

Tallulah, Louisiana
August 10, 2026

The Madison Parish Police Jury met in regular session and convened at the Courthouse Building, Tallulah, Louisiana on Monday, August 10, 2026, 4:00 p.m.

President Sanders called the meeting to order and gave the invocation. The roll call followed the announcement of a quorum. The following members were present at roll call:

District 1 Jerry Hicks
District 2 Absent
District 3 Dave Wilson
District 4 Absent
District 5 Jane Sanders

Visitors: M. J. Williams, K. Sterling, T. Holdiness, R. Morris, S. Cox, J. Burson

President Sanders requested permission to amend the agenda to add Ms. S. Cox to discuss a group home. Mr. Wilson offered the motion that was seconded by Mr. Hicks. Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

District 1 yea
District 2 absent
District 3 yea
District 4 absent
District 5 yea

Motion carried.

The president also requested to amend the agenda to discuss the Opportunity Zone. Mr. Hicks offered the motion that was seconded by Mr. Wilson. Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

District 1 yea
District 2 absent
District 3 yea
District 4 absent
District 5 yea

Motion carried.

A Public Comments Period was held at the beginning of the meeting to allow for comments on agenda items and there were no comments.

The Consent Agenda (July 27th minutes, Building Report, Garbage/Sewer Report, and the Outstanding Invoice Report) was approved by a motion made by Mr. Hicks and seconded by Mr. Wilson. No discussion. Motion carried.

Mr. Morris came forward during the President's report to discuss submitting a request for state nomination for the 2027 Qualified Opportunity Zone Program. During the discussion, the Secretary-Treasurer read the proposed letter to the Governor and the proposed resolution supporting the nomination of eligible census tracts located in the parish. Other entities included in the request were the City of Tallulah, Madison Port Commission, and the Madison Parish Economic and Industrial Development District. Following the discussion Mr. Wilson offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Hicks, to adopt the resolution and authorize the president to sign the letter requesting nomination.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-10

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE NOMINATION OF ELIGIBLE MADISON PARISH CENSUS TRACTS AS QUALIFIED OPPORTUNITY ZONES FOR THE 2027-2036 DESIGNATION PERIOD

WHEREAS, the federal Qualified Opportunity Zone program provides a mechanism to encourage long-term private investment in eligible communities through qualifying investments in designated census tracts;

WHEREAS, Census Tracts 9601, 9602, 9603, 9604, and 9605 in Madison Parish have been identified as eligible for consideration during the current Opportunity Zone nomination cycle;

WHEREAS, Madison Parish possesses significant economic and development assets, including the Madison Parish Port and industrial development area, Interstate 20, U.S. Highway 65, Mississippi River access, the Vicksburg-Tallulah Regional Airport, a substantial agricultural production base, and redevelopment opportunities within the City of Tallulah;

WHEREAS, The Madison Parish Police Jury, City of Tallulah, Madison Parish Economic and Industrial Development District, and Madison Parish Port Commission are coordinating their support for a unified Opportunity Zone nomination request;

WHEREAS, Madison Parish requests nomination of all five eligible census tracts and, if statewide nomination limitations prevent designation of all five, identifies Census Tracts 9601, 9602 and 9605, in that order, as the Parish's first, second and third priorities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Madison Parish Police Jury formally supports and requests the nomination of Census Tracts 9601, 9602, 9603, 9604, and 9605 as Qualified Opportunity Zones for the designation period beginning January 1, 2027.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if the State of Louisiana is unable to nominate all five eligible Madison Parish census tracts, this body supports priority consideration of Census Tracts 9601, 9602 and 9605, in that order.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this body supports continued coordination with the other participating Madison Parish public entities, the Office of the Governor, Louisiana Economic Development, and appropriate public and private partners to advance investment and development opportunities associated with the requested designations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President, or the President's designee, is authorized to transmit this resolution and related supporting materials in support of Madison Parish's Opportunity Zone nomination request.

The Secretary/Treasurer asked for permission to pay all invoices based on available funds. A motion was offered by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Hicks, to pay the outstanding invoices with available funds or as funds become available. No discussion. Motion carried.

Mr. Epps, along with Mr. J. Burson of PTI, discussed the purchase of a bushhog. Mr. Wilson offered the motion seconded by Mr. Hicks, to purchase the bushhog at the price of \$28,800. (The delivery date would be mid-September.) No discussion. Motion carried.

Considering the balance of funds from the \$50,000 available from the purchase of the bushhog, Mr. Epps suggested that a second bushhog be purchase at the same price. After a brief discussion, Mr. Hicks offered the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Wilson. Motion carried.

Mr. Epps also requested permission to hire Ms. D. Duncan as a tractor driver at the rate of \$15.07. Mr. Hicks offered the motion and Mr. Wilson seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carried.

Following discussion of the purchase price of the adjudicated property in Georgia Kimbrough 2nd Addition (lots 79, 80, 89, 90. And 91), Mr. Wilson moved that the motion be rescinded due to the price quoted. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Mr. Hicks offered a motion to accept the revised offer at \$500 per lot and Mr. Wilson seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carried.

Mr. Hicks offered a motion to adopt an ordinance, seconded by Mr. Wilson, authorizing Madison Parish Police Jury to sell adjudicated property at 513 Tank Street to B. Whitney-Cooper since all requirements had been met. Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

District 1	yea
District 2	absent
District 3	yea
District 4	absent
District 5	yea

Motion carried.

The Clerk of Court, Marion Hopkins, requested the polling location for Precinct 17 be relocated from City Hall to the Farmers Market. The request required a resolution for the move. The resolution is as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-11

PRECINCT RELOCATION

WHEREAS, LA R.S. 18:401.2 authorizes a parish governing authority to change a polling place; and

WHEREAS, due to severe crowding issues at the current location of Precinct 17 that is at the Tallulah City Hall, having a physical address of 204 North Cedar Street, Tallulah, LA; and

WHEREAS, the Farmer's Market polling place has considerable space to house another precinct;

BE IT RESOLVED, that Precinct 17 will relocate PERMANENTLY to Farmer's Market located at 404 North Cedar Street, Tallulah, LA is approximately 2 blocks from the current location.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this new location will not present a hardship to anyone.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Madison Parish Police Jury in legal session convened this 10th day of August, 2026 motioned by Mr. Hicks and duly seconded by Mr. Wilson to adopt this resolution by the following vote(s):

YEAS:	Hicks, Wilson, and Sanders
NAYS:	None
ABSTAINED:	None
ABSENT:	Ogden and Hughes
VACANT:	None

The Secretary stated that the State requires that an Ethics Policy and Procedures be maintained, especially as a recipient of state and federal funds. She requested that the policy presented be adopted. Mr. Hicks offered the motion for adoption and Mr. Wilson seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carried.

The Parish received a Notice of Lien for Remediation from the Department of Environmental Quality for an abandoned UST Site at 501 Bayou Drive, formerly Barrios Oil Company. An Access Agreement was enclosed for the Parish's approval to investigate and make any corrective activities if necessary. Mr. Hicks suggested that Atty. Garrett review prior to any action by the Parish. He offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Wilson. No discussion. Motion carried.

Ms. Cox appeared before the jurors to request permission to establish a girls group home for ages 8-13 years old. She was advised to seek community approval and then return to the jury.

There was no discussion of correspondence.

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned by a motion from Mr. Wilson.

/s/ Margaret Dew
Secretary/Treasurer

/s/ Jane Sanders
President