

Jennings, Louisiana
January 15, 2025

The Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury met in a Regular Session on the above date, in the Police Jury Meeting Room of the Sidney Briscoe Building located at 304 North State Street, Jennings, LA., at 5:00 P.M.

The following members were present:

DONALD WOODS	District 1	WAYNE FRUGE	District 8
CHAD WOODS	District 2	DAVID LEJEUNE	District 9
MARCUS PETERSON	District 3	BYRON BULLER	District 10
KORI MYERS	District 4	BUTCH LAFARGUE	District 11
TIM MCKNIGHT	District 5	OWEN CORMIER	District 12
	District 6	BILL LABOUVE	District 13
STEVE EASTMAN	District 7		

BEN BOUDREAUX, Administrator; LANCE PERSON, Legal Counsel

Absent: MELVIN ADAMS, District 6

The meeting was called to order by President Steve Eastman. Mrs. Gary gave the Invocation and Ms. Myers led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. McKnight made the motion, seconded by Ms. Myers, and carried, to amend the agenda to add an address by Coroner Dr. Charles Deese.

Dr. Deese presented the annual report on Coroner cases. There were 470 total cases in 2024.

Mr. Eastman turned the meeting over to Legal Counsel Lance Person. Mr. Person opened the floor for nominations for the office of President. Mr. Chad Woods made a motion to nominate Steve Eastman, which was seconded by Mr. Fruge. The motion was made by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Ms. Myers, and carried, to close the nominations for President. Mr. Person declared Steve Eastman as President. Upon being seated, President Eastman expressed his appreciation.

President Eastman called for nominations for the office of Vice-President. It was moved by Mr. Buller to nominate Butch LaFargue as Vice-President. The motion was seconded by Mr. LaBouve. Mr. Peterson moved to close the nominations. Ms. Myers seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Mr. LaFargue was declared as Vice-President.

The floor was opened for nominations for Unit Maintenance Committee Division One representative. The motion was made by Mr. Buller to nominate Mr. Fruge as representative of Division One. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cormier. It was moved by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Mr. LeJeune, and carried, to close the nominations. Therefore, Mr. Fruge was declared as representative for Division One.

Mr. LeJeune nominated Mr. Buller as Unit Maintenance Committee representative for Division Two. The motion was seconded by Mr. LaFargue. Mr. Fruge made the motion, seconded by Mr. Chad Woods, and carried, to close the nominations. Mr. Buller was declared to be Division Two representative.

It was moved by Mr. Cormier and seconded by Mr. LaFargue, to nominate Mr. LaBouve as Unit Maintenance Committee Division Three representative. Mr. Peterson moved to close nominations, Ms. Myers seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Therefore, Mr. LaBouve was declared as Division Three representative.

The motion was made by Mr. McKnight, seconded by Mr. Chad Woods, and carried, to adopt the following Resolution, to-wit:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Mr. J. Steven Eastman, Police Juror for District 7, has been duly elected as President of the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury, effective on January 15, 2025, and,

WHEREAS, the President of the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury shall have full authority and power to do any and all acts necessary and proper in order to accomplish the purpose of this resolution, and this resolution shall receive the broadest interpretation under the laws of this or any state, and,

WHEREAS, the office of President requires the signature of the President on checks and other documents on behalf of the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury, acting in Regular Session on this 15th day of January, 2025, to bestow on J. Steven Eastman, President of the Jefferson Davis Parish Police, the signing privileges for all checks and documents as required, and related to the office of President of the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury.

Mr. Cormier made the motion, seconded by Mr. Chad Woods, and carried, to adopt the following Resolution, to-wit:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Mr. Emerson T. “Butch” LaFargue, Police Juror for District 11, has been duly elected as Vice-President of the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury, effective on January 15, 2025, and,

WHEREAS, the Vice-President of the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury shall have full authority and power to sign all Police Jury checks and documents on behalf of the Police Jury, and,

WHEREAS, this grant of authority is intended to confer the signing authority upon Emerson T. “Butch” LaFargue, in order to maintain the Police Jury’s ability to operate without interruption.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury, acting in Regular Session on this 15th day of January, 2025, to bestow on Mr. Emerson T. “Butch” LaFargue, Vice-President of the Jefferson Davis Parish Police, the signing privileges for all checks and documents as required and related to the office of Vice-President of the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury.

The motion was made by Mr. Fruge and seconded by Mr. Peterson, and carried, to appoint Rebecca Gary as Secretary Treasurer for a two-year term.

It was moved by Mr. Fruge, seconded by Mr. LeJeune, and carried, to set the 2025 meeting dates as follows: 1st Wednesday of the month at 5:00 P.M. would remain an Agenda meeting, 2nd Wednesday of the month at 5:00 P.M. would remain a Regular meeting, the 3rd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at 5:00 P.M. would remain open for Committee meetings and Special meetings as necessary, continue holding Unit Maintenance Committee meeting prior to Agenda meeting at 4:00 P.M., continue holding Finance Committee meeting on the Monday prior to the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 A.M., change the February 12 Regular Meeting to February 19 due to the Police Jury Association Annual convention.

