

The Police Jury of the Parish of Avoyelles Parish, State of Louisiana, met for a Regular Meeting at its meeting place on Tuesday, April 14, 2026, in the Police Jury Room of the Parish Courthouse, 312 North Main Street, Marksville.

There were present: Mark Borrel, Jacob Coco, Clyde Benson, Ingrid Wilson, Allen Thomas, Sam Pearce, Travis Franks, Craig Foster, Darrell Wiley, Rhett Desselle- Pan American Engineers, Kevin Bordelon, Laura Gaspard, Jacob Guillory-Delta Engineers, Ronald Coco, Amy Guidry, Joseph Frank-Director of Homeland Security, Dr. Jenny Falls, Jimmy Landry, Terry Laborde,

Absent: None

The meeting opened with prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call by Secretary-Treasurer.

On motion by Allen Thomas, seconded by Ingrid Wilson, to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on March 10, 2026, as printed in the Weekly News and emailed/mailed to all Jurors. Motion carried.

On motion by Craig Foster, seconded by Allen Thomas, to accept the minutes of the Tourist Commission meeting held on March 30, 2026, Motion carried.

On motion by Sam Pearce, seconded by Allen Thomas, to accept the minutes of the Planning Commission meeting held on March 25, 2026. Motion carried.

Peter Williams, Candidate for the 6th Congressional District, addressed the jury and the public asking for their support for the upcoming election. He gave brief background of his experience as an agriculturist and tree farmer from Lettsworth. He is passionate about underserved communities and has been a dedicated advocate for 40 years. He understands the challenges our district faces.

Amy Guidry Acadian Ambulance shared recent ambulance service response times for Avoyelles for March. There were 773 calls for March, 603 emergencies and 170 non-life-threatening emergency calls. Their average response time is 14:53.

On motion by Sam Pearce, seconded by Jacob Coco, to accept financial report given by Secretary-Treasurer. Motion carried.

After a public hearing was held, and no opposition, on motion by Sam Pearce, seconded by to adopt Solar Farm Ordinance. Motion carried.

After a public hearing was held, no opposition, a motion was offered by Allen Thomas, seconded by Mark Borrel, to abandon Smith Road, approximately 500 feet, stated by Civil Works Director, Kevin Bordelon. Motion carried.

On motion by Sam Pearce seconded by Clyde Benson, to submit another letter to attorney general for animal shelter with reasons. Motion carried.

On motion By Allen Thomas, seconded by Craig Foster, to authorize Wibert Carmouche to apply for a CMP grant and to sign all documents related to the grant. Motion carried.

On motion by Jacob Coco, seconded by Sam Pearce to approve recommendations from the Litter Committee as follows:

Approve fines for Jeffery Clayton, 171 Levi Gremillion Road, Plaucheville
Melissa Shallington, 1152 Cocoville Road, Mansura

Approve final notices for individuals on the #2 -Extension List: Robert Normand, Holly Carmello, Tonya Brown, Norris Dautat (Robbie Dautat) and Jason Gaspard.

Motion carried.

On motion by Mark Borrel, seconded by Allen Thomas to announce a call for an election to renew Health Unit Ad Valorem, addition to include verbiage for an animal shelter. Motion carried.

On motion by Jacob Coco, seconded by Clyde Benson, to authorize Joseph Frank to attend LEMC Conference. Motion carried.

Jaco Coco read a proclamation for Avoyelles Birthday Celebration, there was a second by Clyde Benson to accept the proclamation. Motion carried.

On motion by Sam Pearce, seconded by Mark Borrel, advertise a public hearing on May 12th at 4:45 pm for comments to adopt the amendment to the Subdivision ordinance. Motion carried.

On motion by Mark Borrel, seconded by Craig Foster, to authorize payment of \$18,960.50 to Pan American Engineers for Phase 1 of the Recreation and Education Complex. Motion carried.

Join NACo annual membership fee of \$794. No motion.

On motion by Clyde Benson, seconded by Ingrid Wilson, to table “award library quotes to replace soffits and gutters” Motion carried.

On motion by Clyde Benson, seconded by Jacob Coco, to approve purchases for Green Waste site: pump \$12,000; Electrician and supplies approx. \$8,000 total not to exceed \$20,000. On vote.

YEA	Franks, Wilson, Coco, Benson, Foster, Thomas, Pearce
NAY	None
ABSTAIN	Borrel
ABSTAIN	B

Motion carried.

On motion by Jacob Coco, seconded by Ingrid Wilosn, to approve lowest quote, HLA Signs \$635, for litter trailer signs. Motion carried.

On motion by Jacob Coco, seconded by Allen Thomas, to approve quote for Green Waste site fence and gate, not to exceed \$15,000. Motion carried.

On motion by Jacob Coco, seconded by Allen Thomas, to select properties for Kevin and his crew to clean blighted properties, Dautat, Doughty, and Cook properties. Motion carried.

On motion by Jacob Coco, seconded by Sam Pearce to solicit RFPs for garbage contract, contingent upon Solid Waste Committee review, Jury approval, and final review by legal counsel. Motion carried.

On motion by Jacob Coco, seconded by Clyde Benson, authorizing the president to sign a lease Agreement with Gerard Lacour for the Simmesport Health Unit.

Prior to the vote, Juro Travis Franks advised the jury that Simmesport currently has two health clinics with a population of 1,468, while other areas such as Hessmer, which has a much higher population, have only one family clinic. He went on to say that most health services can be conducted by cell phone without the necessity of an in-person office visit.

Juror Benson stated that the health unit funds should be spent to help people, as they are concerned with the animal shelter. On vote.

YEA	Wilson, Coco, Benson, Foster, Thomas, Pearce, Borrel
NAY	Franks
ABSTAIN	None
ABSENT	None

Motion carried.

On motion by Allen Thomas, seconded by Clyde Benson, granting Secretary/Treasurer to pay all bills and waive a reading of the whole. Motion carried.

On motion by Clyde Benson, seconded by Allen Thomas to adjourn. Motion carried.