Parish of Vernon



MINUTES REGULAR MEETING

VERNON PARISH POLICE JURY PARISH GOVERNMENT COMPLEX BUILDING 300 S. 3RD STREET, 2ND FLOOR LEESVILLE, LOUISIANA

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2025 10:00 a.m.

The Vernon Parish Police Jury met in Regular Session, Monday, September 15, 2025 at 10 a.m. in the Police Jury meeting room with the following members **PRESENT**: James B. "Jim" Tuck – President, Marvin Hilton, Alton "David" Fox, Douglas "Doug" Roshong, Cody Hostetler, Scottie Benjamin, Charnel Bailey, Malcolm "Dean" Mitchell, David Brister, Curtis Clay – Vice President, Steven "Quintin" Thompson, and Kenny Haymon. The following members were **ABSENT**: None.

The Vernon Parish Police Jury was convened as the governing authority of the Parish of Vernon, by Mr. James B. "Jim" Tuck, President, and was then ready for the business on the agenda.

The invocation was given by Mr. Curtis Clay and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Mavin Hilton.

Mrs. Carmen Gonzales, President & Founder of Dysautonomia Louisiana, Inc. was present at the meeting to discuss Dysautonomia and aske the jury to adopt a proclamation in support of Dysautonomia month.

The President asked if there was any public comment on any agenda items; there was none.

A motion was made by Mr. Clay, seconded by Mr. Mitchell and carried, to adopt the following proclamations:

A proclamation declaring the month of September as **HBCU AWARENESS MONTH** in Vernon Parish to recognize the continuing contributions of Southern, Grambling, Xavier, and Dillard Universities.

A proclamation declaring the month of October as **DYSAUTONOMIA AWARENESS MONTH** in Vernon Parish to increase awareness about dysautonomia to help patients obtain an earlier diagnosis and treatment plan, save lives, and foster support for individuals and families already coping with dysautonomia in our community.

A motion was made by Mr. Benjamin, seconded by Mr. Hostetler and carried, to sit as Board of Review to hear and act on complaints of taxpayers relative to Property

Assessment:

There were no appeals received. Mr. Michael Bealer, Vernon Parish Assessor, was present to answer any questions and explain the assessment process. There were no questions for Mr. Bealer.

A motion was made by Mr. Haymon, seconded by Mr. Thompson and carried, to return to regular session.

A motion was made by Mr. Roshong, seconded by Mr. Bailey and carried, to accept and certify the property tax assessment, as assessed by the Vernon Parish Assessor, for 2025.

A motion was made by Mr. Hilton, seconded by Mr. Benjamin and carried, to issue Quietus for 2025 tax collection to the Vernon Parish Tax Collector.

The President invited representatives from Highland Pellets to speak on the potential economic development that they might bring to the parish.

The President then asked if there was anyone present that would like to speak on the subject of Carbon Sequestration.

Representatives from the public against Carbon Sequestration spoke to the jury regarding their concerns over its potential impacts on the parish.

Representatives from the public in favor of the economic development spoke to the jury about their support for future economic development that may come to our parish because of the availability of Carbon Sequestration.

After lengthy discussion, the president called for the vote on the three agenda items related to Carbon Sequestration.

A motion was made by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Brister, to adopt a resolution to rescind Resolutions No. 15 and 33 of 2024. Mr. Bailey objected and the roll was called and recorded as follows:

YEAS: Tuck, Fox, Roshong, Benjamin, Mitchell, Brister, Clay, and

Thompson

NAYS: Hilton, Hostetler, Bailey, and Haymon

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion carried and the resolution was adopted.

A motion was made by Mr. Clay, seconded by Mr. Thompson, to adopt a resolution supporting industries that provide economic development to Vernon Parish whether or not they require CCS in their operations. Mr. Hostetler objected and the roll was called and recorded as follows:

YEAS: Tuck, Fox, Roshong, Benjamin, Mitchell, Brister, Clay, and

Thompson

NAYS: Hilton, Hostetler, Bailey, and Haymon

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion carried and the resolution was adopted.

A motion was made by Mr. Clay, seconded by Mr. Thompson, to adopt a resolution in support of the CapturePoint Community Investment Fund (CIF) for Vernon Parish and approve and accept Memorandum of Understanding between the Vernon Parish Police Jury and CapturePoint for the CIF and authorize the President and/or Administrator/Treasurer to execute the MOU and any other contracts or documents related to the CIF on behalf of the jury. The President called for the vote, the roll was called and recorded as follows:

YEAS: Tuck, Fox, Roshong, Benjamin, Mitchell, Brister, Clay,

Thompson, and Haymon

NAYS: Hilton, Hostetler, and Bailey

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion carried and the resolution was adopted.

The President called for a five-minute recess.

