

## **Zachary Taylor Parkway Commission**

## **MINUTES**

Quarterly Commission Meeting Avoyelles Commission of Tourism October 11, 2023

## Present

Van Roy

AJ Roy, Avoyelles Parish Carlos Mayeux, Avoyelles Parish Martin Macdiarmid, East Feliciana Parish Buck Vandersteen, Rapides Parish Wilbert Carmouche, Avoyelles Parish Patty Alford, Washington Parish Randy DeCuir, Avoyelles Parish Melvin Harvey, West Feliciana Parish Maggie Miller, ZTP Management Team Julie Fuselier, ZTP Management Team Jack Daughtry, Rapides Parish Roderick Matthews, St. Helena Parish Louis Hebert, Pointe Coupee Parish Russell Wilson, Rapides Parish Patrick Witty, Pointe Coupee Parish Representative Daryl Deshotel Toni Melton, St. Helena David Gary, Redstick Internet Heath Pastor, Avoyelles Parish Assessor David Doza, Avoyelles Parish Sheriff Steve Mayeux Amy Valentine Catherine Roy Julie Roy

## Absent

J.R. Rouchon, East Feliciana Parish
Stewart Hamilton, West Feliciana Parish
Curtis Jelks, East Feliciana Parish
Les Cantrell, Pointe Coupee Parish
Joe Thomas, Tangipahoa Parish
Ginger Champagne, Washington Parish
Gen. Ron McGlothlin, Washington Parish
Louis Hebert, Pointe Coupee Parish
Ronnie Jett, East Feliciana Parish
Ron Roe, Rapides Parish
Ryan Seal, Washington Parish
AP Guillory, Rapides Parish
Ron Roe, Rapides Parish

A.J. Roy, III of Avoyelles Parish called the Quarterly Meeting of the Zachary Taylor Parkway Commission to order at 10:18 AM on October 11, 2023, in Mansura, LA.

Martin Macdiarmid called roll and a quorum was recognized.

Representative Daryl Deshotel spoke to the group about the redistricting of Avoyelles Parish. He also reported that he was instrumental in the creation of the The Office of Broadband Development & Connectivity and the Gumbo Grant Program. Due to the success of the Gumbo Grant Program, Louisiana was awarded the eighth largest allocation out of any state in the country.

David Gary, owner of Redstick Internet, presented the progress of the new website to the board.



Mr. Roy proposed consideration of the August 16, 2023, board meeting minutes. Buck Vandersteen made a motion to approve the August 16, 2023, minutes. Mr. Macdiarmid seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Vandersteen reviewed the treasurer's report. He reported the Commission's balance of \$15,344.17 and a net income of \$14,684.62.

Mr. Roy provided the chairman's report. He thanked everyone in attendance for supporting the Zachary Taylor Parkway Commission and reflected on the successful year. Mr. Roy reiterated the importance of having relationships with local legislators to help with projects that benefit rural communities along the parkway.

Julie Fuselier reported that the Commission is re-applying for capital outlay funding for lighting on the Audubon bridge and will have the application submitted for the November 1, 2023, deadline.

Ms. Fuselier noted that the new website will tie in parishes' military history along the parkway.

Mr. Roy announced that the next meeting will be held in Pointe Coupee Parish on January 10, 2024.

Mr. Macdiarmid made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Roderick Matthews seconded the motion. Mr. Roy adjourned the meeting at 11:35 AM.