

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (JDPEDC)
MINUTES OF MEETING**

Wednesday, October 8, 2025, at Noon, First Guaranty Bank

The regular meeting of the Jeff Davis Economic Development Commission was called to order, and the following attendance was noted.

Name	Standing for	Present	Absent
Dr. Shane Fontenot	Jennings	X	
Ed Orgeron	Jennings	X	
Ronnie Petree	Welsh		X
Carter Prejean	Jennings		X
Skip Broussard	At Large	X	
Kendal Henry, Chairman	Police Jury	X	
Will Hetzel, Vice Chairman	Police Jury	X	
Chrystal Breaux	Police Jury		X
Beth Daigle, Secretary/Treasurer	Town of Lake Arthur	X	
Richard Arceneaux	Attorney		X
Greg Marcantel	CPA	X	
Mayor Henry Guinn	City of Jennings	X	
Cesilee Oliver	EDC Director	X	
Mayor Poncho LeJeune	Town of Lake Arthur		X
Ben Boudreaux	Parish Administrator	X	
Gerald Theunissen	Advisory Board Member	X	
Tony Hulsey	Advisory Board Member	X	
Lana Sonnier Venable, Exxon/Mobil	Guest	X	
Jade Duplessis, Exxon/Mobil	Guest	X	
Jeanne Boudreaux	Jeff Davis Chamber of Commerce		X
Roby Dyer, Office of Rural Dev – Imperial Calcasieu	Guest	X	
Zach Hager, Entergy	Guest	X	
Linda LeBlanc, Facilitator	Jeff Davis Economic Development	X	
Nikki Trahan	CPA Office	X	
Doris Maricle	Press	X	
D’Arcy Knight	Press	X	

Call to Order: Chairman Kendal Henry called the meeting to order.

Prayer and Pledge: Ronnie Petree led the prayer, and Skip Broussard led the pledge.

Public Comments: None

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Ronnie Petree, seconded by Skip Broussard, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of October 8, 2025, as presented.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Dr. Shane Fontenot, seconded by Will Hetzel, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of September 10, 2025, as presented.

Approval of Financials: A motion was made by Dr. Shane Fontenot, seconded by Ronnie Petree, and passed unanimously to approve the financial reports for August 2025.

New Business: A motion was made by Ronnie Petree, seconded by Dr. Shane Fontenot, and passed unanimously to approve the amended Joint Service Agreement between Jeff Davis Economic Development and Jeff Davis Landfill.

A motion was made by Dr. Shane Fontenot, seconded by Skip Broussard, and passed unanimously to approve the amended Joint Service Agreement between Jeff Davis Economic Development and Jeff Davis Tourist Commission.

Public and Government Affairs Advisor Jade Duplessis with Exxon/Mobil and Owner/Principal of Continuum Strategies Lana Venable were present to discuss Exxon Mobil's plans for carbon capture and storage (CCS) projects in Louisiana. The team's main purpose was to talk about the engagement advocacy around the topic of CCS, economic development and what they do to educate and enhance communities. Information was offered about Exxon/Mobil's Low Carbon Solutions subsidiary intent for CCS sites in Allen Parish. Venable stated Exxon and many other oil and gas companies are looking beyond the environmental impacts of removing CO2 emissions from the atmosphere and focusing on the economics of global demand for low carbon products. Duplessis and Duplessis offered to return with technical representation to address any questions and concerns they were not able to address.

EDC Director Cesilee Oliver reported she had submitted RFPs, one of which was for an ammunition manufacturer offering 160 jobs with a \$60,000 salary range and CapEx of \$32 million, continuing to work on the Marsh project, was working on certifying a site in Silverwood, working on zoning proposed project sites and will speak to the Police Jury presenting maps showing the specific sites needing to be re-zone near the I-10 corridor. Cesilee extended an invitation to the ribbon cutting/grand opening event for Ice Industries on October 14.

Parish Administrator Ben Boudreaux reported requests to re-zone properties at upcoming Police Jury meetings, he was working on updating layers to GIS, and was working on overlay projects.

Announcements:

- Next Board meeting is scheduled for noon, Wednesday, November 12, 2025, at First Guaranty Bank.
- Ethics Online Training needs to be completed by December 31, 2025.

A motion was made by Skip Broussard, seconded by Will Hetzel, and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting.