When Cirillo claimed that AMR did not ask for a public subsidy, both Robinson and Jay Mitchell corrected him.

“AMR has not asked for a public subsidy,” Cirillo said.

Robinson pointed out that AMR’s proposal entailed a “free version” for ambulance services, but AMR also had requested up to \$1.5 million in a public subsidy each year to provide top-level service.

Acadian would provide ambulance services in Ouachita Parish at no cost to parish taxpayers.

Jay Mitchell, who has frequently commented on the historically factious nature of RFPs for the parish’s ambulance service provider, said AMR’s different versions, whether paid for with \$1.5 million in public funds or its “free version,” were not directly comparable to the proposal offered by Acadian.

“Let me say this,” Jay Mitchell began. “I’ve said this before, but I equally dislike all of these ambulance companies, because of this. I’m not here for any other reason than to report on behalf of the committee. If something is stated incorrectly, I want to say something.”

The Ouachita Parish Ambulance Advisory Committee’s full memorandum on the three ambulance companies’ scores and proposals are available for review at www.ouachitacitizen.com.

Unanimous vote

On behalf of Acadian’s some 4,200 employee owners, Acadian’s vice president Mike Burney expressed thanks for the Ambulance Advisory Committee’s decision to recommend Acadian Ambulance as the parish’s sole provider.

“We were very pleased when the committee voted to recommend Acadian,” said Burney.

Prior to the vote, Staci Mitchell said she and Hamilton spent time discussing the matter with some committee members.

“We both wanted to vote for what was best for the citizens of West Monroe,” she said.

OCOG’s vote was unanimous.



Ouachita Parish Ambulance Advisory Committee_Rating memo.pdf
Jul 25, 2018