

**Jeff Davis Parish Tourist Commission
Minutes of Meeting
August 12, 2025**

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

Call to Order: Chairman Sheila Chapman called the meeting to order. Kori Myers led the prayer and Jeremy Doucet led the pledge.

Approval of Agenda: It was moved by Ronnie Petree, seconded by Kayla Doga, and passed unanimously to approve the agenda for August 12, 2025, with the addition to “Discuss and Vote for a Gator Chateau Second Full Time Employee”.

Approval of Minutes: It was moved by Jeremy Doucet, seconded by Kori Myers, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of July 8, 2025, as presented.

Financial Report: It was moved by Ronnie Petree, seconded by Jeremy Doucet, and passed unanimously to approve the June 2025 financial report as presented.

Public Comments: None.

Old Business: A lengthy discussion was held pertaining to the Stearman event expenses from previous years. It was decided that transportation to DI’s Restaurant should not be paid for by the

Tourist Commission since it was located outside the parish. Carter Prejean offered other options to dine in Jeff Davis Parish to the Stearman organization, but the Stearman group declined any other offers. It was moved by Jeremy Doucet, seconded by Kayla Doga and passed unanimously to approve collecting a \$25.00 registration fee, approve paying for port a potties, and to approve paying for Stearman awards. The cost of banquet tickets will offset the cost of banquet food. Selling T-shirts was also discussed and since there were so many shirts left over from previous years the number to order the 2025 event shirts should be decreased.

New Business: It was moved by Jeremy Doucet, seconded by Ronnie Petree, and passed unanimously to approve a \$2,000 Marketing Grant for the SWLA Cajun Music Jam “Battle of the Bows” and to pay the first installment of \$1,500.00.

It was moved by Jeremy Doucet, seconded by Kayla Doga, and passed unanimously to approve a \$2,000 Marketing Grant for the Cajun Rodeo Association and to pay the first installment of \$1,500.00.

It was moved by Ronnie Petree, seconded by Kori Myers, and passed unanimously to authorize Carter Prejean to proceed having the two pond fountains repaired.

It was moved by Ronnie Petree, seconded by Kori Myers to have a Fall Flea Festival November 1, 2025.

Visitor Count:

	June 2024	June 2025	July 2024	July 2025
Visitors	5,529	6621	6,106	8,405
Billboard	1,304	2,010	1,814	2,698
Nights spent in LA	1,910	4,402	3,478	8,954

Gator Chateau Sales:

June 2024	13489.50	July 2024	14,296.50
June 2025	23,358.04	July 2025	23,157.57

Sales Tax Report: The sales tax collections for July 2025 paid in August 2025 were \$14,286.23.

The reimbursement from DEQ for EV Charging Stations installed in Welsh was submitted.

Marketing/Communications Director’s report:

Macey Cormier reported the following:

- Reviewed social media stats from Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok with views from 8,606 to 293,400 views.
- The “Cocktail Trail” will begin September 1.

Director’s Report:

- Carter Prejean gave a power point presentation that highlighted meetings and events during the past month. The events included French Table at the Zigler Museum, Jam Session at the Chateau, Billy Nungesser luncheon, Themed Paint Day at Jacques’s Pottery, LMA Convention, grant writing class, Bayou Rum event, LTA Itinerary class, JDP Fair meeting,

website forums, Back to School Night event, children's museum planning meeting, and kayak rental project.

- The grant application submitted through Keep Louisiana Beautiful for signage at the park entrance was denied.
- Ongoing planning for Stearman event.
- The 6 year old gators were returned to Wildlife & Fisheries and we now have 4 of our 2 year olds in the pond. Last public feeding will be August 29.

Announcements:

- The regular Tourist Commission meeting will be at noon on Tuesday, September 9, 2025, at the Tourist Commission Administration office.
- Ethics Online Training to be completed by December 31, 2025.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Jeremy Doucet, seconded by Ronnie Petree, and passed unanimously to adjourn.

