

River Parishes Convention, Tourist, and Visitors Commission
Regular Meeting | August 15, 2024 | Official Minutes

The River Parishes Convention, Tourist, and Visitors Commission met on Thursday, August 15, 2024, at the Port of South Louisiana Office located at 1720 LA Highway 44 om Reserve, Louisiana 70084.

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order by Secretary-Treasurer and Acting Chair, Camella Landry at 5:00PM.

Roll Call

Willma Harvey called the roll as follows:

Board Member	Board Assignment	Attendance
Camella Landry	Secretary-Treasurer & Acting President	Present
Terrence Jones	Vice President	Present
Bradley Poche	Commissioner	Absent
Elizabeth Joseph	Commissioner	Present
Bonnie Dinvaut	Commissioner	Present
Tracy Smith	Commissioner	Absent
Ricardo Smith	Commissioner	Absent
Noble Benoit	Commissioner	Present

Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph led the Prayer, and Commissioner Camella Landry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut moved to approve the August 15, 2024, Agenda. Commissioner Terrence Jones seconded the motion. Commissioner Camella Landry asked the question with the following results:

Commissioner Camella Landry	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Terrence Jones	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Bradley Poche	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Tracy Smith	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Ricardo Smith	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Noble Beniot	Voted	Yes

The motion having been duly made and seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Board, Commissioner Camella Landry, declared the motion adopted on August 15, 2024.

Public Comment

Commissioner Landry asked if there were any public comments from the audience. There were no public comments.

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Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut moved to approve June 20, 2024, Regular Commission Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Noble Benoit. Commissioner Camella Landry asked the question with the following results:

Commissioner Camella Landry	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Terrence Jones	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Bradley Poche	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Tracy Smith	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Ricardo Smith	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Noble Beniot	Voted	Yes

The motion having been duly made and seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Board, Commissioner Camella Landry, declared the motion adopted on August 15, 2024.

Financials

Commissioner Terrence Jones moved to approve the June 2024 Financials. Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph seconded the motion. Commissioner Camella Landry asked the question with the following results:

Commissioner Camella Landry	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Terrence Jones	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Bradley Poche	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Tracy Smith	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Ricardo Smith	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Noble Beniot	Voted	Yes

The motion having been duly made and seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Board, Commissioner Camella Landry, declared the motion adopted on August 15, 2024.

Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut moved to approve the July 2024 Financials. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph.

Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph brought up the \$16,000.00 payment for the King Kat Tournament Trail and inquired about potential additional expenses. Denise Burrell replied that signage might be needed, which would incur extra costs. Commissioner Camella Landry instructed the staff to provide the board with the economic impact of hotel room nights generated by the King Kat Tournament.

Commissioner Landry asked the question for the motion with the following results:

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Commissioner Camella Landry	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Terrence Jones	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Bradley Poche	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Tracy Smith	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Ricardo Smith	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Noble Beniot	Voted	Yes

The motion having been duly made and seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Board, Commissioner Camella Landry, declared the motion adopted on August 15, 2024.

Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut instructed the staff to craft a comprehensive board packet and implement a policy authorizing the staff to promptly deliver the packet to the board well before the commission meetings.

Approvals

Resolution 2024-12 Auditor Annual Engagement

Commissioner Terrence Jones moved to authorize the Executive Director to sign letters of engagement with Martin & Pellegrin CPA to conduct the audit of the financial statements and statewide agreed-upon procedures for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph. Commissioner Landry asked the question with the following results:

Commissioner Camella Landry	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Terrence Jones	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Bradley Poche	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Tracy Smith	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Ricardo Smith	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Noble Beniot	Voted	Yes

The motion having been duly made and seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Board, Commissioner Camella Landry, declared the motion adopted on August 15, 2024.

Executive Director’s Report

Denise Burrell, Executive Director, reported on the following activities

Staff Participation

- Mid-South Women in Travel month meetings
- Southeastern Louisiana GUMBO Group
- Marketing Partner Quarterly Luncheon Meeting 2nd Quarter – Libraries & Tourism
- Deveney Advertising Planning

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- Development of a strategic plan (Commissioner Dinvaut asked that benchmarks are included in the plan.
- St. John the Baptist Summer Reading Program
- Ribbon Cuttings: River Region Chamber & St. John the Baptist Parish
- River Parishes Super Bowl Kickoff Party

Conferences & Familiarization (FAM) Tours

- Louisiana Travel Summit

Willma Harvey, reported on the following:

- Connect 2024 Fall Marketplace
- Destinations International Annual Conference
- Student Youth Travel Association

Community Engagement

- 49th Annual Andouille Festival Kick-Off & Poster Reveal
- King Kat Fishing Tournament

Chairman’s Report

Commissioner Noble Benoit reported that he, along with Commissioners Bonnie Dinvaut and Terrance Jones, will be meeting with Deveney Advertising to assess the agency's services. Their goal is to identify the essential services provided by the agency and to determine if it is necessary to hire a professional specializing in information technology and website development and maintenance. Commissioner Landry requested to be a part of the assessment.

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for October 17, 2024, at 5:00PM.

Adjourn

Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut moved to adjourn from the August 15, 2024 regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Terrence Jones. Commissioner Camella Landry asked the question with the following results:

Commissioner Camella Landry	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Terrence Jones	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Bradley Poche	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Tracy Smith	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Ricardo Smith	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Noble Beniot	Voted	Yes

The motion having been duly made and seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Board, Commissioner Camella Landry, declared the motion adopted on August 15, 2024.