

**Jeff Davis Parish Tourist Commission  
Minutes of Meeting  
July 8, 2025**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Representing</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Sheila Chapman, Chairman</b>	<b>Lake Arthur</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Ronnie Petree</b>	<b>At Large</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Kori Myers</b>	<b>At Large</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Shelby LaFosse</b>	<b>Welsh</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Jeremy Doucet</b>	<b>Jennings</b>	<b>Zoom</b>	
<b>Austin Bertrand</b>	<b>Elton</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Kayla Doga</b>	<b>Hotel</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Landon Daigle</b>	<b>Coushatta</b>		<b>X</b>
<b>Greg Marcantel, CPA</b>			<b>X</b>
<b>Nikki Trahan</b>		<b>X</b>	
<b>Carter Prejean</b>		<b>X</b>	
<b>Macey Guidry Cormier</b>		<b>X</b>	
<b>Linda LeBlanc</b>		<b>X</b>	
<b>Kaylee Bryant</b>			<b>X</b>
<b>Jeanne Boudreaux</b>	<b>Guest</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Darcy Knight</b>	<b>Daily News</b>	<b>X</b>	

**Call to Order:** Chairman Sheila Chapman called the meeting to order and Ronnie Petree led the prayer. Kayla Doga led the pledge.

**Approval of Agenda:** It was moved by Ronnie Petree, seconded by Kori Myers, and passed unanimously to approve the agenda for July 8, 2025.

**Approval of Minutes:** It was moved by Jeremy Doucet, seconded by Kori Myers, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of May 13, 2025, as presented.

Austin Bertrand entered the meeting.

**Financial Report:** It was moved by Ronnie Petree, seconded by Kayla Doga, and passed unanimously to approve the April and May 2025, financial reports as presented.

**Public Comments:** None.

**Old Business:** It was moved by Shelby LaFosse, seconded by Kayla Doga, and passed unanimously to approve the new Jeff Davis Tourist Commission Employee Policy and Best Practices Manual.

**New Business:** It was moved by Ronnie Petree, seconded by Shelby LaFosse, and passed unanimously to authorize Carter Prejean to sign contracts on behalf of Jeff Davis Tourist Commission.

It was moved by Kayla Doga, seconded by Ronnie Petree, and passed unanimously to approve the Marketing Grant for the Town of Lake Arthur for the 2025 Christmas event.

Discussion was held relating to events at Christmas time such as pictures with Santa and gators with pre-ticket sales, serving hot chocolate, tour bus, decorating and lighting contest. Welsh Christmas parade will be on December 6 and Jennings will be December 20.

**Visitor Count:**

	April 2025	May 2025	June 2025
Visitors	5,182	5,308	6,621
Billboard	808	987	2,010
Nights spent in LA	3,227	3,841	4,402

**Gator Chateau Sales:**

April 2024	16,992.00	May 2024	15,624.00	June 2024	13,489.50
April 2025	33,323.15	May 2025	31,009.68	June 2025	23,358.04

**Sales Tax Report:** The sales tax collections for June 2025 paid in July 2025 were \$15,122.87.

**Marketing/Communications Director's report:**

Macey Cormier reported the following:

- Reviewed social media stats from Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok with views from 18.8 thousand to 391,801 thousand views
- The "Crawfish Crawl" has been completed and the next edition is "Snocones".
- Discussed the Student Youth Travel Association through LTA.
- Awarded \$4,460 for the CMP grant.

**Director's Report:**

- Carter Prejean gave a power point presentation that highlighted meetings and events during the past month. The events included Poly in the Park, Coushatta PowWow, Java Joltz market, Red Cardinal market and baking classes, Southern Crumbs classes, Lake Arthur Freedom Fest, and Jennings July 4<sup>th</sup> festivities.
- Submitted a grant application through Keep Louisiana Beautiful for signage at the park entrance.
- Visited Port Wonder and toured the Lake Charles Children's Museum. Also toured the rear section of the Tupper Museum and have for ideas for a local children's museum and will meet with an architect.

- Contacted Port Wanderlust Rentals, a kayak company to obtain information for the possibility of kayak rental at Houssiere's Park or Lake Arthur.
- Discussed Stearman event: Thursday night will provide transportation to restaurant within Jeff Davis Parish, will contact restaurant and arrange accommodations for pilots to eat there at their expense and have restaurant provide band, Friday night have dinner in airport hangar and TC would provide band with band budget of \$500, TC would purchase awards if banquet ticket price would be increased to cover the cost.

**Announcements:**

- The regular Tourist Commission meeting will be at noon on Tuesday, August 12, 2025, at the Tourist Commission Administration office.
- Ethics Online Training to be completed by December 31, 2025.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made by Austin Bertrand, seconded by Kayla Doga, and passed unanimously to adjourn.

