



A regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Minutes from October 9, 2025, at 9:00 AM
401 Tower Road
Crowley, Louisiana 70526

Board Members Present:

Keith Henry - Vice Chairman/Village of Mermentau	Valerie Myers - City of Crowley
Chellie Godeaux - Treasurer/Village of Estherwood	Bart Wild - at Large "A"
Marietta Leonards - Secretary/Rayne Chamber/at Large "B"	Harold Fonte - Town of Church Point
Nicole DeJean-Broussard - Acadia Parish Chamber/at Large "C"	
Chelsey Gallow Hopkins - Church Point Community Development Corp/at Large "D"	

Board Members Not Present:

Suzette Leonards - Chairman/City of Rayne	Luke Dupré - Town of Iota
Nora Benoit - Village of Morse	

Call to Order: Keith Henry at 9:05AM

Called the meeting to order with roll call, noting there is a quorum.

Prayer & Pledge of Allegiance

Approved Meeting Minutes from previous meeting:

Chelsey Gallow Hopkins made a motion to accept **August 14, 2025**, minutes as presented.

Second by Bart Wild. Motion carried.

Financial Report: Nicole

Wendy and I worked on our financials, I'm happy to report that we are moving in the right direction. Cash has success in the \$302,047. September's will be \$112,000 and we budgeted \$140. Over the next three months we have hopefully can take in that 27,000 to be our expectation. Total expenses of \$151,000 and are actual \$212,000 so we roughly have \$53,000 left in the budget to spend. Thanks to Chance Henry, we received \$40,000 for building improvements and/or building the maintenance barn.

Valerie Myers made a motion to accept the financial report. Second by Marietta Leonards. Motion carried.

Director's Report/New Business: Wendy

Ms. Denise Wiltz-Underwood was chosen as a Featured Author for the children's book she wrote - Bookmarks. She loves the bookmarkers we made and donated for the 2025 Louisiana Book Festival which was held on November 1st in Baton Rouge. Our cost was \$80 for 300 bookmarkers featuring Rayne/Frogs. There is attending Devour! The Food Film Fest - Nova Scotia - Invitation to participate from Lt. Governor's Office. We had the little seasoning packets made, we attached a receipt card for Devour Fest, and I will bring them to New York attached to our wooden spoons for Taste Louisiana with Louisiana Travel Association and Louisiana Office of Tourism as we promote Acadia Parish and Louisiana. We sponsored Wayne Toups, and he is excited to go. The seasoning packets were \$200 for 1000, it was an easy promotional item. I will also attend the Louisiana Table with the Lt Governor and approximately 25 media writers/etc. The City of Crowley received The Pelican of Distinction Award at 2025 LTA Summit for "Rice on Ice." I was very proud to accept this award for such a wonderful event and donation for everyone to enjoy.

Lastly, I need the board to approve the Resolution for Wendy to be able to sign for CEA with LA Department of Treasury and date the 2025-2026 CEA August 14, 2025, which was the last meeting we had. The 2024 CEA signed September 2024, and I do not want to have a gap. Chellie Godeaux made a motion to approve the 2025-2026 CEA with the date of August 14, 2025. Second by Marietta Leonards. Motion carried.

MEDIA UPDATES: Chere

On September 13th I went to Estherwood Parkfest and Ols Spanish Trail Day, I was out there. October 4th & 5th when to KBON Fest and German Fest and Postmaster General Grand Opening. Saturday was busy and then Sunday I went back to German Fest just for fun. On behalf of the Commission for Rendezvous Downtown in Rayne and Ms. Martha just gets me into all kinds of trouble. LOL! Now we are looking forward to and are working on International Rice Fest, Le Grand Reveil and our upcoming trips. TV spots are coming up to promote events. We attended Church Point Community Development Grand Opening of their new office. Chelsea y'all have a very nice place for the community. I was excited to hear about the tutoring and the other things they will have.

OLD BUSINESS: Sexual Harassment and Ethics Training 2025. Emailing links this week.

MUNICIPALITY REPORTS:

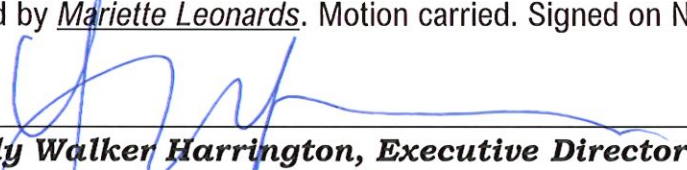
Marietta states she thinks this years German Fest was the 2nd best ever.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS: Suzette

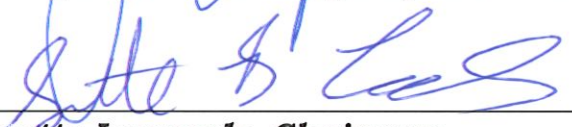
Next Board Meeting is November 13, at 9:AM at the Acadia Parish Visitors Center
Nicole DeJean-Broussard made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Bart Wild. Motion carried.

Keith Henry made a motion to accept October 9, 2025, minutes as presented.

Second by Mariette Leonards. Motion carried. Signed on November 13, 2025.



Wendy Walker Harrington, Executive Director



Suzette Leonards, Chairman