

ACADIANA REGIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 2025 AT 1:30 PM
ACADIA PARISH CLERK OF COURT
500 N PARKERSON AVENUE
CROWLEY, LA 70526

CALL TO ORDER

Members in attendance (6 members present constituted a quorum):

1. Sheriff Ricky Edwards
2. Sheriff KP Gibson
3. Judge Stan Hardee
4. Jessie Bellard
5. Kenny Courville
6. Judge Jim Doherty

Absent Members:

1. Tania C. Washington
2. Judge Luke Abrusley
3. Armond Schwing

NOTE: Public Notice of the Meeting was posted by K.P. Gibson at the place of meeting at 12 PM Friday, August 15, 2025.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 8, 2025 MEETING

The minutes were reviewed and approved. Motion to approve the Minutes was made by Ricky Edwards and seconded by KP Gibson. Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSS SALES TAX ELECTION

Members discussed potential dates for the Sales Tax Election. The dates considered were April 18, 2026; May 30, 2026; November 3, 2026; and December 12, 2026.

After discussion, members selected May 30, 2026 as the election date, allowing until March 30, 2026, to file the proposition. April 18, 2026, was dismissed as an option since it coincided with a primary municipal election.

A motion to approve May 30, 2026, as the Sales Tax Election date was made by Judge Jim Doherty and seconded by Judge Stan Hardee.

ADOPT RESOLUTION TO REMOVE CHESTER CEDARS FROM THE HOME BANK ACCOUNT

Motion made to remove Chester Cedars by KP Gibson, second by Judge Stan Hardee.

Motion made to appoint KP Gibson to be added in Cedars Place since three people have to be on the account.

Motion approved by Sheriff Ricky Edwards, seconded by Judge Stan Hardee.

ADDITIONAL CONCERNS, COMMENTS

1. Members emphasized the importance of engaging Parish Governments, noting that even if the full committee cannot attend, at least three to four members should be present for parish meetings, particularly when those meetings take place in a member's home parish.
2. Members discussed the location of a potential new juvenile facility and agreed it should be located north of I-10.
3. The board addressed contingency planning for emergencies and agreed that Jackson Parish would be the most suitable relocation site in the event of an evacuation.
4. Members considered reaching out to a criminologist to compare the costs to taxpayers of housing juveniles without resources versus providing them with a rehabilitative facility and services such as those envisioned by the board.
5. It was noted that while some Police Juries may be hesitant to formally vote on a sales tax, informational presentations could still provide value.
6. Discussion among members to find somewhere to fill the place of St. Martin Parish since Chester Cedars resigned.

LOCATION, DATE, AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

TBD

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Sheriff Ricky Edwards to Adjourn and second by Sheriff KP Gibson which was carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION
OF THE ACADIANA REGIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, the Acadiana Regional Juvenile Justice District maintains a checking account with Home Bank for the purpose of conducting the financial affairs of the District; and

WHEREAS, Chester Cedars, who previously served as an authorized signatory on the District's Home Bank account, has resigned from his position and no longer serves on the Acadiana Regional Juvenile Justice District Board; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and appropriate to update the authorized signatories on the District's Home Bank account to reflect current membership and ensure proper financial management;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Chester Cedars is hereby removed as an authorized signatory from the Acadiana Regional Juvenile Justice District Home Bank account, effective immediately.

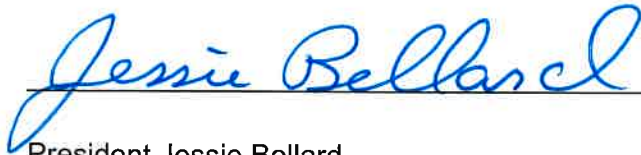
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Home Bank is hereby authorized and directed to remove Chester Cedars from all records and signature authority associated with the Acadiana Regional Juvenile Justice District account.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be entered into the minutes of the Acadiana Regional Juvenile Justice District and a certified copy provided to Home Bank.

Adopted this 8 day of 18, 2025, by the Acadiana Regional Juvenile Justice District Board.

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Acadiana Regional Juvenile Justice District at its meeting held on the 8 day of 18, 2025, at which a quorum was present and voting.



President Jessie Bellard
Chairman, Acadiana Regional Juvenile Justice District



Gabrielle Riles
Interim Secretary, Acadiana Regional Juvenile Justice District