

**River Parishes Convention, Tourist, and Visitors Commission**  
**Regular Meeting | December 19, 2024 | Official Minutes**

The River Parishes Convention, Tourist, and Visitors Commission met on Thursday, December 19, 2024, in the River Parishes Tourist Commission Office, Conference Room, 1720 LA Highway 44, Reserve, Louisiana 70084.

**Call To Order**

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Tracy Smith at 5:15 PM.

Commissioner Tracy Smith moved to approve Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph as the acting chair for the December 19, 2024, Regular Meeting minutes. Commissioner Kelly Lee Tomeny seconded the motion. Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph called the question, with the following results:

Commissioner Camella Landry	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Noble Benoit	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut	Absent	Yes
Commissioner Terrence Jones	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Bradley Poche	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Tracy Smith	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Kelly Lee Tomeny	Voted	Yes

**Roll Call**

Denise Burrell called the roll as follows:

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Board Assignment</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Camella Landry	Chairwoman	Absent
Elizabeth Joseph	Vice-Chairwoman	Present
Noble Benoit	Secretary-Treasurer	Present
Bonnie Dinvaut	Commissioner	Present
Terrence Jones	Commissioner	Absent
Bradley Poche	Commissioner	Present
Tracy Smith	Commissioner	Present
Kelly Lee Tomeny	Commissioner	Present
Vacant	Commissioner	Vacant

**Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance**

Commissioner Noble Benoit led the Prayer, and Commissioner Tracey Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Comment**

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

**River Parishes Convention, Tourist, and Visitors Commission**  
**Regular Meeting | December 19, 2024 | Official Minutes**

Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut moved to accept the agenda for the December 19, 2024, Regular Meeting. Commissioner Noble Benoit seconded the motion. Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph called the question with the following results:

Commissioner Camella Landry	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Noble Benoit	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut	Absent	Yes
Commissioner Terrence Jones	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Bradley Poche	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Tracy Smith	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Kelly Lee Tomeny	Voted	Yes

The motion having been duly made and seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Board, Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph declared the motion adopted on December 19, 2024.

**Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph moved to table the minutes of the October 11, 2024, and November 6, 2024, Special Meetings. Commissioner Kelly Lee Tomeny seconded the motion. Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph called the question, with the following results:

Commissioner Camella Landry	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Noble Benoit	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut	Absent	Yes
Commissioner Terrence Jones	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Bradley Poche	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Tracy Smith	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Kelly Lee Tomeny	Voted	Yes

The motion having been duly made and seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Board, Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph declared the motion adopted on December 19, 2024.

Commissioner Noble Benoit moved to accept the October 17, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Tracy Smith seconded the motion. Commissioner Joseph called the question with the following results:

Commissioner Camella Landry	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Noble Benoit	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut	Absent	Yes
Commissioner Terrence Jones	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Bradley Poche	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Tracy Smith	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Kelly Lee Tomeny	Voted	Yes

The motion having been duly made and seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Board, Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph declared the motion adopted on December 19, 2024.

**River Parishes Convention, Tourist, and Visitors Commission**  
**Regular Meeting | December 19, 2024 | Official Minutes**

**Financials**

The budget-to-actual financial statements were presented. Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut made a motion to approve monthly financials for October 2024. Commissioner Noble Benoit seconded the motion. Commissioner Joseph called the question with the following results:

Commissioner Camella Landry	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Noble Benoit	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut	Absent	Yes
Commissioner Terrence Jones	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Bradley Poche	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Tracy Smith	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Kelly Lee Tomeny	Voted	Yes

The motion having been duly made and seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Board, Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph declared the motion adopted on December 19, 2024.

The budget-to-actual financial statements were presented. Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut made a motion to approve monthly financials for November 2024. Commissioner Noble Benoit seconded the motion. Commissioner Joseph called the question with the following results:

Commissioner Camella Landry	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Noble Benoit	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut	Absent	Yes
Commissioner Terrence Jones	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Bradley Poche	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Tracy Smith	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Kelly Lee Tomeny	Voted	Yes

The motion having been duly made and seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Board, Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph declared the motion adopted on December 19, 2024.

**Approvals**

**Resolution 2024-21 – Louisiana Travel Association Membership**

Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut moved to authorize the Executive Director to execute the Agreement with the Louisiana Travel Association as a 2025 Premium Partner. Commissioner Noble Benoit seconded the motion. Commissioner Joseph called the question with the following results:

Commissioner Camella Landry	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Noble Benoit	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut	Absent	Yes
Commissioner Terrence Jones	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Bradley Poche	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Tracy Smith	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Kelly Lee Tomeny	Voted	Yes

**River Parishes Convention, Tourist, and Visitors Commission**  
**Regular Meeting | December 19, 2024 | Official Minutes**

The motion having been duly made and seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Board, Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph declared the motion adopted on December 19, 2024.

