

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD OCTOBER 14, 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. Ryder.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Bates.

Ms. Roberson made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Duck and was unanimously approved.

Mr. Ryder made the motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the last regular meeting of September 9, 2026, and to approve the same as published in the official journal and mailed to the members. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fowler 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 advertisement for the yearly bids.
2. Ratify the request for a bus turn around at 179 Golden Slipper Rd. Ringgold, and 2 loads of SB2.
3. Approve the request from Gibsland for 1 load of rock and 1 load of sand.
- 4.. Approve the payment to the surface treatment contractor for the work done in September minus the 10% retainage.

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

Mr. Duck made the motion to approve the transfer of \$100,000 from the Road Fund into the Road Rehab Fund. The motion was seconded by Ms. Roberson and unanimously approved.

Mr. Hays also presented the Equipment Purchase list for the year 2027 as follows:

1. (2) Caterpillar Asphalt Roller CC2
2. (2) 2026 John Deere 5067 tractors
3. (3) Big Tex bumper pull 20' utility tilt trailers

Mr. Bates made the motion to approve the equipment purchase list as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Duck and unanimously approved.

Mr. Ryder made the motion to approve the hiring of Mrs. Sharon Monroe. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fowler and unanimously approved.

Mr. Fowler made the motion to renew the General Liability and Property Insurance coverage with Wimberly Agency as presented by Mr. Ripp Wimberly. The motion was seconded by Mr. Duck and unanimously approved.

Mr. Bates made the motion to approve the annual Retirement System Training for Ms. Jenifer Caskey. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ryder and a vote was as follows:

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

Mr. Duck made the motion to approve travel to the annual PJA and NACo conferences. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fowler and unanimously approved.

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Mr. Ryder made the motion to approve the annual training for the Justices of the Peace and Constables. The motion was seconded by Ms. Roberson and unanimously approved.

After a brief discussion about the regularly scheduled meeting to fall on a holiday in November, Mr. Sims made the motion to move the November Police Jury meeting to Tuesday, November 10th. The motion was seconded by Mr. Duck and unanimously approved.

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Bates:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Code of Federal Regulations, as enacted by the United States Congress, mandates that all structures defined as bridges located on all public roads shall be inspected, rated for safe load capacity, and posted in accordance with the National Bridge Inspection Standards, and that an inventory of these bridges be maintained by each state; and

WHEREAS, the responsibility to inspect, rate, and load post those bridges under the authority of Bienville Parish, in accordance with those Standards, is delegated by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development to Bienville Parish.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE POLICE JURY OF BIENVILLE PARISH, LOUISIANA, convened in Regular Session on the 14th day of October, that it does hereby certify to the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) that for the period of January 1, 2027 through December 31, 2027:

1. The Parish will perform all interim inspections on all parish-owned or maintained bridges in accordance with the National Bridge Inspection Standards and Specifications for the National Bridge Inventory.
2. All bridges owned or maintained by the Parish will be structurally analyzed and rated by the Parish as to the safe load capacity in accordance with the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Manual for Bridge Evaluation. The load posting information that has been determined by DOTD for all bridges where the maximum legal load under Louisiana State Law exceeds the load permitted under the operating rating as determined above will be critically reviewed by the Parish. Load posting information will be updated by the Parish to reflect all structural changes, any obsolete structural ratings, or any missing structural ratings.
3. All Parish-owned or maintained bridges which require load posting or closing will be load posted or closed in accordance with the table in the DOTD Load Rating Directives. All DOTD supplied load posting information concerning a bridge has been critically reviewed by the Parish Engineer prior to load posting.
4. All bridges owned or maintained by the Parish are shown on the attached list in the format specified by the DOTD. Corrections to data supplied to the Parish by the DOTD are noted.
5. All bridges owned and maintained by the Parish are accessible to DOTD for all routine bridge inspections. Parish will clear vegetation as required upon DOTD request.

These stipulations are prerequisites to participation by the Parish in the Off-System Bridge Replacement Program.

The foregoing resolution was seconded by Mr. Fowler and unanimously approved.

After a presentation by Mr. Robbie George of S.E. Huey Company regarding the capital outlay requests, Ms. Roberson made the motion to authorize Mr. George to submit a capital outlay request on behalf of the Police Jury for the 2026-2027 cycle. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fowler and unanimously approved.

Mr. Duck 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.

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Mr. Ryder 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 Ms. Roberson and unanimously approved.

Mr. Ryder made the motion to have a 15 minute break from regular session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bates and unanimously approved.

Mr. Sims made the motion to reconvene the regular session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fowler and unanimously approved.

Mr. Sims made the motion to approve the 2027 Budget as presented by the Secretary. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bates, and a roll call vote 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. Fowler, seconded by Mr. Sims and unanimously approved, President Nelson declared the meeting adjourned, subject to call, until the regular meeting date, November 10, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

Turner Madden
Secretary/Treasurer

Michael Nelson
Parish President

