

Parish Of Jefferson Davis, State of Louisiana
Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury

Regular Voting Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, July 08, 2026 Time: 5:00 P.M.
Location: Police Jury Meeting Room, Sidney E. Briscoe, Jr. Building, Jennings, Louisiana

Call to Order

The Voting Meeting of the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury was called to order at **5:00 P.M.**

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

The Invocation was delivered by Dodie Huval Richie. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by Mr. Steve Eastman

Roll Call

Members Present: Donald Woods, Marcus Peterson, Kori Myers, Tim McKnight, Melvin Adams, Steve Eastman, Wayne Fruge, David LeJeune, Byron Buller, Scotty Cormier, William LaBouve

Members Absent: Chad Woods

Staff Present: Dodie Huval Richie, Karlee Taylor, Ben Boudreaux, Lance Pearson, Randy Ringuet

A Quorum was present

Remarks from Jefferson Davis Parish Economic Development Office

A Representative from Jefferson Davis Parish Economic Development Office invited the Police Jury to attend the groundbreaking ceremony for Water and Sewer Commission No. 1 scheduled for July 16, 2026 at 10:00a.

Motion by Donald Woods to Approve June 10, 2026, Meeting Minutes.

Second: Wayne Fruge **Vote:** Motion carried

Finance Committee Report and Motion to Pay Bills

Finance Committee Chair **Kori Myers** reported that the Committee met on June 8, 2026.

Payment of Bills; Motion: Kori Myers **Second:** Marcus Peterson **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously

GENERAL FUND	\$896,641.01
AMERICAN RESCUE FUND	\$180,900.21
BNSF FUNDS	\$979.00
LAMP	\$3,137,169.16
IOWA LACASSINE EDD	\$10,093.65
COOPERATIVE EXT SERVICE	\$179,978.56
COOPERATIVE EXT – CASH RESERVE	\$876,016.15
E-911 & 911 WIRELESS FEES	\$264,783.11
CRIMINAL COURT	\$345,410.83
PARISH ROAD	\$208,331.00
SUB ROAD NO. 1	\$223,872.29
WASTE FUND	\$41,713.79
COURTHOUSE & JAIL MAINT	\$701,306.07
CIB-INVESTMENTS	\$667,785.66
SPECIAL REVENUE	\$5,480.66
SP REV INVESTMENTS	\$513,434.73
FIRE DIST. No. 1	\$85,188.99
FIRE DIST. No. 2	\$1,607,564.93
F D # 2 INVESTMENTS	\$570,405.83
FIRE DIST. No. 3	\$1,266,515.77
F D # 3 INVESTMENTS	\$144,857.35
FIRE DIST. No. 4	\$161,011.20
FIRE DIST. No. 5	\$706,151.77
FIRE DIST. No. 6	\$114,402.34
FIRE DIST. No. 7	\$97,656.89
SPL WD RD &BDGE (Div I)	\$690,164.96
SPL WD RD &BDGE (Div II)	\$5,884.34
SPL WD RD & BDGE (Div III)	\$563,044.18

FIRE DIST No. 7 SINK (SPENDABLE)	\$1,950.38
SECTION 8 HOUSING	\$44,373.53
FIRE DISTRICT NO 6 SINKING	\$1.91
ROAD SALES TAX DIST 1 SALES TAX	\$3,518,883.24
RST- INV- BOND RES (NON-SPENDABLE)	\$1,778,989.67
REGIONAL CON. JAIL MAINTENANCE	\$823,605.96
LCDBG DISASTER RECOVERY	\$67.23
OPIOID ABATEMENT	\$276,626.42

A **Motion** was made by Kori Myers to purchase a steel roller for \$7,500.00, to be paid out of Special Revenue. It was **Seconded** by David LeJeune. Motion Carried

Motion was made by Kori Myers to accept the Finance Committee's request to accept additional quotes for identical units for a 20-Ton HVAC package for the William Broussard Event Center, this will be put on next month's agenda. There will also be additional electric work required for approximately \$5,000.00. Motion Carried.

The Finance Committee discussed participation regarding Jefferson Davis Parish's in the funding of Acadiana Watershed District (AWD) for 2027, with final decision deadline of August 27, 2026. -----The committee has requested all drainage boards be contacted and asked if they want to financially participate in. This will be added to next month's agenda. **Motion:** Kori Myers **Second:** Steve Eastman. Motion Carried.

A **Motion** was made by Kori Myers to approve the purchase of an All-American Disc with hydraulic swing kit from Diamond in the amount of \$11,934.00, to be paid out of Special Revenue, for removing ridges on gravel roads. *Let the Record reflect that both Butch Lafargue and Steve Eastman recused themselves from this discussion and vote. **Second:** Bill LaBouve

A **Motion** was made by Kori Myers to accept the Committee's recommendation to not approve the reimbursement for vehicle damage which occurred on Ardoin Cove Road. This decision was a result of legal counsel recommendation.

