

**JEFF DAVIS PARISH TOURIST COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
DATE: February 5, 2019**

The meeting was opened, and the following attendance was noted:

Name	Representing	Present	Absent
Becky Hudson, Chairman	Welsh		X
Lorraine Bertrand, Vice-Chairman	Elton	X	
John Marceaux, Secretary/Treasurer	Lake Arthur		X
Bobby Palermo	Lake Arthur	X	
Ronnie Petree	Welsh	X	
Kathleen LeBlanc	Lake Arthur	X	
Ryan Kitchen	Jennings	X	
Marion "Butch" Fox, Executive Director	Director	X	
Dione Sabelhaus, Marketing Director	Marketing Director	X	

Guest Present: Aaron Copper with J Aaron Copper CPA

Call to Order: Ryan kitchen called the meeting to order at 8:02am, **Ronnie Petree** led the prayer and pledge.

Approval of Agenda ~ a motion was made by **Ronnie Petree** and seconded by **Lorraine Bertrand** to add Aaron Cooper to the agenda, **passed unanimously** to approve the February agenda.

2017 – 2018 Audit Report ~ **Aaron Cooper** reported on the 2017-2018 audit with findings that were listed in the book and corrections were made.

Approval of Minutes ~ a motion was made by **Bobby Palermo**, seconded by **Ronnie Petree** and **passed unanimously** to approve the minutes of **December 2018**.

Approval of Financials ~ a motion was made by **Ronnie Petree** to approve **November and December 2018** financial report seconded by **Bobby Palermo**, **passed unanimously**.

Public Comments: n/a

CEO/President report, Marion Fox

- Gator Chateau updates ~ On track with project. Habetz Construction should be completed in 2 weeks. The Architect, Sherrie Lewis and the foreman, Bob Patrick will check off the punch list before handing over the keys to the building. I will put in a request for a grant to the Zigler Foundations to help with the inside furniture and equipment. **Dione Sabelhaus** informed the board about the existing roof 4200 square feet that is above the restrooms are a different color and in some places are rusting. She is asking permission to hire someone to repair and paint the existing roof.
- A motion was made by **Lorraine Bertrand** and seconded by **Bobby Palermo** to allow up to \$1,000.00 to repair and paint the roof, **passed unanimously**.

Marketing Director Report: Dione Sabelhaus

- I will attend TravelSouth Domestic in Myrtle Beach, SC. on February 23 – 27 with Anne with Southwest Lake Charles CVB to promote Jeff Davis Parish.
- Louisiana Tourism by the numbers in 2017 were visitors 47.1 million, \$17.5 billion generated in domestic and international visitors, 21.85 million hotel room nights sold, over 14.3 million total passengers arrived and

departed Louisiana airports and \$1.8 billion of state and local sales tax revenues were generated. Direct spending by domestic and international travelers in Louisiana averaged \$47.9 million a day; \$1,997,717. The travel and tourism industry is the 4th highest employer in the state.

- Up coming events ~ CRA rodeo, Mardi Gras Cancer Ball, Mainly Marathon 5K run and Mardi Gras parades

New Business:

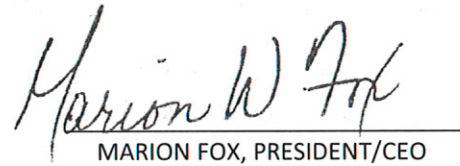
- A motion made by **Ronnie Petree**, seconded by **Bobby Palermo**, to approve the Tourist Development & Marketing Grant for Jennings 2nd Annual CRA Rodeo Association, **passed unanimously**
- A motion made by **Lorraine Bertrand**, seconded by **Kathleen LeBlanc**, to approve the Tourist Development & Marketing Grant for Jennings Festival Association squeezebox Shootout/Mardi Gras Festival, **passed unanimously**

Old Business: N/A

Announcements: N/A

Adjournment: A motion was made by **Ronnie Petree**, seconded by **Bobby Palermo** and passed unanimously to adjourn.

I, Marion Fox, certify that the above and foregoing constitute the minutes of the first meeting of the commissioners of the Jeff Davis Tourist Commission held on February 5, 2019.


MARION FOX, PRESIDENT/CEO