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

Regular Voting Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, September 9, 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 by Vice President at **5:00 P.M.**

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance
The Invocation was delivered by Dodie Huval Richie.
Pledge of Allegiance was recited by Mr. Byron Buller

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

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

A Quorum was present

Public Hearing
A public hearing was conducted regarding the request of Solugen, Inc. to rezone property located in Section 27, Township 9 South, Range 5 West, east of Oilfield Road, from A-1 Agricultural to I-2 Heavy Industrial for a chemical storage and loading facility.

The following individuals addressed the Police Jury in opposition to the rezoning request:
AJ LeBlanc
Melissa Callaway
Jara Callaway
Elise Stanford
Danielle Ordoin
Shane McNabb

Comments included concerns regarding:

Compatibility with surrounding agricultural and residential property.
Potential environmental impacts.
Public safety and emergency response capabilities.
Traffic and infrastructure concerns.
Property values and insurance costs.
Future industrial expansion.

A petition containing approximately 199 signatures opposing the rezoning request was presented.

A representative of Solugen, Inc. addressed the Police Jury and discussed the proposed project, permitting process, safety procedures, and future DEQ review process.

Ordinance No. 2482 -Solugen, Inc. was moved for adoption by Mr. Buller and seconded by Mr. McKnight. A roll call vote took place and was Approved 9-3.

Zoning Commission Report
The Police Jury accepted the report of the Zoning Commission from its September 2, 2026 meeting recommending approval of the Turf Grass Farms rezoning requests for Tract 5 and Tract 10.

Public Hearing - Turf Grass Farms, Inc. (Tract 5)

President LaFargue opened a public hearing to receive comments regarding the request of Turf Grass Farms, Inc. to rezone Tract 5, located in Section 26, Township 9 South, Range 6 West, South Frontage Road, Lacassine, Louisiana, from A-1 Agricultural to I-1 Industrial.

Ms. Mandy Walker addressed the Police Jury regarding the property and stated that the rezoning request was being made to facilitate future industrial development opportunities. Discussion was held regarding the property's location and potential future uses.

No additional public comments were received.

President LaFargue closed the public hearing.

Public Hearing - Turf Grass Farms, Inc. (Tract 10)

President LaFargue opened a public hearing to receive comments regarding the request of Turf Grass Farms, Inc. to rezone Tract 10, located in Section 26, Township 9 South, Range 6 West, South Frontage Road, Lacassine, Louisiana, from A-1 Agricultural to I-1 Industrial.

No public comments were received.

President LaFargue closed the public hearing.

Ordinance No. 2483 - Turf Grass Farms, Inc. (Tract 5)

The Ordinance was moved for adoption by Mr. Fruge and seconded by Mr. Eastman

Ordinance No. 2484 - Turf Grass Farms, Inc. (Tract 10)
The Ordinance was moved for adoption by Mr. LaBouve and seconded by Mr. Adams.

Approval of Minutes
Motion by M. Peterson to approve August 12, 2026, Meeting Minutes.
Second: T. McKnight **Vote:** Motion carried

Finance Committee Report and Motion to Pay Bills
Finance Committee Chair **Kori Myers** reported that the Committee met on September 8, 2026
Payment of Bills; Motion: Kori Myers **Second:** Tim McKnight **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously

GENERAL FUND	$518,678.88
ROAD SALES TAX DIST 1 SALES TAX	$5,111,996.62
SPL WD RD &BDGE (Div I)	$33,133.42
SECTION 8 HOUSING	$90,910.78
FIRE DIST. No. 4	$109,383.38
FIRE DIST. No. 1	$18,079.54
PARISH ROAD	$160,852.55
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE	$115,085.10
IOWA LACASSINE EDD	$15,442.52
SUB ROAD NO. 1	$102,952.12
LCDBG DISASTER RECOVERY	($11.48)
AMERICAN RESCUE FUND	$180,900.21
BNSF FUNDS	$979.00
FIRE DIST No. 7 SINKING (SPENDABLE)	$1,950.38
FIRE DISTRICT NO 6 SINKING	$1.91
RST- INV- BOND RESERVE (NON-SPENDABLE)	$1,778,989.67
FIRE DIST. No. 7	$97,340.39
CRIMINAL COURT	$236,084.48
FIRE DIST. No. 5	$662,848.40
WASTE FUND	$2,007.08
OPIOID ABATEMENT	$268,709.31
ANIMAL SHELTER	$95,219.49
COURTHOUSE & JAIL MAINT	$94,291.43
FIRE DIST. No. 2	$607,513.24
FIRE DIST. No. 3	$1,217,205.72
SPL WD RD & BDGE (Div III)	$37,275.10
E-911 & 911 WIRELESS FEES	$212,207.80
SPL WD RD &BDGE (Div II)	$11,389.61
FIRE DIST. No. 6	$158,175.74

SPECIAL REVENUE	$251,674.74
REGIONAL CON. JAIL MAINTENANCE	$644,178.29
CIB-INVESTMENTS CD's/ CDARS	$10,667,785.66
LAMP ACCOUNT BALANCE	$24,913,491.81

A **Motion** was made by Kori Myers to approve the estimate from L&R Construction in the amount of $35,268.17 to repair Blanchard Road Bridge. It was **Seconded** by S. Cormier. Motion Carried

Motion was made by Kori Myers to approve one-time payment to SWLA Regional Planning Commission in the amount of $15,901.20 for the 2025-26 yearly dues. **Seconded by:** B. LaBouve. Motion Carried.

The Finance Committee recommended continuing monthly payments to SWLA Regional Planning Commission in the amount of $1,325.10 for 2026-27 district dues.
Motion by K. Myers., **seconded** by C. Woods to approve recommendation. Motion carried.

