Acadia jurors consider '87 budget, '86 debts

By JO CART
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CROWLEY — The Acadia Parish Police Jury considered its 1987 budget Tuesday, but not before being asked to provide more funds for 1986.

Sheriff Ken Goss asked for an additional $15,300, and parish Coroner Mark Dawson asked for another $2,100. The jury is required by law to provide the funds.

Jurors asked Secretary-Treasurer Joe Arabie where the money will come from.

"We don't have it, so I guess we'll just have to carry the amount over into the new budget year," Arabie said.

Jurors later asked Arabie if the jury's bills are paid to date.

"No, gentlemen, all bills are not paid. They are not all paid," he said.

Finance Committee Chairman Leroy Breaux said after the meeting that the new budget will be studied in the next week or 10 days.

"I'm hoping the various departments would understand that we just don't have the money, and will try to find ways to economize like we have done in the jury itself," he said.

The jury's Finance Committee will be asked to hold a special meeting for completing the budget, he said.

On another matter, the jury accepted the low bid of $4,477 from General Equipment Inc. for a road sweeper at the Acadia Parish sanitary landfill. The purchase will be made with sales-tax funds dedicated to solid-waste collection.

The jury also authorized the tax collector's office to withhold the prorated amount due from each taxing district for the purchase of computer equipment and software.

On another matter, President Joe Baronet asked the jury to approve advertising for bids on a fixed-base operator at the LeGros Memorial Airport.

Roy Stewart of Highland Aire Inc. of New Iberia has expressed an interest in leasing the airport, he said.

The jury also approved closing the Courthouse on Dec. 26 and Jan 2.