

Judge Donald R. Johnson, Chief Judge
Judge William "Will" Jorden,
Deputy Chief Judge (Criminal)
Judge Kelly E. Balfour,
Deputy Chief Judge (Civil)
Judge Fred T. Crifasi
Judge Wilson E. Fields
Judge Tiffany Foxworth-Roberts



Nineteenth Judicial District Court
East Baton Rouge Parish

Judge Beau Higginbotham
Judge Louise Hines
Judge Ronald R. Johnson
Judge Eboni Johnson Rose
Judge Richard M. "Chip" Moore
Judge Brad Myers
Judge Gail Horne Ray
Judge Tarvald A. Smith
Judge Trudy M. White

Kevin D. Bolds
Judicial Administrator

300 North Blvd, Suite 3602
Baton Rouge, LA 70801
Telephone: (225) 389-4744
Fax: (225) 389-4774

MINUTES
19TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
BUILDING COMMISSION MEETING
JUNE 22, 2023

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Judge Eboni Johnson Rose called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m. Roll was taken and a quorum was present.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Judge Eboni Johnson Rose
Judge Kelly E. Balfour,
Deputy Chief Judge (Civil)
Judge Fred T. Crifasi
Judge Donald R. Johnson, Chief Judge
Judge Wilson E. Fields
Judge Louise Hines
Judge Ronald R. Johnson
Judge William "Will" Jorden,
Deputy Chief Judge (Criminal)
Judge Brad Myers
Judge Gail Ray
Judge Tarvald A. Smith

MEMBERS ABSENT

Judge Tiffany Foxworth-Roberts
Judge Beau Higginbotham

Judge Richard M. "Chip" Moore

OTHERS PRESENT

Kevin D. Bolds, Judicial Administrator
Charmane Brooks, Judicial Administrator Secretary
Judge Baker, Family Court
Judge Day, Family Court
Ronnie Bullion, Administrator of Family Court
Rachel Shows, Administrator Assistant/ Floating Court Reporter
Lee Bressler, Manager Director for Raymond James Investment
Diana Gibbens, General Counsel
Kim Ford, Finance Director

Mary Wheeler, Human Resources Manager
Captain Herbert Williams, EBRSO Security

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE BUILDING COMMISSION MEETING OF MAY 11, 2023.

Judge Myers moved to accept the minutes of the May 11, 2023 meeting. Chief Judge Johnson seconded the motion. Judge Fields noted his name is missing from the list of judges present at the last meeting. Judge Johnson Rose asked that the minutes be accepted as amended. A roll call vote was called and the motion passed with 10 yea [Johnson Rose, Balfour, Crifasi, Fields, Hines, Don Johnson, Ron Johnson, Jorden, Myers, Ray] and 0 nay votes. Judge Fields moved that the minutes of the meetings be typed and distributed within 48 hours. Judge Ron Johnson seconded the motion and it passed with no objection.

III. BUSINESS

Lee Bressler and Investment Team

Judge Johnson Rose called upon Lee Bressler to give a report of the Building Commission funds. Mr. Bressler reported that rates are at a reasonable rate, between 4% and 5%. He noted the investment strategy is a ladder approach. He informed the Judges that new rates are locked in every three months. Judge Myers asked the purpose of the three funds. Mr. Bressler explained the debt service fund, the rate stabilization fund and the reserve fund. Mr. Bressler asked about the current court room upgrades and Judge Johnson Rose informed the Commission the next four court rooms to be upgraded will be those of Judge Jorden, Judge Johnson Rose, Judge Moore and Judge Balfour. The backend equipment in the two initially upgraded court rooms, 7B and 8A, will also be upgraded along with the next four. Judge Baker asked that Family Court be considered for future upgrades and Judge Johnson Rose told her their needs will also be taken into consideration. Chief Judge Johnson asked for the balance of the debt service fund, to which Mr. Bressler responded between \$6 and \$7 million. Mr. Bressler reminded the Commission that the period to use the surplus funds is between June and November and it can be used to purchase items such as operational capital equipment. Mr. Bressler commended Mrs. Kim M. Ford on her handling of the Building Commission accounts. Judge Myers moved to approve Mr. Bressler's report and to approve up to \$650,000 for the next set of technology upgrades. Judge Ron Johnson seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken. The motion passed with 11 yea [Johnson Rose, Balfour, Crifasi, Fields, Hines, Don Johnson, Ron Johnson, Jorden, Myers, Ray, Smith] and 0 nay votes.