It was moved by Mr. Fruge, seconded by Mr. Buller, and carried, to set the 2025 holidays for personnel as follows: eliminate President's Day, and add Christmas Eve and the day after Christmas.

Mr. LaFargue reported the Finance Committee meeting was held on January 13, 2025, at 7:00 A.M. All bills were reviewed and declared in order with the Committee recommending approval.

It was moved by Mr. LaFargue, seconded by Mr. Chad Woods, and carried, to pay the following bills, to wit:

• GENERAL FUND	\$ 28,031.98
• COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE	3,463.01
• 911	15,040.61
• CRIMINAL COURT	6,776.00
• OPIOID ABATEMENT	0
• COURTHOUSE MAINTENANCE	5,392.46
• SPECIAL REVENUE	55,642.01
• SECTION 8	0
• PARISH ROAD	0
• SUB ROAD DISTRICT #1	14,870.13
• SPECIAL WARD, ROAD & BRIDGE	117,368.06
• ROAD SALES TAX DISTRICT #1	8,274.35
• REGIONAL CONSOLIDATED JAIL	15,953.57
• FIRE DISTRICT #1	0
• FIRE DISTRICT #2	2,183.37
• FIRE DISTRICT #3	10,801.61
• FIRE DISTRICT #4	10,949.75
• FIRE DISTRICT #5	8,829.45
• FIRE DISTRICT #6	0
• FIRE DISTRICT #7	0

It is the recommendation of the Finance Committee to obtain a third quote for the purchase, shipping, and setup of a Fecon Mulcher Head or compatible unit.

Mr. LaFargue made the motion, seconded by Mr. Fruge, and carried, to accept the recommendation of the committee.

The motion was made by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Mr. Fruge, and carried, to amend the previous motion to state once the third bid is received, authorize to accept the lowest bid, as long as it a comparable bid.

Let the record reflect that the Finance Committee reviewed budget-to-actual comparisons on all funds as required.

It was moved by Mr. LaBouve, seconded by Mr. Peterson, and carried, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on December 11, 2024, as written and submitted.

Mr. Cormier made the motion, seconded by Mr. Donald Woods, and carried, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting held on December 18, 2024, as written and submitted.

The motion was made by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Ms. Myers, and carried, to adopt the IRS Standard Mileage rate of 70 cents per mile effective January 1, 2025.

Mr. LaBouve made the motion, seconded by Mr. Fruge, and carried, to authorize entering into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the municipalities for funding of the Veterans' Service Office and to further authorize the President to sign.

It was moved by Mr. LaFargue, seconded by Mr. Peterson, and carried, to adopt the following Resolution, to-wit:

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE POLICE JURY FOR JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH, STATE OF LOUISIANA APPROVING AND ADOPTING A COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN FOR JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH.

WHEREAS, Louisiana Law 1950 Revised Statutes Title 33: Part IV Sections 101 through 119, as amended establishes the basic framework for public planning by local government units in Louisiana; **AND**

WHEREAS, the purpose and task of the Comprehensive Master Plan is to identify, develop, plan, and implement selected priority programs and projects needed and wanted for the parish; **AND**

WHEREAS, it is recognized the community, parish and region must work cooperatively and in collaboration to network and leverage limited public resources for many common objectives; **AND**

WHEREAS, the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury is desirous of utilizing federal, state and local network opportunities to achieve programs and projects identified in the Jefferson Davis Parish Comprehensive Master Plan; **AND**

WHEREAS, the Police Jurors have outreached to citizens and business owners in the parish to consider recommendations for short and long-term development and evaluation; **AND**

WHEREAS, the Police Jury has determined the economic advancement of Jefferson Davis Parish would be best served with a coordinated Comprehensive Master Plan; **AND**

WHEREAS, the Police Jury has advertised on December 1, 2024 and held a Public Hearing on the proposed Comprehensive Master Plan for the purpose of soliciting public comments and recommendations on December 11, 2024; **AND**

WHEREAS, the Police Jury provided fifteen days for public comment following the Public Hearing from December 12, 2024 through December 26, 2024 and received no major objections:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH POLICE JURY THAT THE JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT A AND MADE A PART OF THIS RESOLUTION IS HEREBY APPROVED AND ADOPTED.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH POLICE

JURY THAT THE ADOPTED JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN IS TO BE RECORDED WITH THE JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH CLERK OF COURT WITH ANY SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENTS THERETO.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH POLICE JURY THAT THE ADOPTED JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN IS TO BE FORWARDED TO THE SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION FOR INFORMATION AND REFERENCE WITH ANY SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENTS THERETO.

THIS RESOLUTION BEING APPROVED AND ADOPTED ON THE 15th DAY OF JANUARY, 2025.

The motion was made by Mr. Fruge, seconded by Mr. LaFargue, and carried, to accept the recommendation of the Road Administrator in connection with semi-annual supplies.

Mr. Fruge made the motion, seconded by Mr. LeJeune, and carried, to approve a request from Med Express for a 2025 Ambulance Permit. It was noted that Mr. McKnight recused himself from the matter.

