

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**August 8, 2023**

Name	Representing	Present	Absent
Sheila Chapman, Chairman	Lake Arthur	X	
Buffina Crochet, Vice-Chairman	Hotel	X	
John Marceaux, Treasurer/Secretary	Lake Arthur		X
Ronnie Petree		X	
Bengt Lindell	Welsh	X	
Austin Bertrand	Elton		X
Katelyn Little	Jennings		X
Greg Marcantel, CPA		X	
Creed Romano, CEO		X	
Randy Whetstine		X	
Linda Leblanc		X	

**Call to Order:** *Chairman Sheila Chapman* called the meeting to order. *Ronnie Petree* led the prayer, and *Buffina Crochet* led the pledge.

**Approval of Agenda:** *A motion was made by Ronnie Petree, seconded by Buffina Crochet, and passed unanimously*, as presented.

**Approval of Minutes:** *A motion was made by Bengt Lindell, seconded by Ronnie Petree, and passed unanimously* to approve the June 13, 2023 minutes as presented. *A motion was made by Bengt Lindell, seconded by Buffina Crochet, and passed unanimously* to approve the June 27, 2023 minutes as presented.

**Approval of Financials:** *Greg Marcantel* gave the financial report. *A motion was made by Ronnie Petree, seconded by Bengt Lindell, and passed unanimously* to approve the May and June 2022 financial reports.

**Public Comments:** None

**Old Business:** *Creed Romano* reported that the office continues to work on the upcoming Fall events.

**New Business:**

- *A motion was made by Ronnie Petree, seconded by Buffina Crochet, and passed unanimously* to approve the Engagement agreement with Langley, Williams & Company



# **JDP TOURIST COMMISSION**

## **Jeff Davis Parish**

- **A motion was made by Buffina Crochet and seconded by Bengt Lindell and passed unanimously** to approve the Engagement agreement with Gregory N. Marcantel, CPA.
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- **A motion was made by Ronnie Petree, seconded by Bengt Lindell, and passed unanimously** to accept the Joint Service Agreement with the City of Jennings.
- **A motion was made by Ronnie Petree, seconded by Buffina Crochet, and passed unanimously** to approve the grant application submitted by the Town of Lake Arthur for their Christmas Festival.
- **A motion was made by Ronnie Petree, seconded by Buffina Crochet, and passed unanimously** to approve the grant application submitted by the SWLA Acoustic Cajun Music Jam for the "Battle of the Bows" competition.

### **Reports:**

- **Creed Romano** reported that Kaylee Bryant has resigned, and after discussion, **Kyler Royer** was rehired as the Gator Chateau Manager, with restrictions and a probationary period of 90 days.
- **Randy Whetstine** reported on upcoming events:
  - **LTA Travel Summit in Baton Rouge**
  - **Deep South Husky Shoot Out**, September 8 & 9 at Jennings Airport.
  - **Big Daddy's Classic Car Show**, September 16, at the I-10 Park.
  - **Stearman Fly-In**, at Jennings Airport, October 4-8.
  - **Last Resort Car Show**, October 20 & 21, at the I-10 Park.
  - **Yellow Rails and Rice Birding Festival**, October 25-28. The event will begin at I-10 Park throughout the parish.

**Randy** reported that she hired five new Docent's at The Gator Chateau. She continues to attend LTA Leadership Academy and has traveled to Hammond for Product Development and Shreveport/Bossier City for Marketing. On August 11, our office will host One Acadiana for a parish tour. Currently seeking bids to repair electrical outlets and an electrical panel around the pond. Currently have two bids for the installation of ceiling fans in the Chateau.

- **Marketing Report:** There is a steady upward trend of views across all Social Media platforms and the website. Logos and shirts have been designed for the Husky Shootout, Battle of the Bows, and The Stearman Fly-In. Currently working on material for digital and print ads for the fall/winter.
- **Gator Chateau Report:**
  - **Visitor Count:** June 2022 - 5452, June 2023 - 6307  
July 2022 - 5674, July 2023 - 6468

**Sales:** June-July 2022 \$29,625  
June-July 2023 \$36,025

### **Announcements:**

The Next Tourist Commission meeting will be on Tuesday, October 10, 2023, at the office of the Tourist Commission administration.



## TOURIST COMMISSION

Jeff Davis Parish

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

I, Creed Romano, certify that the above and foregoing constitute the minutes of the meeting of the commissioners of the Jeff Davis Tourist Commission held on April 11, 2023.

Creed Romano, CEO/President

Handwritten text in blue ink, possibly a signature or name, located in the upper right quadrant of the page.