

**Jeff Davis Parish Tourist Commission
Minutes of Meeting
April 13, 2021**

NAME	Representing	Present	Absent
Buffine Crochet	Jennings	X	
Lorraine Bertrand, Vice-Chairman	Elton	X	
John Marceaux, Secretary/Treasurer	Lake Arthur	X	
Roberta Palermo	Lake Arthur	X	
Ronnie Petree	Welsh	X	
Sheila Chapman	Lake Arthur	X	
Becky Hudson	Welsh	X	
Greg Marcantel, Interim		X	
Dione Sabelhaus, Marketing Director			X
Kyler Royer, Tourist Specialist		X	

Guest: Linda Leblanc

Call to Order: Lorraine Bertrand called meeting to order. Ronnie Petree led us in prayer and pledge.

Welcome: Lorraine Bertrand welcomed Shelia Chapman as the new board member representing Lake Arthur and recognized Kyler Royer as the new full-time Tourist Information Specialist of the Tourist Center.

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by John Marceaux and seconded by Ronnie Petree, passed unanimously to approve the April 13, 2021 agenda.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Ronnie Petree and seconded by John Marceaux, passed unanimously to approve the minutes of February 2021.

Approval of Financials: Moved by John Marceaux and seconded by Sheila Chapman, passed unanimously to approve the financials of January and February 2021.

Public Comments: None

Old Business: Greg Marcantel reported representatives from FEMA and the city's insurance company had inspected the property for damages from the hurricanes and the Mayor would soon be approving repairs to begin. The air flow and moisture issues with the Gator Chateau will be addressed when the temperature is warmer outside.

- A motion was made by Ronnie Petree and seconded by John Marceaux, passed unanimously for the final approval of the marketing grant for the 4th Annual Jennings CRA Rodeo.

New Business: Board members were presented forms to complete for the filing of their personal financial disclosure statements that are due by May 15, 2021 in the Louisiana Ethics office.

- Board members were also reminded Ethics Training needs to be completed by December 31, 2021 and to provide completion certificates to the Tourist Commission office.
- The City of Jennings has hired Chris Harford as the full-time park maintenance employee and the Tourist Commission has hired Kooper LeJeune as the part-time maintenance employee.

Interim CEO/President Greg Marcantel: Greg Marcantel reported the hiring committee is making progress and each member of the committee was provided copies of the 11 applications received for the CEO/President position. The committee was asked to rate the applicants and the top 5 will be interviewed Friday, April 16th. He expects the process to be completed soon.

Marketing Director report: The Swamp STOL Flyin is scheduled for June 11 and 12, 2021. Matthew Peterson, Airport Director for LA 3 in Jackson, LA is organizing the event and continuously updating the Tourist Commission staff on advertising material and all aspects of the event.

- The Days Inn remodel should be completed by October 2021. Buffie Crochet reported Hampton Inn had already reserved 20 rooms for the Swamp STOL event and is going to block off several more rooms for the event.

Kyler Royer, TIS: Kyler Royer reported the following:

Crawfish Tours count: 13 tours and 227 guests

Visitor Count: February 2021 ~ 1,249 guest & 464 nights in Louisiana

February 2020 ~ 2,946 guest & 897 nights in Louisiana

Gift Shop Sales: February & March 2021 ~ \$16,740

February & March 2020 ~ \$20,718.75

Announcements: The next Tourist Commission meeting will be June 8, 2021, at which time the 2021-2022 Budget will be introduced. A special meeting will be held on June 22, 2021, to approve the budget.

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

I, Greg Marcantel, certify that the above and foregoing constitute the minutes of the meeting of the commissioners of the Jeff Davis Tourist Commission held on April 13, 2021.


Greg Marcantel, Interim Director