After the recess, the meeting resumed with the remaining agenda items.

A motion was made by Mr. Brister, seconded by Mr. Roshong and carried, to accept the minutes of the August 11, 2025 special call meeting, the August 11, 2025 committee meeting, the August 18, 2025 regular meeting, and the August 28, 2025 special call meeting.

The President asked for committee reports to be presented by the committee Chairman.

Mr. David Fox, Chairman, Capital Properties Committee, reported that the committee met on Monday, September 8, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. in the Police Jury Meeting Room.

The West Louisiana Forestry Festival Board of Directors has approved worked to be done in the Fairgrounds Auditorium to install a new ceiling and LED lighting. The lowest quote was from GMT Services for \$29,625.00. The Fair Board has agreed to split the cost of the ceiling so the cost to the Police Jury will be \$18,212.50.

There was a second quote from Pat Williams Construction for \$68.837.00.

Received after the 9/8/2025 committee meeting:

Applications received to purchase parish adjudicated property:

100% INT IN: T2NR9W – SEC 11, FROM SW/C OF SE/4 [description continues] see **Parcel No. 9111385810** – this property is on the corner of Hwy. 171 and Hwy. 28

and

5% INT IN: T2NR9W – BEG AT A PT WH E LN OF NWNE CROSSES S R/W LN [description continues] see **Parcel No. 9102897600** – this property is located on Ellis St., near Hwy. 28

These properties are surplus and are not needed for a public purpose. The committee recommends the jury declare the properties surplus and authorize the jury to commence with the process of selling these adjudicated properties.

A motion was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Hilton and seconded, to adopt the additions received after the 9/8/2025 committee meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Hilton and carried, to adopt the Capital Properties Committee report in its entirety.

Mr. Curtis Clay, Chairman, Finance Committee, reported that the committee met on Monday, September 8, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. in the police jury meeting room.

The committee recommends the jury approve invoices received from RC Paving for 2025 Overlay:

Fal Road Asphalt Grinding 83,053.75 D3 W3
Drakes Forks Road Asphalt Grinding \$11,817.00 D5 W7

A motion was made by Mr. Clay, seconded by Mr. Hostetler and carried, to adopt the Finance Committee report in its entirety.

Mr. Marvin Hilton, Chairman, Personnel Committee, reported that the committee met on Monday, September 8, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. in the police jury meeting room.

The committee recommends the jury approve request from Parish Road Manager to hire Jerry Green, D6, full-time, Truck Driver, 6-month probation period.

A motion was made by Mr. Hilton, seconded by Mr. Fox and carried, to adopt the Personnel Committee report in its entirety.

Mr. David Brister, Chairman, Road Maintenance & Construction Committee, reported that the committee met on Monday, September 8, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. in the police jury meeting room.

The committee recommends the jury approve requests for the VP Health Unit (all requests are considered a public health hazard and nuisance:

- Fill in an abandoned well at 120 Wilson Cemetery Road, D1 W4
- Dispose of damage structures at 120 Wilson Cemetery Road, D1 W4
- Dispose of a damaged structure at 8427 Kurthwood Road,
- Bury a dead horse at 2851 Liliedahl Road, D7 W7
- Bury 2 dead horses at 828 Jack Jeane Loop, D3 W3
- Bury a dead horse at 333 Bill Poe Road, D6 W8

The committee recommends the jury approve request from the VP School Board to maintain a bus turnaround at the end of Fairlane Road, D2 W2.

The committee recommends the jury approve resolutions to perform work inside the municipalities of:

1. <u>Town of Rosepine</u> (August 2025): perform routine monthly maintenance on the streets inside town limits, including boom mowing, pot hole repairs, and ditching.

A motion was made by Mr. Brister, seconded by Mr. Bailey and carried, to adopt the Road Maintenance & Construction Committee report in its entirety.

Mr. Kenny Haymon, Chairman, Ways & Means Committee, reported that the committee met on Monday, September 8, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. in the police jury meeting room.

The committee recommends the jury approve the following updated procedures and fee schedule:

- Procedure for Naming Private Road or Changing Road Names
- Public Records Request Procedures, Form, and Fees

A motion was made by Mr. Haymon, seconded by Mr. Thompson and carried, to adopt the Ways & Means Committee report in its entirety.

Having heard all committee reports, the President returned to the main agenda.

A motion was made by Mr. Benjamin, seconded by Mr. Hostetler and carried, to enter into public hearing to hear public input on the following proposed ordinances:

- 1. A proposed ordinance to repeal and re-enact Sec. 14-1, Operating vehicle or other means of conveyance while intoxicated or impaired, of the Vernon Parish Code of Ordinances.
- 2. A proposed ordinance providing regulations for the site development of land in the unincorporated area of Vernon Parish for the purpose of constructing and operating "Solar Farms," and further providing with respect thereto.
- 3. A proposed ordinance to temporarily reduce the speed limit on McNeely Road and Browns Lane, District 2 Ward 2, to 15 MPH, in their entirety, only while the bridge on Holton Harris Road is being replaced.

There was no public comment.

A motion was made by Mr. Haymon, seconded by Mr. Brister and carried, to return to regular session.

A motion was made by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Brister, to adopt an ordinance to repeal and re-enact Sec. 14-1, Operating vehicle or other means of conveyance while intoxicated or impaired, of the Vernon Parish Code of Ordinances. **The foregoing motion was subject to a roll call vote and recorded as follows:**

YEAS: Tuck, Hilton, Fox, Roshong, Hostetler, Benjamin, Bailey, Mitchell,

Brister, Clay, Thompson, and Haymon

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion carried and the ordinance was adopted.

A motion was made by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Brister, to adopt an ordinance providing regulations for the site development of land in the unincorporated area of Vernon Parish for the purpose of constructing and operating "Solar Farms," and further providing with respect thereto. The foregoing motion was subject to a roll call vote and recorded as follows:

YEAS: Tuck, Hilton, Fox, Roshong, Hostetler, Benjamin, Bailey, Mitchell,

Brister, Clay, Thompson, and Haymon

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion carried and the ordinance was adopted.

A motion was made by Mr. Hilton, seconded by Mr. Benjamin, to adopt an ordinance to temporarily reduce the speed limit on McNeely Road and Browns Lane, District 2 Ward 2, to 15 MPH, in their entirety, only while the bridge on Holton Harris Road is being replaced. The foregoing motion was subject to a roll call vote and recorded as follows:

YEAS: Tuck, Hilton, Fox, Roshong, Hostetler, Benjamin, Bailey, Mitchell,

Brister, Clay, Thompson, and Haymon

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion carried and the ordinance was adopted.

A motion was made by Mr. Clay, seconded by Mr. Bailey and carried, to adopt a resolution to waive the PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) through September 30, 2025 for the Vernon Parish Housing Authority; estimated PILOT is \$16,300.00.

A motion was made by Mr. Benjamin, seconded by Mr. Charnel Bailey and carried, to adopt memorial resolutions for the following community members:

George Douglas "Dr. Doug" Brandon, DVM

Mrs. Jane Beltz

Mr. Curtis Bass

Mr. Gideon Capitano

Mr. Chad Wilson

A motion was made by Mr. Clay, seconded by Mr. Brister and carried, to authorize payment of all invoices as authorized by the Finance Committee and authorize payment of all expenditures above the budgeted amount from Ward Maintenance and/or Construction accounts.

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Bailey, seconded by Mr. Roshong and carried, to adjourn.

James B. Tuck President

Belinda S. Diehl

Secretary

Rhonda M. Plummer

Administrator/Treasurer

Parish of Vernon



REGULAR MEETING: SEPTEMBER 15, 2025

RESOLUTION No. 37 of 2025

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION TO RESCIND RESOLUTIONS NO. 15 and 33 of 2024

WHEREAS, on May 20, 2024, the Vernon Parish Police Jury adopted Resolution No.

15 of 2024 authorizing a resolution requesting Information and Time for Evaluation from the State of Louisiana prior to the issuance of any

permits for Class VI Injection Wells in the parish; and

WHEREAS, on November 18, 2024, the Vernon Parish Police Jury adopted

Resolution No. 33 of 2024 authorizing a resolution in objection to Carbon Sequestration until there is better understanding of the potential

impacts to our parish and its residents; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Vernon Parish Police Jury:

- 1. That Resolutions No.15 and 33 of 2024 are hereby rescinded and shall be of no further force or effect.
- 2. That all direction granted and provided by said resolutions are hereby rescinded and revoked.
- 3. That this Resolution shall take effect on the date of it its adoption.

On motion by Mr. Dean Mitchell, seconded by Mr. David Brister, with Mr. Charnel Bailey objecting, the roll was called and recorded as follows:

YEAS: Tuck, Fox, Roshong, Benjamin, Mitchell, Brister, Clay, and

Thompson

NAYS: Hilton, Hostetler, Bailey, and Haymon

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion carried and the resolution was adopted on this the 15th day of September, 2025, at which meeting a quorum was present.

Rhonda M. Plummer

Administrator & Treasurer

James B. Tuck

President

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STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF VERNON

I, Belinda S. Diehl, Secretary of the Police Jury of Vernon Parish, Louisiana do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Vernon Parish Police Jury in regular session on Monday, September 15, 2025 at which meeting a quorum was present.

