Police jurors discuss spending cuts

By ELIZABETH BROWN
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CLINTON — The East Feliciana Police Jury on Tuesday discussed the spending cuts necessary to balance the parish budget.

Cuts will affect road maintenance, waste disposal and the parish insurance coverage.

The parish’s insurance policy covers general liability, worker’s compensation, auto liability and fire extended coverage. After discussing possible cuts and reductions with an insurance representative and jury accountant Phil Graham, jurors learned they will have to pay $164,511 by Feb. 1 for one year of insurance coverage.

Jury President Charles Coleman said the parish suffered a loss of $500,000 in revenue last year.

Funds for East Feliciana’s roads and bridges are now generated solely by the parish sales tax.

In 1986 the sales tax generated $360,000. However, the tax will generate only $292,000 for 1987, he said.

Graham said reducing the money spent on the equipment, maintenance and repairs would be necessary to balance the budget. Seven employees would have to be laid off, he said.

Considering the reductions East Feliciana Parish residents would have to suffer, Juror Myron Hall recommended a $50 reduction in the pay check of each juror. “If we’re going to cut everyone else, we should cut ourselves,” he said.

The jury agreed that the parish’s most recent garbage collection bill was too high and decided to limit collection to five bags of garbage per week. Coleman said he hoped the businesses would try to economize and share dumpsters.

“I know it’ll be hard on them,” said, “but there’s nothing else they can do.”