

Recd.
2012-0242

INTRODUCED BY: V.J. ST. PIERRE, JR., PARISH PRESIDENT

RESOLUTION NO. 5924

A resolution of a commitment in joining the servicing district for St. James Youth Detention Center in St. James Parish.

WHEREAS, Act 863 of the 2010 Regular Legislative Session, mandated the creation of juvenile standards for juvenile detention centers statewide. In September 2010 a task force was created comprising of several entities related to juvenile detention, as well as administrators and directors of all juvenile detention facilities. The goal of this task force was to compile and analyze data, research, and current practices nationwide to develop "best practice" standards for juvenile detention facilities; and,

WHEREAS, the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) was chosen to promulgate these standards when they were completed by the task force; and,

WHEREAS, on July 1, 2011, the task force finalized and submitted the detention standards to DCFS and these standards are great for youth detentions as they will elevate the care for youth detentions to new heights; and,

WHEREAS, currently it is costing St. James Parish approximately \$160.00 per day to house a juvenile at the facility and are estimating the daily housing cost to increase to approximately \$250-\$280.00 per day with the new rules for licensing in effect; and,

WHEREAS, Act 365 of the 2012 Regular Legislative Session allows for the creation of a multi-jurisdictional board of commissioners to support the operation of the juvenile detention facility, comprising of customer parishes, to promote the operation of the St. James Youth Center; and,

WHEREAS, St. James Parish cannot continue to operate the St. James Parish Youth Center without assistance; and,

WHEREAS, the St. James Youth Center has become a vital part of the manner in which local law enforcement agencies handle cases with juvenile offenders and without this facility judges and local law enforcement agencies will be forced to use alternative methods of handling juvenile offenders.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT WE THE MEMBERS OF THE ST. CHARLES PARISH COUNCIL AND THE PARISH PRESIDENT, are committed to join the creation of a multi-jurisdictional board with the authority to levy taxes, if passed by the voters, comprising of neighboring parishes, to provide for the governance of the district and provide for the operation of the St. James Youth Center as allowed by Act 365 of the 2012 Regular Legislative Session; provided the Parish reserves the right to withdraw from the Board.

The foregoing resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: SCHEXNAYDRE, FAUCHEUX, WILSON, TASTET, BENEDETTO, HOGAN, COCHRAN, FLETCHER, NUSS

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

And the resolution was declared adopted this 2nd day of July 2012, to become effective five (5) days after publication in the Official Journal.

CHAIRMAN: _____

ACTING

SECRETARY: _____

DLVD/PARISH PRESIDENT: _____

APPROVED:

DISAPPROVED: _____

PARISH PRESIDENT: _____

RETD/SECRETARY: _____

AT: 11:05am

RECD BY: _____