The Finance Committee discussed the purchase of one (1) M5-091 Kubota Tractor at a cost of \$77,775.62, to be paid from Special Revenue funds. The committee recommended that the item be tabled. Parish President Butch Lafargue and Juror Steve Eastman recused themselves from the discussion and vote. A **motion** was made by Kori Myers and **seconded** by Bill LaBouve to accept the committee's recommendation to table the item. The **motion** carried.

A **Motion** was made by Kori Myers to approve the purchase of one (1) M5-111 Kubota Tractor with creeper gear at the cost of \$84,753.00, to be paid out of Special Revenue.

*Let the Record reflect that both Butch Lafargue and Steve Eastman recused themselves from this discussion and vote. **Second:** Marcus Peterson **Vote:** Carried

A **Motion** was made by Kori Myers to approve purchasing one (1) KX-057 Kubota Excavator, in the amount of \$93,623.88, to be paid out of Special Revenue. *Let the Record reflect that both Butch Lafargue and Steve Eastman recused themselves from this discussion and vote. **Second:** Byron Buller **Vote:** Carried.

A **Motion** was made by Kori Myers, **Seconded** by Tim McKnight, to approve the purchase of a truck and combined with existing truck bed to create another dump truck. The committee allotted \$40,000.00 for this transformation. **Vote:** Carried.

Monthly Budget was reviewed as required.

Jail Committee Report and Motions

Jail Committee Chair Wayne Fruge presented the Jail Committee report from the June 10, 2026, meeting. Discussion included public comments related to the proposed jail tax renewal;

A **motion** was made by Wayne Fruge to approve the purchase and installation of a flagpole and purchase of American flags; **Second:** Donald Woods **Vote:** Carried

A **motion** was made by Wayne Fruge to accept food preparation bids for inmates. **Second:** Marcus Peterson and carried unanimously.

Motion by Bill LaBouve to ratify the vote granting GOHSEP use of the William Broussard Event Center for Crisis Track Training on July 8, 2026 The event was subsequently cancelled. **Second:** Melvin Adams; Motion carried.

Motion to accept GIS Engineering's RFQ submittal for engineering, design, and construction administration services for the Topsy Drainage Project (27LDCR7701) funded through the Louisiana Office of Community Development and authorize execution of all related documents.

Motion by Byron Buller, **seconded** by Bill LaBouve. Motion carried.

Motion by Marcus Peterson, **second** by Donald Woods to discuss and consider approval of the Capital Area Finance Authority (CAFA) Bond Participation Program. Following discussion, the motion carried.

Motion by Scotty Cormier to accept the resignation of Allen Benoit from Gravity Drainage District No. 9 effective July 31, 2026. **Second** by Tim McKnight Motion carried with a comment to send Allen a letter of appreciation for his service on the board.

Motion by Tim McKnight to receive nominations for Gravity Drainage District No. 9. Miron Navarre was nominated. Nominations were closed. Following the vote, Miron Navarre was appointed to Gravity Drainage District No. 9 for the term ending December 31, 2028.

Discussion regarding the powers of the Jefferson Davis Parish Industrial Development Board and future appointment to fill a vacant seat. Legal counsel provided an overview of the authority and responsibilities of Industrial Development Boards, including economic development incentives and tax-related programs. No action was taken.

Motion by Bill LaBouve, seconded by Scotty Cormier, to ratify the vote accepting Durable Piling Restoration, LLC's proposal of \$45,200 for pile splicing and bridge repairs on Ardoin Cove Bridge. Motion carried.

Motion by Steven Eastman to approve a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Oak Crossing, **seconded** by Donald Woods. Motion carried.

Motion by Scotty Cormier to approve advertising for and hiring of an Animal Control Officer. **Second:** by Wayne Fruge; Motion carried.

Motion to approve a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Oak Crossing. **Motion** by Steven Eastman, seconded by Donald Woods. **Motion** carried.

Motion by Scotty Cormier to approve advertising and hiring of an animal control officer. **Seconded** by Wayne Fruge, **Motion** carried.

Motion to Ratify the vote approving the purchase of two (2) rail car culverts for Eugene Road. Quote \$20,856 each. (Motioned by Bill LaBouve, seconded by Melvin Adams) **Motion** Carried.

Motion to Ratify the vote approving the purchase of two (2) rail car culverts for Verret Road. Quote \$14,080 each. (Motioned by Bill LeBouve, seconded by Scotty Cormier) **Motion** Carried

Motion to Ratify the vote to rent equipment and do in-housework to replacement culverts at Eugene and Verret Roads. (Motioned by Bill LaBouve, seconded by Melvin Adams) **Motion** Carried.