Resolution 2024-22 – 2025 Meeting Schedule

Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut moved to approve the formal meeting schedule of the River Parishes Convention, Tourist, and Visitors Commission for 2025. Commissioner Kelly Lee Tomeny seconded the motion. Commissioner Joseph called the question with the following results:

Commissioner Camella Landry	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Noble Benoit	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut	Absent	Yes
Commissioner Terrence Jones	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Bradley Poche	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Tracy Smith	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Kelly Lee Tomeny	Voted	Yes

The motion having been duly made and seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Board, Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph declared the motion adopted on December 19, 2024.

Commissioner Tracy Smith moved to suspend the current agenda. Commissioner Noble Benoit seconded the motion. Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph called the question with the following results:

Commissioner Camella Landry	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Noble Benoit	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut	Absent	Yes
Commissioner Terrence Jones	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Bradley Poche	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Tracy Smith	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Kelly Lee Tomeny	Voted	Yes

The motion having been duly made and seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Board, Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph declared the motion adopted on December 19, 2024.

Commissioner Tracy Smith moved to amend the suspended agenda to two approval line items: (1) authorizing the Executive Director to execute the St. James Parish School Board Use of Facilities Request/Lease Form and (2) authorizing the Executive Director to execute the St. James Parish School Board Release and Indemnity Agreement. Commissioner Noble Benoit seconded the motion. Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph called the question with the following results:

Commissioner Camella Landry	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Noble Benoit	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut	Absent	Yes
Commissioner Terrence Jones	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Bradley Poche	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Tracy Smith	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Kelly Lee Tomeny	Voted	Yes

**River Parishes Convention, Tourist, and Visitors Commission**  
**Regular Meeting | December 19, 2024 | Official Minutes**

The motion having been duly made and seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Board, Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph declared the motion adopted on December 19, 2024.

Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut moved to authorize the Executive Director to execute the St. James Parish School Board Release and Indemnity Agreement. Commissioner Kelly Lee Tomeny seconded the motion. Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph called the question with the following results:

Commissioner Camella Landry	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Noble Benoit	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut	Absent	Yes
Commissioner Terrence Jones	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Bradley Poche	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Tracy Smith	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Kelly Lee Tomeny	Voted	Yes

The motion having been duly made and seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Board, Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph declared the motion adopted on December 19, 2024.

Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph moved to authorize the Executive Director to execute the St. James Parish School Board Use of Facilities Request/Lease Form. Commissioner Noble Benoit seconded the motion. Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph called the question with the following results:

Commissioner Camella Landry	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Noble Benoit	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut	Absent	Yes
Commissioner Terrence Jones	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Bradley Poche	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Tracy Smith	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Kelly Lee Tomeny	Voted	Yes

The motion having been duly made and seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Board, Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph declared the motion adopted on December 19, 2024.

**Executive Director's Report**

Denise Burrell reported the following participations:

- Attendance at various festivals.
- St. John Community Center Update yielded the floor to Vinny Braud, St. John the Baptist Parish Economic Development representative, to share. Ms. Braud shared that the Center is in Phase 2.
- Whitney Plantation 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary/Celebration update - yielded the floor to Trenice Cooper, St. Whitney Plantation, Deputy Director of Operations to share.
- Shared on the Candy Cane Celebration at Destrehan Plantation and yielded the floor to Commissioner Tracy Smith and Executive Director of Destrehan Plantation, to share.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Marketing Partner Luncheon at Quixote Studios
- The Louisiana Steam Train is making steady progress

**River Parishes Convention, Tourist, and Visitors Commission**  
**Regular Meeting | December 19, 2024 | Official Minutes**

**Conferences & Familiarization Tours**

- Denise Burrell, Chairwoman Camella Landry, Vice-Chairwoman Elizabeth Joseph, and Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut will attend Washington DC Mardi Gras in Washington, DC, January 22-26, 2024.
- Louisiana Travel Association Annual Meeting to take place in Monroe, LA, February 18, 2024.

**Community Engagement Events**

- A Spirit of Christmas at Destrehan Plantation
- Festival of the Bonfires

**Chairman’s Report**

- Next Regular Board Meeting – February 20, 2024 @ 5:00 PM.
- Welcomed Commissioner Kelly Lee Tomeny to the River Parishes Convention, Tourist, and Visitors Commission

**Adjourn**

Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut moved to adjourn the River Parishes Convention, Tourist, and Visitors Commission Meeting. Commissioner Noble Benoit seconded the motion. Commissioner Camella Joseph called the question with the following results:

Commissioner Camella Landry	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Noble Benoit	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut	Absent	Yes
Commissioner Terrence Jones	Absent	Absent
Commissioner Bradley Poche	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Tracy Smith	Voted	Yes
Commissioner Kelly Lee Tomeny	Voted	Yes

The motion having been duly made and seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Board, Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph declared the motion adopted on December 19, 2024.