ACADIANA PLANNING COMMISSION
Louisiana Planning District 4

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APC, CEO

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APC Board Meeting

Rosa Parks Transportation Center
101 Jefferson St, Lafayette, LA 70501
Thursday June 5, 2025
10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Meeting Minutes

The Acadiana Planning Commission Board meeting was called to order on Thursday June 5, 2025, at 10:08 am by Chairman Larry Richard. The pledge was said. Roll was called and quorum announced by CEO Sara Gary. Guests were introduced.

Present

Evangline Parish	Dirk Deville for Kevin Veillon, Police Jury President
Iberia Parish	M. Larry Richard, Iberia Parish President
Lafayette Parish	Monique Boulet, Mayor-President
St. Martin Parish	Pete Delcambre, St. Martin parish President
Jessie Bellard	St. Landry Parish President
Andre Breaux	For Troy Wayman, President/CEO One Acadiana, non-voting
Dr. Joseph Savoie	President University of Louisiana Lafayette, non-voting
Dr. Nancee Sorenson	Chancellor LSUE, non-voting

Staff

Sara Gary	APC CEO
Nicole Clavier	APC Staff
Kade Jones	APC Staff

Absent

Dr. June Vincent	Chancellor SoLAcc, non-voting
Beau Petitjean	Acadia Parish, Police Jury President
Mark Poche	Vermilion Parish, Police Jury President

Public

Chuck LaGrange	Stuller Family Foundation
Sarah Boudreaux	State Office of Rural Development
Larry Cramer	Sellers & Associates
Cherie Melancon	Sellers & Associates
Lee Turner	Senator Cassidy Office
Daniel Arvie	Evangeline Parish Police Jury

APC Administrative

Minute Approval

A motion was made by Jessie Bellard to approve February 20,2025, APC Board Meeting Minutes, Monique Boulet seconded this motion; the motion carried unanimously.

Management Meeting Minute Approval

A motion was made by Dirk Deville to approve the May 29, 2025, APC Management Meeting Minutes, Monique Boulet seconded this motion; the motion carried unanimously.

CEO Signature Authority

A motion was made by Jessie Bellard to adopt a resolution which authorizes Sara Gary to have signature authority as the CEO of the Acadiana Planning Commission. Pete Delcambre seconded this motion; the motion carried unanimously.

Accounting

APC Budget to Actuals

The APC Budget to Actuals was presented in the Agenda Packet and acknowledged by the APC Board.

2025-2026 Member Dues and MPO Match

The 2025-2026 Member Dues and MPO Match was presented to the Board. Sara Gary explained that the for the MPO dues table that the City of Abbeville was an addition since the new MPO Planning Boundary was approved. She also let the Board know that the MPO Long Range Plan would need to be updated in 2027 so they were starting to collect the match for that process rather than collect all at one time.

Monique suggested that the Board consider adjusting APC dues based on population numbers every 5 years from the census, rather than every 10 years, so that dues increase gradually instead of in large jumps.

Pete Delcambre stated that he was ok with that as long as when the 10-year census comes out that fees could be credited if the population number was incorrect.

Larry Richard asked if that could happen.

Sara Gary stated that the number that the census puts out every 5 years is an official number, so she was not how a credit would work that would need to be researched and that she would put an agenda item on the next Board meeting for more discussion.

Budget Approvals

Nicole Claiver went over the budget with the Board.

A motion was made by Jessie Bellard to approve the 2024-2025 Amended Budget and the 2025-2026 Proposed Budget.; Monique Boulet seconded this motion; the motion carried unanimously.

Economic and Community Development

HMGP Project Discussion

Sara let the Board know that after 2016 $25 million of HMGP funds were granted to the region. APC held a project call, and the Board made the decision on which projects were funded. After the projects were selected the Board was no longer involved all contracts were between the entity that was selected and FEMA. A project update was given for the projects.

Cherie Melancon spoke about the Hwy 14 Elevation project and some of the problems that they have had with FEMA in the past.

Sara Gary let the Board know that at this point no one really knew what FEMA was going to look like or if it would exist at some point in the future but that anyone dealing with FEMA should expect significant delays due to staff cuts.

EPA's FY 25 Brownfield Assessments Grant

Sara advised the Board know that APC was awarded an EPA Brownfields Coalition Assessment Grant. The grant will fund environmental assessments and planning across the communities of Opelousas, Abbeville, Eunice and Ville Platte.

DRA

Kade advised the Board about the DRA grant program and the different types of funding available from that program. He also let them know that APC would be holding a webinar for the Strategic Planning Grant to go over the program in more detail and that there would be a representative from DRA to answer any questions that attendees may have.

Monique let the Board know that the DRA Board is made up of the 8 Governor's from the region, so if applying for a DRA project it is always helpful to keep the Governo's designee in the loop.

Dr. Sorenson stated that the University was always happy to come to the table on Workforce or Economic Development conversations.

CEO Report

Sara let the Board know that APC had applied for a TEAM UP grant for the Watershed region to develop a coordinated regional plan to prioritize flood mitigation, improve water quality, and secure infrastructure investments, however after the agenda was published APC received word that the funding was pulled.

She also let the Board know that The MPO would be updating their MPO/IGA with member entities as part of an FHWA requirement since the City of Abbeville joined so Ashley would be reaching out to them to get on Council Agenda's.

Other Business

Public Comment

No public comment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am.

APC Board 2025 Meeting Dates:

Q3: Thursday August 21, 2025
Q4: Thursday, November 20, 2025