

Parish President Jessie Bellard was absent for this meeting. He was attending the National Hurricane Conference, Orlando, FL.

(SECOND MEETING)
ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1st, 2026
OLD CITY MARKET, 131 W. BELLEVUE ST.
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

1. Public Works Chairman Jimmie Edwards called this meeting of the Public Works Committee of the St. Landry Parish Council to order.
2. **Roll Call:** Jody White, Mildred Thierry, Alvin Stelly, Vivian Olivier, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **ABSENT:** None. Ex-Officio Wayne Ardoin.
3. **Person to address the Committee:**
None.
4. **Public Works Report:**

Mr. Barry Soileau, Public Works Director addressed the council. He stated, “For the month of March we:

Boom Axed	6	Roads
Culvert Cleaned	7	Roads
Debris Removal	63	Roads
Ditching	4	Roads
Grading	76	Roads
Grass Cutting	15	Road
Material Spreading	5	Roads
Patching	34	Roads
Sign Installation	22	Roads
Tree Removal	7	Roads
Washout	4	Roads

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Ernest Blanchard to accept the Public Works Report.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Mildred Thierry, Alvin Stelly, Vivian Olivier and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

Motion carried.

5. **Forward all applications received for one appointment to the Public Works Commission District Six for the remainder of a four-year term ending 10-20-2028.**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Jody White to forward to Regular Meeting held on *Wednesday, April 15th, 2026* all applications received for one appointment to the Public Works Commission District Six for the remainder of a four-year term ending 10-20-2028.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Mildred Thierry, Alvin Stelly, Vivian Olivier and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

Motion forwarded.

6. **Authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for one appointment to the Public Works Commission District Six for a four-year term. (06-16-2026 – 06-16-2030).**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Jody White to forward to Regular Meeting held on *Wednesday, April 15th, 2026* to authorize the Council

Clerk to advertise for one appointment to the Public Works Commission District Six for a four-year term. (06-16-2026 – 06-16-2030).

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Mildred Thierry, Alvin Stelly, Vivian Olivier and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

Motion forwarded.

7. Discuss and forward to full council meeting a CEA between Prairie Basse Gravity Drainage District No. 15 and St. Landry Parish Government for drainage work to be done.

Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned, “What district is that in? Whose district?”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “That is in District 2 and District 9, Ms. Nancy and myself.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned, “What is the issue on that?”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “The issue is draining a subdivision. If you look at that report that Mr. Boagni sent to us it drains 480 acers which is a subdivision. There is a lateral that goes under the railroad tracks at HWY 742 in Port Barre. They recommend that a culvert be taken out, which is too small, so that subdivision can drain. Water is backing up and causing them some issues. Barry went out and looked at it and I looked at it with Barry and Mr. Boagni went over there and made a report and the recommendation is that the culvert be removed and replaced with a larger culvert. We have Mr. Andre Herpin from the drainage district who is here tonight and he also went out to look at it. With those issues that is what the recommendation is. They are going to pay for the culvert but Barry advised that Public Works being the drainage district stops right about 30 yards from there, they are going to pay for the culverts and Barry has advised that they will install it.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “Thank you.”

A motion was made by Councilman Ernest Blanchard, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to forward to Regular Meeting held on *Wednesday, April 15th, 2026* the CEA between Prairie Basse Gravity Drainage District No. 15 and St. Landry Parish Government for drainage work to be done.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Mildred Thierry, Alvin Stelly, Vivian Olivier and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

Motion forwarded.

8. Discuss Litter Abatement throughout the Parish. (Chairman Wayne Ardoin).

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Mr. Edwards, I asked that this be placed on the agenda because Barry can vouch for that. Where ever they are shredding or where ever they are cutting grass along the roads, all they are doing is turning over the liter and the Styrofoam Cups in the tall grass. My concern is that it looks horrible. I got Mr. Guidroz from Solid Waste to go and clean on Country Ridge Road, at the corner of Country Ridge Road and the Service Road. People throw all of their liter on the side of the road. We were told there are some cameras located in the parish and some people are being brought before the courts to pay for a liter issue. Barry, I don’t know if you can answer this, I know that Mr. Bellard is not here tonight but is something being done about the liter situation?”

