

RIVER PARISHES

TOURIST COMMISSION

MINUTES

Regular Board Meeting

May 18, 2023, 5 pm

1720 LA Highway 44, Reserve, LA 70084

- I. Call to Order / Roll Call – Elizabeth Joseph / Denise Burrell
TS **RS** NB EJ RT **KP** CL TJ (6 - 3)
Steven Bourgeois joined the Commissioners after being administered the Oath of Office
Attorney Henri Dufresne in attendance
- II. Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance Prayer TJ Pledge RT
- III. Approval of Current Agenda – *Action*
o Motion to approve the current agenda of May 18, 2023.
APPROVED M: TS 2: NB
TS NB EJ RT CL TJ (6 - 0 - 0)
- IV. Administration of the Oath of Office
• Attorney Henri Dufresne administered the Oath of Office to the newest Commissioner - Steven Bourgeois. Commissioner Bourgeois joined his fellow Commissioners and took his seat.
- V. Public Comment
No Public Comments START 5:04 END 5:05
- VI. Approval of Minutes
• April 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes – *Action*
o Motion to approve the minutes of April 20, 2023, Regular Meeting.
APPROVED M: TS 2: RT
TS NB EJ RT CL TJ SB (7 - 0 - 0)
- VII. Financial
• April 2023 Monthly Financials – *Action*
o Motion to approve the monthly financials for April 2023.
APPROVE M: TS 2: NB
TS NB EJ RT CL TJ SB (7 - 0 - 0)
- VIII. River Parishes Tourist Commission Report
• Operations
Executive Director & Senior Communications & Engagement Manager positions are unfilled.
The Executive Director position hiring process is currently in progress.
• River Region Cruise Terminal Monthly Update
• Louisiana Steam Train Association Update
• Sales Report
• Marketing & Public Relations Report

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IX. Conferences/FAM Tours

- Willma Harvey shared:
 - Travel South USA Global Summit-Pre FAM Tour, Louisiana's River Parishes (Apr 22-24)
 - Travel South USA Global Summit, New Orleans, LA (Apr 24-26)
 - Louisiana Rural Tourism & By-Ways Conference, Port Allen, LA (May 3-4)
- Denise Burrell shared:
 - Sports ETA, Kansas City, MO (May 7-11)
- Mid-South Women in Tourism FAM Tour, Louisiana's River Parishes (May 16)
- International POW WOW, San Antonio, TX (May 20-25)
- Andre Watkins shared:
 - Southeast Tourism Society Marketing College, Macon, GA (June 3-9)
- 2023 Society of Government Meeting Professionals - National Education Conference, Bloomington, MN (June 6-8)
- LOT France Sales Mission, Lyons & Parish, France (June 12-16)

X. Community Engagement

- Film Day at the Capitol (May 3)
- National Travel & Tourism Week (May 7 -13)
- National Economic Development Week (May 8-12)
- Tourism Day at the Capitol, Baton Rouge, LA (May 31)
- River Region Chamber of Commerce, LaPlace, LA (June 1)

XI. Chairman's Report

- Next Regular Board Meeting – June 15, 2023 @ 5pm
- Interviewing & Selection Committee for the Executive Director position
 - Committee Chairwoman Camella Landry shared update on the hiring process timeline.
- Contract Review Committee
 - Committee Chairman Jones shared update on the current advertising and marketing professional services.

Commissioner Landry shared on the upcoming St. James Parish Economic Development Board Small Business Appreciation Banquet taking place on Tuesday, June 20, 2023 @ West Bank Reception Center in Vacherie 5pm.

XII. Adjourn – *Action*

- Motion to adjourn.

APPROVE M: CL 2: SB

TS NB EJ RT CL TJ SB

(7 - 0 - 0)