

**River Parishes Convention, Tourist, and Visitors Commission  
Board Retreat | December 16, 2025, | Official Minutes**

The River Parishes Convention, Tourist, and Visitors Commission met on Tuesday, December 16, 2025, at the St. John the Baptist Parish Library, Third Floor, 1482 LA44, Reserve, LA 70084

**Call To Order**

Chairman Garrett Monti called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Administrative Assistant Julie Variste called the roll as follows:

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

**Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance**

Secretary/Treasurer Noble Benoit led the Prayer, and Chairman Garrett Monti led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Comment** - Start: 12:07 p.m. - End: 12:07 p.m.

No public comments were received.

**Approval of Current Agenda**

Commissioner Bonnie Dinvaut motioned to approve the current agenda of December 16, 2025. Vice-Chairwoman Camella Landry seconded the motion:

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Board Assignment</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Garrett Monti	Chairman	Yes
Camella Landry	Vice-Chairwoman	Yes
Noble Benoit	Secretary/Treasurer	Yes
Bonnie Dinvaut	Commissioner	Yes
Elizabeth Joseph	Commissioner	Yes
Tracy Smith	Commissioner	Yes

The motion having been duly made and seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Board, Chairman Garrett Monti declared the motion adopted on December 16, 2025.

## **Welcome**

Chairman Garrett Monti welcomed Commissioners and outlined the purpose of the retreat: strategic discussion, governance alignment, and long-term planning for the River Parishes Tourist Commission.

## **Governance Overview**

District Attorney Keith Green, Jr. provided an overview of the statutory structure of the Commission pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statute 33:4574.12, outlining the respective roles of the Board of Commissioners and the Executive Director.

## **Tourism Industry Presentation:**

Executive Director Denise Burrell presented statewide tourism statistics for 2025 and discussed general industry trends. Updated regional data will be shared with the Board once available.

## **Arrival of Commissioners**

Commissioner Terrence Jones and Commissioner Bradley Poche joined the meeting prior to the Strategic Discussion and Planning portion of the agenda.

## **Strategic Discussion and Planning:**

The Board engaged in a strategic planning discussion focused on:

- Data collection and performance measurement
- Stakeholder engagement
- Review of current Strategic Plan initiatives
- Marketing and industry partnerships
- Infrastructure and transportation considerations
- Organizational growth and committee structure

Commissioners discussed potential refinements to the existing Strategic Plan, improved data-tracking mechanisms, and enhanced collaboration with regional partners and stakeholders.

No formal action was taken.

## **Guest Presentation – America 250**

Representative Michael Baham provided an overview of the America 250 initiative and opportunities for parish participation in statewide commemorative programming.

## **Summary of Action Items**

The Board discussed potential next steps, including:

- Evaluation of advisory committee structure
- Review of the current RFP framework
- Continued exploration of data partnerships
- Further strategic planning discussions in upcoming meetings

No formal motions were made regarding these items.

**Adjournment**

Vice-Chairman Camella Landry motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Terrence Jones seconded the motion. Chairman Garrett Monti called the question with the following results:

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Board Assignment</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Garrett Monti	Chairman	Yes
Camella Landry	Vice-Chairwoman	Yes
Noble Benoit	Secretary/Treasurer	Yes
Bonnie Dinvaut	Commissioner	Yes
Elizabeth Joseph	Commissioner	Yes
Terrence Jones	Commissioner	Yes
Bradley Poche	Commissioner	Yes
Tracy Smith	Commissioner	Yes

The motion having been duly made and seconded, and a favorable vote received from the Board, Chairman Garrett Monti declared the motion adopted on December 16, 2025.