GIVEN UNDER MY OFFICIAL signature and seal of office on this $15^{\rm th}$ day of September, 2025, in Leesville, Louisiana.

Parish of Vernon



REGULAR MEETING: SEPTEMBER 15, 2025

RESOLUTION No. 38 of 2025

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF INDUSTRIES THAT PROVIDE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TO VERNON PARISH

WHEREAS, a strong and resilient economy is essential for the prosperity and well-

being of all residents, businesses, and organizations within; and

WHEREAS, economic development activities promote the creation and retention of

quality jobs, diversify the tax base, and foster a healthy and innovative

business environment; and

WHEREAS, the Vernon Parish Police Jury recognizes the importance of a strategic

and collaborative approach to economic growth that involves public

and private stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, the Vernon Parish Police Jury is committed to implementing policies

and programs that attract private investment, support local entrepreneurship, and strengthen existing industries; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Vernon Parish Police Jury does hereby support

industries that provide economic development to Vernon Parish whether

or not they require CCS in their operations.

On motion by Mr. Curtis Clay, seconded by Mr. Steven "Quintin" Thompson, with Mr. Cody Hostetler objecting, the roll was called and recorded as follows:

YEAS: Tuck, Fox, Roshong, Benjamin, Mitchell, Brister, Clay, and

Thompson

NAYS: Hilton, Hostetler, Bailey, and Haymon

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion carried and the resolution was adopted on this the 15th day of September, 2025, at which meeting a quorum was present.

Rhonda M. Plummer

Administrator & Treasurer

James B. Tuck

President

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STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF VERNON

I, Belinda S. Diehl, Secretary of the Police Jury of Vernon Parish, Louisiana do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Vernon Parish Police Jury in regular session on Monday, September 15, 2025 at which meeting a quorum was present.

GIVEN UNDER MY OFFICIAL signature and seal of office on this $15^{\rm th}$ day of September, 2025, in Leesville, Louisiana.

Parish of Vernon



REGULAR MEETING: SEPTEMBER 15, 2025

RESOLUTION No. 39 of 2025

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE CAPTUREPOINT COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND

WHEREAS, CapturePoint Solutions has identified the need for community

development in Vernon Parish; and

WHEREAS, through their Community Investment Fund (CIF), CapturePoint

Solutions has agreed to pay approximately \$9 million per year to the

Vernon Parish Police Jury; and

WHEREAS, the CIF will support economic development, infrastructure

improvements, the Career Technical Education Program through the Vernon Parish School Board, and other projects to improve Vernon

Parish; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Vernon Parish Police Jury is hereby in support

of the CapturePoint CIF for Vernon Parish and approves and accepts the Memorandum of Understanding between the Vernon Parish Police Jury

and CapturePoint for the CIF; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the jury authorizes the President and/or

Administrator/Treasurer to execute the MOU and any other contracts or

documents related to the CIF on behalf of the jury.

On motion by Mr. Curtis Clay, seconded by Mr. David Brister, the President called for the vote and the roll was called and recorded as follows:

YEAS: Tuck, Fox, Roshong, Benjamin, Mitchell, Brister, Clay, and

Thompson, and Haymon

NAYS: Hilton, Hostetler, and Bailey

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion carried and the resolution was adopted on this the 15th day of September, 2025, at which meeting a quorum was present.

Rhonda M. Plummer Administrator & Treasurer

President

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STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF VERNON

I, Belinda S. Diehl, Secretary of the Police Jury of Vernon Parish, Louisiana do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Vernon Parish Police Jury in regular session on Monday, September 15, 2025 at which meeting a quorum was present.

GIVEN UNDER MY OFFICIAL signature and seal of office on this $15^{\rm th}$ day of September, 2025, in Leesville, Louisiana.

Parish of Vernon



REGULAR MEETING: SEPTEMBER 15, 2025

RESOLUTION No. 40 of 2025

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Vernon Parish Housing Authority, is a small housing authority with a limited operating budget; and

WHEREAS, the Vernon Parish Housing Authority, is in the business of assisting the residents of Vernon Parish with affordable housing.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Vernon Parish Police Jury, does hereby waive the PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes), through September 30, 2025; estimated PILOT is \$16,300.00.

On motion by Mr. Curtis Clay, seconded by Mr. Steven "Quintin" Thompson, the foregoing resolution was unanimously adopted on this the 15th day of September, 2025, at which meeting a quorum was present.

Rhonda M. Plummer Administrator/Treasurer James B. Tuck
President

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF VERNON

I, Belinda S. Diehl, Secretary of the Police Jury of Vernon Parish, Louisiana do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Vernon Parish Police Jury in regular session on Monday, September 15, 2025 at which meeting a quorum was present.

GIVEN UNDER MY OFFICIAL signature and seal this 15^{th} day of September, 2025.