The Finance Committee recommended ratification of the administrator's approval of the quote from South Pine Fabrication in the amount of $6,451.55 to revise the Gator Grader to be paid out of special revenue fund. **Motion:** Ms. Myers **Second:** B. LaBouve Motion Carried.

The Finance Committee recommends approving the purchase of a 2026 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 from Gerry Lane in the amount of $39,998 to be paid out of special revenue.
Motion by K Myers, **seconded** by T. McKnight. Motion carried unanimously.

The Finance Committee made a recommendation approving the quote from Coastal Culvert in the amount of $18,948.80 to be paid out of road sales tax.
Motion by Mrs. Myers, **seconded** B. LaBouve. to approve the recommendation.
Motion carried unanimously.
Mrs. Myers also reported that the monthly budget review had been completed as required.

Ordinance Committee Report and Motions
Mrs. Myers presented the Ordinance Committee report from its September 2, 2026 meeting.

K. Myers made a **motion** to amend the zoning ordinance to add battery storage facilities and data centers as permitted uses in the I-1 zoning district. **Seconded** by T. McKnight, motion carried.

The committee reported that draft regulations regarding battery storage facilities and data centers would be revised and returned for additional review.

The Police Jury approved the committee recommendation to move forward with proposed tiny home regulations. **Motion:** K. Myers **Seconded:** T McKnight. Motion Carried.
The Police Jury approved the committee's recommendation establishing a $25 administrative fee for certain permit exemptions and administrative requests. **Motion:** K. Myers **Seconded:** D Woods. Motion Carried.

President LaFargue noted that these matters would return as ordinances following publication and public hearing requirements.

E911 Committee Report and Motions
The E-911 Committee reported on its September 2, 2026 meeting.
The committee recommended proceeding with the process necessary to consider increasing the wireless E-911 service charge to the maximum amount allowed by law.

Upon **motion** by Marcus Peterson, **seconded** by Chad Woods, the recommendation was approved. Motion carried.

Motion by Tim McKnight, **seconded** by David Leger, the Police Jury approved and ratified its intent to exercise its option to renew the lease agreement with Louisiana Agricultural Finance Authority (LAFA). Motion carried.

Upon **motion,** duly made and **seconded**, by B. LaBouve & K. Myers, the Police Jury approved amendments to the existing lease and sublease agreements between LAFA and South Louisiana Rail Facility (SLRF) and authorized removal of the Police Jury from the agreements. Motion carried.

The Police Jury discussed a notice of noncompliance regarding Metal Plate Galvanizing's Industrial Tax Exemption Program commitments.

Following discussion with company representatives, legal counsel, and staff, a **motion** was made by Steve Eastman and **seconded** by Tim McKnight authorizing the Parish Administrator to negotiate a payment agreement ranging from 50% to 100% of the calculated default amount and to report the recommendation to LED. Motion carried.

The previously approved request for use of the William E. Brooks Event Center for a LIHEAP outreach event was acknowledged.

Motion by K. Myers, **seconded** by Melvin Adams, the Police Jury approved the Tourism Commission's request to utilize the Parish Fairgrounds for its Fall Fest fundraiser. Motion carried.

Motion by Byron Buller, **seconded** by K Myers, the Police Jury approved the alcohol permit application for Topsy Bar, LLC, located in Ragley. Motion carried.

Motion by Chad Woods, **seconded** by Marcus Peterson, the Police Jury approved removing the 2010 John Deere 310J Backhoe from the surplus list and replacing it with the 2010 Caterpillar Backhoe identified as T-D3-9. Motion carried.

Upon **motion** by Wayne Fruger, **seconded** by Byron Buller, the Police Jury clarified and ratified the exemption of the Landfill Commission's borrow pit permit requirements for the recently rezoned expansion area. Motion carried.

Upon **motion** by Marcus Peterson, **seconded** by Steve Eastman, the Police Jury approved the City of Jennings Animal Control request to utilize the Fairgrounds Parking Lot on September 19, 2026, for a drive-through rabies vaccination clinic. Motion carried.

Tourism Commission Appointments
The following appointments were approved effective October 1, 2026:

Ronnie Petree, At-Large Member
Jeremy Doucet, City of Jennings Appointee
Chanyon Robinson, Town of Elton Appointee

All appointments were approved unanimously.

Consolidated Gravity Drainage District #1 Appointments
The Police Jury approved the reappointment of:

Joseph R. Ezel, term expiring August 30, 2029
Alan Abear, term expiring August 30, 2027

Both appointments were approved unanimously.

Upon **motion** by David Lejeune, **seconded** by Wayne Fruge, the Police Jury authorized the Parish Administrator to hire a contractor to replace two 60-inch cross drains on F.E. Landry Road and seek cost participation from the appropriate drainage district. Motion carried.

Upon motion by David LeJeune, seconded by Chad Woods, the Police Jury approved reimbursement of engineering fees at 100% for the Lacassine Booster Station Project, with construction reimbursements remaining subject to the existing Cooperative Endeavor Agreement.
Motion carried.

Project Report
Alex of Bluewing Civil reported that contracts had been executed for the CDBG road paving project and that a pre-construction conference would be scheduled once a notice to proceed date was received.

Administrator's Report
The Parish Administrator reported that the overlay contractor's anticipated start date remains October 9, 2026, and that an updated project schedule had been requested.

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 9th day of September 2026

Secretary-Treasurer
Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury

PRESIDENT
ATTEST:

Date Approved as Amended: October 14th, 2026

************CERTIFICATION****************

I, Dodie Huval Richie, Secretary Treasurer, Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Police Jury of Jefferson Davis Parish, Louisiana, convened in regular session on the 9th day of September, 2026, at which time a quorum was present and voting.

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Dodie H Richie