It was moved by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Mr. Chad Woods, and carried, to approve a request from Acadian Ambulance for a 2025 Ambulance Permit. Mr. McKnight recused himself from the matter.

The motion was made by Mr. Chad Woods, seconded by Mr. Donald Woods, and carried, to approve for Fire District 4 to purchase four (4) SCBA and eight (8) spare bottles from Premier Fire Equipment at the low bid of \$37,995.00.

Mr. Donald Woods made the motion, seconded by Mr. Chad Woods, and carried, to ratify the action of the Agenda Committee in connection with approving for Fire District 4 to purchase a Transit Van under State Contract from Courtesy Ford in the amount of \$51,285.21 and to further authorize the Secretary to sign all documents.

It was moved by Mr. LaFargue, seconded by Mr. Cormier, and carried, to ratify the action of the Agenda Committee to approve Pay Request No. 2 from Shannon Smith Construction in connection with the Fire District 3 Lacassine Station Addition in the amount of \$55,800.00.

Mr. LaFargue made the motion, seconded by Mr. Fruge, and carried, to approve the minor Guillory Subdivision, located on Blanchard Road, Section 3, Township 9 South, Range 4 West.

The motion was made by Mr. Buller, seconded by Mr. LeJeune, and carried, to change the name of a private road from Slaughterhouse Road to Kenneth Parker Road at the request of Barry Parker in honor of his grandfather.

It was moved by Mr. McKnight, seconded by Ms. Myers, and carried, to appoint Ben Boudreaux and LeRoy Faul representatives to the Landfill Commission, with Michael Heinen as alternate.

Mr. Fruge made the motion, seconded by Ms. Myers, and carried, to reappoint John Marceaux and Burt Tietje to the Mosquito Abatement Board with terms to expire January 23, 2028.

The motion was made by Mr. Chad Woods, seconded by Mr. Peterson, and carried, to ratify the action of the Agenda Committee in connection with the 911 Director to now be an employee of the Sheriff's Department.

It was moved by Mr. McKnight, seconded by Mr. LaBouve, and carried, to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Jeff Davis Parish Sheriff's Office for the JDPSO being responsible for the administration of the 911 program and for the Police Jury to reimburse the JDPSO for 4 of the 8 Dispatchers' salaries and the 911 Director's salary and for future raises to be brought before the Police Jury for approval, contingent upon Legal Counsel approval of CEA.

Mr. Buller made the motion, seconded by Mr. Fruge, and carried, to authorize the Secretary to send a letter to Sellers & Associates, Inc., confirming that the LDEQ Solid Waste Permit Modification Application for the Jefferson Davis Sanitary Landfill will not have a significant adverse impact on the traffic flow of area roadways and that the construction, maintenance, or proposed upgrading of the designated truck route is adequate to withstand the weight of the vehicles. President Eastman stated the permit modification of to open up more property for the future.

The motion was made by Mr. LeJeune, seconded by Mr. Buller, and carried, to approve the quarterly payment in connection with the CO2 Alliance in the amount of \$1,800.00.

President's Report

President Eastman reminded everyone about the Welcome Reception for the Administrator to be held at Bayou Rum on March 6, 2025.

Mr. Buller made the motion, seconded by Mr. McKnight, and carried, to ratify granting authority to Ben Boudreaux and Steve Eastman to discuss having a representative on the parish Economic Board.

A meeting will be held on January 29, 2025, at 5:00 P.M. to discuss the proposal on the inventory tax.

It was moved by Mr. Buller, seconded by Mr. Donald Woods, and carried, to ratify donating \$200.00 from the Region 7 donation fund to the Registrar of Voters for the annual seminar.

Administrator's Report

Mr. Boudreaux gave the following updates:

- Upgraded signs have been installed at the 911 building, the Health Unit, and the Registrar of Voters' office.
- The Police Jury has been awarded a grant for Community receptacles.
- The new microphones have been installed in the meeting room.
- The material for the Arena Back Canopy shipped on January 6, 2025. The project should be completed two (2) months prior to the 2025 Parish Fair.
- The Animal Shelter project will begin January 27, 2025, with a one (1) year completion time.
- The Auditor is wrapping up the 2023 Audit.
- The draft for the William E Broussard MultiPurpose Building Jeff Davis Emergency Plan is completed.

Engineer's Report

Alex Guillory with Bluewing Civil Consulting reported as follows:

- The final payment request from R. E. Heidt for the 2022 Road Improvement project should arrive soon.
- Farm Supply Road – Clear Lien should be issued in two weeks.
- Courthouse Renovation – Sherry Lewis has a meeting with the Judge soon.
- There is a scheduled walk through with the General Contractor regarding Jail Condensation.
- Lacassine C-Store – the parking lot is being expanded, there is a concern with drainage. Lance stated they are in violation with the zoning exception. A letter was sent to the owner with this information along with the concern of the water runoff causing flooding.

Committee Reports

There were no Committee Reports.

There being no further business to come before the Jury, it was moved by Mr. Donald Woods, seconded by Mr. Peterson, and carried, to adjourn the meeting.

/s/ J. Steven Eastman
PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

/s/ Rebecca S. Gary
SECRETARY

February 19, 2025
DATE APPROVED