Motion made by Bill LaBouve, **seconded** by Wayne Fruge to accept the lowest responsive and responsible bids for the semiannual supplies contract and to further authorize the Road Administrator and Parish Administrator to purchase materials from the awarded vendors, as needed, for the duration of the contract period. **Motion** Carried.

Motion by David LeJeune to adopt a resolution approving an election in Fire Protection District No. 6 of Jefferson Davis Parish on Saturday, December 12, 2026, to authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds. **Seconded** by Byron Buller and the **motion** carried.

Motion by Steve Eastman, seconded by Wayne Fruge, to approve a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Jefferson Davis Parish District Attorney's Office regarding the use of Opioid Abatement Settlement Funds and to authorize the Parish President to sign the agreement. **Motion** carried.

Motion by Steve Eastman, seconded by Marcus Peterson, to approve a Right-of-Way Agreement with Entergy Louisiana, LLC, granting a 30-foot servitude for the installation and maintenance of electrical service at Houssiere Park in support of the future RV park, and to authorize the Parish President and/or Parish Administrator to execute all related documents. **Motion** carried.

Motion by Donald Woods to consider and take action on approval of the S.B. Thibodeaux Residential Subdivision located at 35163 Highway 380 Lake Arthur, La. **Second** by Scotty Cormier, **Motion** carried.

A **motion** was made by Scotty Cormier and **seconded** by Bill LaBouve to approve the Preston Bertrand Residential Subdivision located at 5461 S. Frontage Road, Jennings, Louisiana. The **motion** carried.

A **Motion** was made by Wayne Fruge to accept resignation of Anthony Comeaux from the Jeff Davis Waster District #4 Board effective June 11, 2026. **Second** by David LeJeune – motion carried.

Motion by Wayne Fruge to receive nominations for the Jefferson Davis Water District No. 4 Board for a term ending July 31, 2028. Jeff LaBouve was nominated. **Motion** by Marcus Peterson to close nominations. Nominations were closed and Jeff LaBouve was **appointed** to fill the unexpired term ending July 31, 2028.

Jail Committee Report (July 1, 2026): The committee received a presentation regarding proposed jail camera and automation system upgrades. Discussion focused on system compatibility and maintenance requirements. The committee requested additional information and a revised proposal utilizing the Avigilon system preferred by the Sheriff's Office. No quorum was present and no action was taken.

Unit Maintenance/Finance Committee Report (July 1, 2026): The committees reviewed parish equipment inventory, discussed surplus equipment and replacement needs, and recommended declaring several tractors and backhoes as surplus property. Additional discussion was held regarding future equipment purchases, but no recommendation was made. The Police Jury accepted the committee's recommendations

Motion to discuss allocation of an additional \$750,000 in federal appropriations funding for drinking water improvements. Following discussion regarding water infrastructure improvements in the Roanoke area, a **motion** was made by Marcus Peterson and **seconded** by Scotty Cormier to prioritize the funding toward water line upgrades on the north side of Roanoke, with secondary consideration for the south side.
Motion carried.

Motion by Marcus Peterson to grant the Southwest Louisiana Veterans Home and Cemetery Ancillary Committee use of the Jefferson Davis Parish Fairgrounds facilities for the Fifth Annual Warriors Jambalaya Cook-Off, to include the use of the Event Center, Horseshoe area, Arena grounds, and overflow parking if available. **Seconded** by Bill Labouve, **Motion** carried.

Motion to authorize the Parish Administrator to execute short-term Cooperative Endeavor Agreements with volunteer groups assisting at the Animal Shelter.

Motion by Steven Eastman, **seconded** by Tim McKnight. **Motion** carried.

Project Report

The Parish Administrator reported:

Courthouse ribbon cutting has been postponed pending completion of punch list items.

OCD contractor qualification work and a change order for the Topsy Road drainage project are underway.

Preliminary hydraulic reports were received regarding the Eugene and Verret Road culvert projects.

Administrator's Report

The Parish Administrator reported:

Preparations are complete for the Animal Shelter open house.

The Community Foundation will provide a total of \$330,000 toward shelter startup costs.

An initial \$100,000 contribution will be delivered immediately, with the balance to follow January 1, 2027.

Funds will assist with startup expenses including the Animal Control Officer position and related operational needs.

No President's Report

Adjournment **Motion:** Donald Woods **Second:** Marcus Peterson **Vote:** Carried

This attestation is executed to formally certify the official action of the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury.

CERTIFIED this 08th day of July 2026

/s/Dodie Huval Richie

Secretary-Treasurer

Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury

/s/ Butch LaFargue

PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

Date Approved: August 12th, 2026