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Louisiana Planning
District 4

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SPECIAL APC Board Meeting

Wednesday July 1, 2026
Rosa Parks Transportation Center
101 Jefferson St., Lafayette LA 70501
10:00am – 11:00am

Meeting Minutes

The Acadiana Planning Commission Board meeting was called to order on Wednesday July 1, 2026, at 10:02 am by Chairman Larry Richard. The pledge was said. Roll was called and quorum announced by CEO Sara Gary. Guests were introduced.

Present

Acadia Parish
Iberia Parish
Lafayette Parish
St. Landry Parish
Evangeline Parish
St. Martin Parish
Vermilion Parish
Ramesh Kolluru
Andre Breaux

Cory Lalondr

Shaun Grantham for Beau Petitjean, Police Jury President
M. Larry Richard, Iberia Parish President
Monique Boulet, Mayor-President
Van Reed for Jessie Bellard, St. Landry Parish President
Dirk Deville for Kevin Veillon, Policy Jury President
Jason Casitlle for Pete Delcambre, St. Martin parish President
Chad Vallo, Police Jury President
President University of Louisiana Lafayette, non-voting,
For Troy Wayman President/CEO One Acadiana, non-voting, arrived
at 10:26 am
For Dr. Nancee Sorenson Chancellor LSUE, non-voting

Staff

Sara Gary

APC CEO

Absent

Dr. June Vincent

Chancellor SoLAcc, non-voting

Public

Darren Guidry
Christina Dayries
Daniel Arrvie
Emad Habib

GOHSEP
Lafayette Consolidated Government
Evangeline Parish Police Jury
UI Lafayette Flood Center

Emergency Preparedness/Disaster Response Discussion

Christina Dayries and Darren Guidry provided an overview of pre-disaster preparedness and post-disaster recovery processes, including the roles of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) and FEMA.

Christina Dayries discussed the importance of preparedness during "blue sky" conditions, emphasizing that local governments should have key resources and contracts in place before a disaster occurs. Examples included debris removal contracts, damage assessment procedures, and other essential recovery services. She stressed that contractors must be properly procured in advance to ensure eligibility for FEMA reimbursement following a disaster.

Darren Guidry noted that local governments also have the option of utilizing existing state contracts for eligible purchases.

Christina and Darren discussed interstate mutual aid agreements, explaining that the process for establishing these agreements is managed through WebEOC. They emphasized that these agreements are valuable tools for allowing parishes to share personnel, equipment, and other resources during disaster response and recovery efforts.

They also explained that all resource requests must be coordinated through each parish's Office of Emergency Preparedness (OEP) Director. For business-related emergency matters, the Business Emergency Operations Center (Business EOC) is located at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette's Abdalla Hall.

Darren highlighted the South-Central region's regional mutual aid model, which includes a multi-parish partnership and a regional warehouse that stores emergency supplies and equipment for disaster response. He noted that this type of regional resource-sharing model is not currently available in all areas of the state.

Larry Richard shared that Iberia Parish has established mutual aid agreements with neighboring coastal parishes, allowing participating parishes to share resources during emergency events.

Christina emphasized the importance of every governing body having a disaster recovery plan in place, noting that many jurisdictions have not yet developed one.

The group also discussed the use of drones for conducting post-disaster damage assessments. Darren explained that local governments could establish drone service contracts before a disaster occurs, allowing for immediate deployment following an event to assist with documenting damages.

The possibility of conducting a regional tabletop disaster response exercise involving OEP Directors and GOHSEP was discussed. Darren encouraged participants to contact GOHSEP regarding any disaster preparedness training or exercise needs.

Larry Richard suggested that, if a tabletop exercise is organized, it would be beneficial to include a scenario examining how significant rainfall in Avoyelles Parish could impact downstream parishes during a major coastal rain event.

Public Comment

No public comment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:16 am.

APC Board 2026 Meeting Dates:

Q3: Thursday, August 2026

Q4: Thursday, November 19, 2026