

Minutes
St. Mary Parish Tourist Commission
dba Cajun Coast Tourism
May 21, 2025

St. Mary Parish Tourist Commission dba Cajun Coast Tourism held a business meeting on Wednesday, May 21, 2025, at 4 pm at the Cajun Coast Office. The members were Kim Walden, Sandra Marshall, Dwight Smith, Herman Hartman, and Alfredia Edwards. The members absent were Ed "Tiger" Verdin, Keith Leonard, Patsy Powell, and LaQuanda Gray. Also present were Carrie Stansbury, Christal Carter, Keefe Carney, Caroline Byrne, and Kristin Holcombe.

Mr. Carney gave a presentation on the Louisiana Basin Trace, a bike, hike, and ride trail around the Atchafalaya Basin.

Ms. Holcombe gave the 2023-2024 auditor's report.

Ms. Marshall made a motion to accept the March minutes as written. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

Mr. Hartman made a motion to accept the March and April financials. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

Ms. Stansbury gave an overview of the bureau's activities.

Ms. Marshall made a motion to give Carrie a 3% COL raise. Ms. Edwards seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

Ms. Marshall made a motion to give Christal a 3% COL raise. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

Ms. Marshall made a motion to give Allison a 3% COL raise on July 8th, her one-year mark. Ms. Edwards seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

Mr. Smith made a motion to give Anna a raise to \$11.00 per hour based on time with the company. Ms. Marshall seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

Ms. Edwards made a motion to give Carol a raise to \$11.00 per hour based on time with the company. Ms. Marshall seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

Ms. Marshall made a motion to give Lindsay a raise to \$9.75 per hour based on time with the company. Ms. Edwards seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

Ms. Marshall made a motion to give Michelle a raise to \$8.75 per hour based on time with the company. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

Ms. Marshall made a motion to give Kameron a raise to \$8.00 on June 2nd after her 90-day trial period. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

Ms. Marshall made a motion to give Carrie and Christal a 12% retirement contribution. Ms. Edwards seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

Ms. Edwards made a motion to change the policy for retirement benefits from two years to one year in the employee manual. Ms. Marshall seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

Mr. Hartman made a motion to change the budgets to include building repairs such as updating the interpretive exhibits, walkway around the building, office furniture, gutter repair, the bulkhead and walkway leading into the building for \$183,000. Ms. Edwards seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

Ms. Marshall made a motion to accept the bid for the Twisted Cat fishing tournament for \$10,000. Ms. Edwards seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

Mr. Hartman made a motion to sponsor the Soul Food Festival for \$5,000. Ms. Edwards seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

Ms. Edwards made a motion to sign the Resolution for Carrie to apply for a grant from the Louisiana Office of Tourism. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

Ms. Marshall made a motion to sign the Resolution for Carrie to apply for a grant from the Atchafalaya National Heritage Area. Ms. Edwards seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

Ms. Marshall made a motion to sign the Memorial Resolution for Mr. Byron "Red" Adams. Ms. Edwards seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

Ms. Marshall made a motion to sign the Memorial Resolution for Calvin Rodger Robinson. Ms. Edwards seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

The Tourist Commission's next board meeting is scheduled for June 18, 2025, at 4:00 pm at the Cajun Coast Office.

There being no further business to discuss, Ms. Marshall made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Herman Hartman, Secretary