Review Security Camera System Quotes

Captain Williams informed the Commission that Techneaux will update the quote to include coverage in the stairwells. MMR will also revise their quote. Judge Johnson Rose will place this item on the next meeting's agenda.

Installation of Metal Detector at 3rd Security Checkpoint

Captain Williams reported the third metal detector has been installed and is working. Judge Fields asked if the installation cost of about \$3,100.00 is a Sheriff's cost or Building Commission. Chief Judge Johnson will look into who pays. Judge Johnson Rose informed the Commission that she will meet with the Sheriff and Chief Judge Johnson to determine what security related expenses the Sheriff's Office should pay.

Fire Control Panel Training

This item was skipped.

Four Addition Court Room Upgrades

This item was discussed during Mr. Bressler's presentation.

Parking in the basement

Chief Judge Johnson asked to be updated on what is happening in the basement that jeopardizes the security of the building. Captain Williams explained the elevator from the basement gives a person access to the entire building. Judge Day stated the need for a deputy to be stationed in the basement. Judge Baker suggested that changing the programming of the elevator should solve this problem and Captain Williams informed her that Johnson Controls is looking into doing just that. Judge Balfour pointed out that the elevators going to the 2nd Floor and 1st Floor without using a badge is probably a requirement to allow evacuation of the building when needed. Judge Fields also noted that the first public elevator goes to the basement and people are able to ride it down to the basement if a Judge calls for it. Judge Johnson Rose read the parking notice adopted by the 19th JDC Judges and asked that the Building Commission also adopt it. Judge Balfour moved to adopt the notice and Judge Myers seconded the motion. Judge Myers expressed his concern that family members are being allowed to park in the basement without the person who has permission to park there being present. Judge Baker stated she sometimes needs her staff to come in on weekends and she will give her badge to them. Judge Johnson Rose explained to Judge Baker that the 19th JDC has an established practice to give weekend access to those who need it. Judge Johnson Rose called for a vote on the motion and it passed with 9 yea [Johnson Rose, Balfour, Crifasi, Fields, Don Johnson, Ron Johnson, Jordan, Myers, Ray] and 0 nay votes. Judge Baker asked for Rachel Shows to be allowed to park in Ronnie Bullion's spot as needed. Chief Judge Johnson moved to allow Family Court Deputy Judicial Administrator to park in the basement and it was seconded by Judge Ray. Judge Fields offered a substitute motion to allow the Sheriff three basement parking spots only. Judge Balfour seconded the motion and a roll call vote was called for after Chief Judge Johnson reminded the Commission that he is working on additional parking for the Sheriff's deputies outside of the building. The substitute motion passed with 8 yea [Johnson Rose, Balfour, Fields, Don Johnson, Ron Johnson, Jordan, Myers, Ray] and 1 nay [Crifasi] votes. Judge Johnson Rose assigned spots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 to Family Court; spots 7, 8, and 27 to the Sheriff; spot 32 will be reserved for visitors.

Removal of Carpet/High Voltage Cable in Basement

Chief Judge Johnson asked for the status of this request. Administrator Bolds informed him that a ticket has been submitted to Maintenance to have these items removed. Kyle Allgood is out but Mr. Bolds will follow up on the status with the Building and Grounds Department. Judge Johnson Rose will keep this item on the next meeting agenda.

IV. UPDATES

Judge Johnson Rose asked the Commission to note the updates. They will remain on the next meeting's agenda.

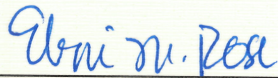
1. Consideration of Juvenile Court moving into Courthouse
2. Update on sally port (additional parking) meeting with City-Parish
3. Purchase Automated External Defibrillators (AED)
4. Fire Drills

5. Update on Installing wall for Family Court IT
6. Update on the upgrades to courtroom technology in rooms 7A, 8B, 9A, 8C
7. Update on MTI inmate door access upgrade
8. Update on SonicWall firewall installation
9. Upgrade on carpet replacement assessment
10. Update on 5G Cellular Service

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Judge Fields moved to adjourn and Chief Judge Johnson seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 1:14 PM.

APPROVED:



Judge Eboni Johnson Rose, Chair