Mr. Barry Soileau, Public Works Director stated, “We have one Constable, a Constable from the Cankton area and he is very active and he diligently works it, he digs through the trash. Wildlife and Fisheries is also assisting us in that manner. Cameras are placed where we have a habitual throwing of trash but I hate to say this for the record but they are coming with license plates covered and they have hoods on. We cleaned Bayou Mallet for the second time and we just spent over \$1,000,000.00 cleaning these bayous. We took out 200 plus tires the first time and I think yesterday they went and removed another five, ten or fifteen tires plus a cover for the back of a truck or a refrigerator and other things. The cameras are great but unless you can identify who is doing this. The Kennerson Bridge, another point, we had a camera there, they come masked, they cover their plates, it is a hard job to catch them because they are going in these isolated places and throwing. They are going even farther than that, we had an issue on a

country roads where they went down a crawfish field and dumped into the canal. I don't know the answer. Somebody knows who is doing it but it is to find out who is doing it."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin questioned, "Let me ask this question, you are all over the parish every day. Do we still have some crews that are picking up liter like they use to have? I am talking about from the sheriff's office or from Solid Waste?"

Mr. Barry Soileau, Public Works Director stated, "That would be a John Guidroz question. You would have to ask John Guidroz, I have no knowledge."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Okay, I know we use to have some crews. You would see them all over picking up liter. I had to ask Mr. Guidroz the other day to go on Country Ridge, at the corner to pick up the liter. He picked it up and it is about 3 weeks it is back to what it was. When you shredded down Country Ridge the other day all you had was liter all down the road because of the fact of what is in the ditches. I just wanted to bring it up. I am finished with that. I know some other councilmembers had the same issues."

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated, "Mr. Ardoin, I have several areas in the district that I represent. I often text the sheriff himself and ask him to have a crew to go out there. It will go maybe about 3-4 days and I pass in the area and it is cleaned. Every time I send him a text and ask him to have a crew go out there they clean it. "

Chairman Wayne Ardoin questioned, "Should we have that kind of problem in St. Landry Parish?"

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated, "No we should not have that kind of problem. If it is large items all they have to do is call Morgan and Morgan and schedule a pick up and they will pick it up at your residence."

Mr. Barry Soileau, Public Works Director stated, "The problem is they don't know the number."

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated, "I often put it on Facebook. I put it up there about 6 months ago and I had over 200 persons who reposted it. I am going to put it up again."

Mr. Barry Soileau, Public Works Director stated, "I showed Ernie, Jimmie and Ms. Vivian as I ride around the parish I come upon a refrigerator, I text Bulky Waste because they don't know and they can't pick it up if they don't know. People have no knowledge of what the number is to call. I have knocked on people doors. I picked up a refrigerator today in the middle of the road. They don't know where to dispose of it and they are not going to drive to Beggs to throw it. It is an unfortunate situation but it is a fact. If we had a number on the trash cans so people would have knowledge I think a vast majority would call but they don't know. So it is education that is the problem."

Public Works Chairman Jimmie Edwards stated, "Maybe we could place the number in the Eunice News."

Mr. Barry Soileau, Public Works Director stated, "I think if you put it on the trash can, for bulky waste call this number, they would see it every day when they are putting the trash out it would click and put on there no tires. People do not know what to do with their trash."

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated, "I have the number for Morgan and Morgan. Is it okay if I give it out for people to schedule a pick up for large items? The number for Morgan and Morgan is 337-331-5375. That is to schedule to pick up large items at your residence. That is Morgan and Morgan, they have a contract with Solid Waste to pick up the large items in the parish. So that is Morgan and Morgan, 337-331-5375. If they don't answer leave a message and I can assure you they will return the call because I have utilized them several times."

Mr. Barry Soileau, Public Works Director stated, "They do pick it up if you call."

Councilman Ernest Blanchard questioned, “Mr. Barry, how did you all get cameras? I have been trying to get cameras for 1 1/2 years and I can’t get cameras in my district.”

