

A regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners Minutes from November 13, 2025, at 9:00 AM 401 Tower Road Crowley, Louisiana 70526

Board Members Present:

Suzette Leonards - Chairman/City of Rayne
Keith Henry - Vice Chairman/Village of Mermentau
Chellie Godeaux - Treasurer/Village of Estherwood
Marietta Leonards - Secretary/Rayne Chamber/at Large "B"

Nicole DeJean-Broussard - Acadia Parish Chamber/at Large "C"

Chelsey Gallow Hopkins - Church Point Community Development Corp/at Large "D"

Valerie Myers - City of Crowley Bart Wild - at Large "A" Nora Benoit - Village of Morse

Board Members Not Present:

Luke Dupré - Town of Iota

Harold Fonte - Town of Church Point

Guest: Cody Leckelt, Mayor of lota

Call to Order: Suzette Leonards at 9:05 AM Called the meeting to order with roll call, noting there is a quorum.

Prayer: Wendy - Pledge of Allegiance: Chelsey Gallow Hopkins

Approved Meeting Minutes from previous meeting: <u>Keith Henry</u> made a motion to accept October 9, 2025, minutes as presented. Second by <u>Marietta Leonards</u>. Motion carried.

Financial Report: Nicole DeJean-Broussard

Total checking and savings right now are \$196,000. Lamp is currently \$40,069.56. Charles Schwab investments are \$118,000. Total assets are almost \$360,000. <u>Bart Wild</u> made a motion to accept the financial report. Second by *Chelsey Gallow Hopkins*. Motion carried.

Director's Report/New Business: Wendy

Cody Leckelt, Mayor of lota has appointed Shanteé Manuel to represent the Mayor and the Town of lota. I need the Commission to approve this appointment, so I can submit her name to the Acadia Parish Police Jury for their approval at the December 2025 meeting. She will be sworn in at the January 2026 meeting of the APTC. <u>Chellie Godeaux</u> made a motion to accept the appointment of Shantee' Manuel. Second by <u>Keith Henry</u>. Motion carried.

Employee 2025 Evaluations - We need a committee to help Suzette and I with the Evaluations. I would like to have them completed by December 8th for the December 11th meeting. 2025 Evaluation Committee are Suzette Leonards, Chellie Godeaux, Valerie Myers and Wendy W. Harrington.

Media Updates: Chere

Devour! The Food Film Fest - Nova Scotia - I didn't know if we got out of it, what we were looking to get out of it, but after I got home I got an e-mail from Matthew, who is from the Lt. Governor's office and somebody in New Orleans requested information about Cajun Mardi Gras and he put us them in touch with us, so we are seeing good feedback from this trip and connections with LOT.

CODOFIL program - Excel Louisiana promotes businesses supporting French in Louisiana. If you have a business with a staff member who can speak French, or you provide brochures in French or your website is

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available in French they put you on this listing so that when people come here who speak French, they know where they are not only welcome, but where they're going to be accommodated. As of now we are only one out of 6 so far who are on that list already.

Old Business: Wendy

Taste Louisiana - NYC - Louisiana Travel Association - LTA is revamping some things for Taste Louisiana in Chicago in 2026. The music was hot and happening. I can't even tell you how many people were just coming out of the woodwork to see Wayne play. It was crazy, it's phenomenal. It was my first experience with this event. They've done it in different places, but after Dallas, those that participate every year stated things that needed to be changed or updated. The Chef from Parish restaurant in Monroe, did duck wrapped in bacon and cheese, he froze all of them and shipped them to NYC. The morning of the event he fried them all up and they were fantastic! I went with Lacey from St. Martin Parish to help her and her Chef prepare their food that morning. It was nice to spend time with her, she has been involved in all of these events, so I was able to get some history. The people coming to the event were so fascinated. You know, we are privileged to live here. We love it here. We are so happy to call the "Boot" home. But for other people, Louisiana is truly a draw. It really, really is, the food, the culture, the music, it is a draw! I am already planning for 2026.

Municipality Reports: Commission

We received all the events for Thanksgiving and Christmas in each area of the parish.

Chairman's Comments: Suzette Leonards

Next Board Meeting is December 11, 2025, at 9:AM at the Acadia Parish Visitors Center. Nicole DeJean-Broussard made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Keith Henry. Motion carried.

<u>Keith Henry</u> made a motion to accept November 13, 2025, minutes as presented. Second by *Bart Wild*. Motion carried. Signed on December 11, 2025.

Wendy Walker Harrington, Executive Director

Suzette Leonards, Chairman