Tangipahoa lays off road, bridge workers

By JAY WORKMAN
Florida Parishes bureau

AMITE—Seven road and bridge workers were laid off Monday night by the Tangipahoa Parish Council.

The remaining 20 road crew employees will work 40 hours a week instead of 32. "We'll get more production out of the workers we have," parish President Gordon Burgess said.

He also said he will study a request by J.W. Jordan of J&V Sanitation that the fee for residential garbage collections be increased by $1 a month, to $4.80. Burgess said he will present a recommendation on the request to the council soon.

"He (Jordan) is asking for the council to pick up the additional dollar, but we don't have the money to do that," Council Chairman Katie Wainwright said.

Jordan said he has 5,200 customers but needs 3,000 more "to break even.

Neighbors are pooling their trash with one family paying once for several households, Jordan said. He asks that a limit of three bags per customer be created.

On another matter, the council passed a resolution opposing an application to the state Department of Environmental Quality for a hazardous waste incinerator in neighboring St. Helena Parish and asking the state attorney general to assist in opposition to the proposal.

Members approved a holiday schedule for 1987 similar to this year's. Council offices will be closed for New Year's Day, Jan. 1; Martin Luther King Day, Jan. 19; George Washington Day, Feb. 16; Mardi Gras, March 3; Good Friday, Apr. 17; Memorial Day, May 25; Independence Day, July 3; Labor Day, Sept. 7; Columbus Day, Oct. 12; Veterans Day, Nov. 11; Thanksgiving and Friday, Nov. 26 and 27; Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, Dec. 24 and 25; and New Year's Eve, Dec. 31.

In other action, council members:
• Voted to ask Gov. Edwin Edwards for funds to repair a washout at Wardline Road Bridge.
• Scheduled action at the Dec. 22 meeting on a 1987 budget to be presented by Burgess.
• Set a public hearing for 1 p.m. Dec. 1 on a 5-mill property tax election, scheduled Jan. 17, to support fire protection District No. 1.
• Agreed to consider an ordinance that would require property owners to maintain vacant lots.
• Assigned public works director Leee Mapes to talk to Illinois Central Gulf Railroad officials about moving pulpwood stacks that block sight where La. 1064 crosses the tracks at Natalbany.