

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD MARCH 11, 2026, 9:00 A.M. ARCADIA, LA.

The Bienville Parish Police Jury met in regular session on the above date with the following members present: Bill Sims, Jerrica Roberson, Darryl Ryder, Jerry Bates, Vic Fowler, Michael Nelson and Keith Duck.

The invocation was given by Mr. Fowler.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Bates.

Mr. Ryder made the motion to approve the agenda with the addition of Carbon Capture Wells. The motion was seconded by Ms. Roberson and was unanimously approved.

Mr. Bates made the motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the last regular meeting of February 11, 2026, and to approve the same as published in the official journal and mailed to the members. The motion was seconded by Mr. Duck and unanimously approved.

President Nelson called on Mr. Hays for the report of the Public Works Committee. Mr. Hays stated that the Public Works Committee approved his recommendation as follows:

1. Approve the replacement of the engine on equipment #121 in excess of \$6,620.
2. Approve the hiring of Justin Pietsch.
3. Approve the annual mowing and distribution of hot mix for each municipality pursuant to the submission of the required request forms.

Mr. Ryder made the motion to approve the recommendations as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fowler and unanimously approved.

Mr. Bates made the motion to approve the recommendations presented by the Secretary from the Building and Grounds Committee to authorize the emergency repair to the A/C unit in the Ringgold Annex. The motion was seconded by Ms. Roberson and unanimously approved.

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Bates and seconded by Mr. Ryder:

**RESOLUTION**

A resolution approving the holding of an election in Ward #7 Fire Protection District of the Parish of Bienville, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, June 27, 2026, to authorize the renewal of a special tax therein.

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Ward #7 Fire Protection District of the Parish of Bienville, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of Ward #7 Fire Protection District of the Parish of Bienville, State of Louisiana (the "District"), adopted a resolution on February 12, 2026, calling a special election in the District on Saturday, June 27, 2026, to authorize the renewal of a special tax therein; and

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WHEREAS, the governing authority of the District has requested that this Police Jury, acting as the governing authority of the Parish of Bienville, State of Louisiana, give its consent and authority for the District to hold the aforesaid election, and in the event that the election carries to continue to levy and collect the special tax provided for therein; and

WHEREAS, as required by Article VI, Section 15 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974, it is now the desire of this Police Jury to approve the holding of said election and in the event that the election carries, to authorize the District to continue to levy and collect the special tax provided for therein;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Police Jury of the Parish of Bienville, State of Louisiana, acting as the governing authority of said Parish, that:

SECTION 1. In compliance with the provisions of Article VI, Section 15 of the constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974, and in accordance with the request of the Board of Commissioners of Ward #7 Fire Protection District of the Parish of Bienville, State of Louisiana, this Police Jury hereby approves the holding of an election in the District, on Saturday, June 27, 2026, at which election there will be submitted the following proposition, to-wit:

PROPOSITION

(MILLAGE RENEWAL)

Shall Ward #7 Fire Protection District of the Parish of Bienville, State of Louisiana (the "District"), continue to levy a special tax of 12.17 mills (the "Tax") on all the property subject to taxation in the District (an estimated \$392,600 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the Tax for an entire year), for a period of 10 years, beginning with the year 2027 and ending with the year 2036, for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, improving, maintaining and/or operating fire protection facilities and equipment in and for the District, and paying the cost of obtaining water for fire protection purposes, including charges for fire hydrant rentals and service, provided that a portion of the Tax proceeds is required to be contributed to state and statewide retirement systems as provided in R.S. 11:82?

SECTION 2. In the event the election carries, this Police Jury does hereby further consent to and authorize the District to continue to levy and collect the special tax provided for therein.

This resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS:	Sims, Roberson, Ryder, Bates, Fowler and Nelson
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	Duck

And the resolution was declared adopted on this, the 11<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2026.

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/s/ Rodney L. Warren  
Secretary-Treasurer

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/s/ Michael Nelson  
President

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Mr. Fowler made the motion to approve the purchase of the EverBridge emergency notification system for Bienville parish in the amount of \$8,000. The motion was seconded by Mr. Duck and a roll call was as follows:

YEAS:	Roberson, Ryder, Bates, Fowler, Nelson and Duck.
NAYS:	None.
ABSENT:	None.
ABSTAIN:	Sims.

Mr. Ryder made the motion to approve the Chamber's request to raise each town's yearly limit from \$3,000 to \$4,000. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bates and a roll call was as follows:

YEAS:	Sims, Roberson, Ryder, Bates, Fowler, Nelson and Duck.
NAYS:	None.
ABSENT:	None.

After discussion of the basketball teams throughout the parish that participated in post season play, Mr. Sims submitted the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Arcadia High School Hornets and Lady Hornets, the Castor High School Tigers and Lady Tigers, the Saline High School Bobcats and Lady Bobcats, the Ringgold High School Redskins and Lady Redskins, and the Gibsland Coleman Bulldogs and Lady Bulldogs participated in post season play.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Police Jury of Bienville Parish, that it does hereby express its congratulations to the players and coaches of all the parish basketball teams for their outstanding accomplishments this season.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Duck and a roll call vote was as follows:

YEAS:	Sims, Roberson, Ryder, Bates, Fowler, Nelson and Duck.
NAYS:	None.
ABSENT:	None.

Mr. Sims made the motion to approve all General Fund and Solid Waste Fund bills submitted by the Treasurer and examined by the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fowler and unanimously approved.

Mr. Duck made the motion to approve all Road Fund bills submitted by the Treasurer and examined by the Road Superintendent and the Public Works Committee. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ryder and unanimously approved.

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Mr. Fowler made the motion to approve the travel request for Mr. Bates to travel to Washington D.C. to meet with Speaker Mike Johnson, Senator John Kennedy and Senator Bill Cassidy in order to discuss the Parish's application for a BUILD grant. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sims and a roll call was as follows:

YEAS:	Sims, Roberson, Ryder, Bates, Fowler, Nelson and Duck.
NAYS:	None.
ABSENT:	None.

There being no further business to come before the jury, and on motion to adjourn by Mr. Duck, seconded by Ms. Roberson and unanimously approved, President Nelson declared the meeting adjourned, subject to call, until the regular meeting date, April 8, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

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Rodney L. Warren  
Secretary

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Michael Nelson  
President