

Existing law generally authorizes parishes to create recreation districts and provides for a governing board of such a district comprised of five members or seven members.

Prior law, relative to Jackson Parish, authorized the governing authority of the parish to provide that the board of commissioners of the recreation district consisted of 10 members. Required that each commissioner be a resident of a different municipality. New law provides instead for a seven-member board of commissioners for the recreation district in Jackson Parish. New law requires that each be a resident of a different police jury district.

Prior law, relative to the Jackson Parish recreation district, provided that commissioners served five-year staggered terms. New law provides that commissioners serve three-year staggered terms.

Existing law authorizes recreation districts, subject to voter approval, to levy an ad valorem tax not to exceed 15 mills for a period not to exceed 10 years for the purpose of maintaining and operating the district and to levy special maintenance taxes and issue bonds for the purpose of purchasing and acquiring lands, buildings, equipment, and other facilities, and for the construction and maintenance thereof. Provides that an election on such questions shall be called by the board of commissioners. Existing law requires that the board of commissioners select a secretary-treasurer who is not a commissioner and fix the secretary-treasurer's salary and office expense allowance. Authorizes the board to appoint a director. Provides that commissioners shall receive a \$10 per diem for not more than 12 meetings per year.

New law provides that the recreation board in Jackson Parish is subject to the general supervisory authority of the Jackson Parish governing authority and that the recreation board shall not exercise any of the following powers except after review and approval by the parish governing authority:

- (1) Adopt a budget for the recreation district.
- (2) Make any change in the compensation or expenses of commissioners, the secretary-treasurer, and the director.
- (3) Call an election on a tax proposition.
- (4) Roll forward or roll back ad valorem tax millage rates.

New law additionally authorizes the parish governing authority to annually set the ad valorem tax millage rate to be collected by the board, subject to limits otherwise provided by law.

New law provides that terms of commissioners serving on the effective date of new law terminate and requires appointment of the board in accordance with new law.

Effective upon signature of governor (May 31, 2012).

(Amends R.S. 33:4564.5)