Mr. Barry Soileau, Public Works Director stated, “That would be a question that you would have to ask Jessie.”

Councilman Ernest Blanchard stated, “Mr. Major, remember that Major that worked for the Sheriff’s Department? He came before us two years ago. Do you remember him? Last summer he and I went riding around in my district, in my truck. He said we would have some cameras coming and I have never seen any. Did you say Cankton have cameras?”

Mr. Barry Soileau, Public Works Director stated, “When they are dumping in an area we go and put up cameras. We have yet to be successful, we get pictures but they are pictures of someone you cannot identify.”

Councilman Ernest Blanchard questioned, “Do you all get the license plate.”

Mr. Barry Soileau, Public Works Director stated, “It is covered, it is difficult. It is not as easy as you think. We don’t have high, high definition cameras that would take precise pictures. They will dump in one area then they will move. When it gets hot they will go to another area, it continues. My grappler is continually picking up stuff all the time.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “I see that Mr. John Guidroz had sent this flyer. I don’t know if everyone looked at it. I saw something in my district which I had seen and I think Morgan and Morgan had picked it up. Morgan and Morgan is good about picking up stuff, they have a lot of stuff to pick up. Sometimes I think they even drive around and if they see something they will pick it up. It is very unfortunate. I have given the number and people have taken it and when they needed it again they call me again. Mr. Guidroz came last year, I think that is who Mr. Blanchard is speaking of. He came and he wanted to start a campaign, a littering campaign for the parish and wanted to know if anyone had any ideas. Lafayette Parish have this thing about picking up and maybe it resonates. I don’t know what we can do. Maybe we can have a pick up day where we as councilmember can get together with the community and go in our district and that may boost it. It is very unfortunate that people just don’t care. A lot of times it is not the people that lives in the neighborhood it is people that is just visiting and they are just dumping their trash. I brought this up years ago because I have seen some of the pictures and one of the houses in my area is a rental. I guess when they are cleaning up and moving they don’t call Morgan and Morgan they just are throwing out. I had spoken about a possible fine or something. It is just so unfortunate that people are just not considerate when they move to call, it is just a phone call and they will pick it up. I know that we had brought it up once about the waste management people. If they see it, they could call, like you Mr. Barry, you can make the call. Sometimes I am on the school bus and I am making calls. It is very difficult. Even on the highway, I see mattress and I have had to call Mr. LeBouef. It is just so unfortunate. I don’t know what the answer is but maybe we can get together and maybe start something in our neighborhood and we can all participate in trying to help cleanup, maybe that would give other people encouragement to try and do it, I don’t know.”

Editor Bobby Ardoin stated, “The first thing you see on our St. Landry Now Facebook Page is a big Solid Waste Commission Emblem. You click on it and there is the Morgan and Morgan number. We wanted Solid Waste to partner with us in some advertising. They did not want to advertise with us but we did it for free, we are doing it for free because we want to help out the parish. If you go to our website the first thing that you will see is Solid Waste Commission. You click on Solid Waste Commission and Morgan and Morgan pops up, it is as easy as that.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “I don’t know if this would be legal but we do have an upcoming election, maybe we could get our partners that are in the Solid Waste Business to provide some kind of sticker or something that when you go to vote you could pick up the sticker or a flier that would say if you would have any kind of bulky trash show some pictures of what we just saw right now that come in from Richard LeBouef and John Guidroz and show that with the phone number. It is just available if they want to pick it up. You would be touching as many people as possible and just do it at every election, it does not matter there is no expiration date on the paper work. I don’t know if it is possible that could happen, I just

don't know. We have to think out the box and try to get these people aware of the fact that they can use this number. Thank you."

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "I agree. Ms. Candace maybe that is something that you can ask Mr. Bellard how expensive it would be at each pole and that could be distributed like the stickers. That way they would have the information and maybe other resource. A lot of people don't know where to go. Maybe a lot of the resources that is available they could pick up a copy of that so that would be good, that would be something. They would not be able to say that they did not know."

9. Discuss any other business properly brought before this committee.

Councilman Jody White stated, "At this time on behalf of Councilman Dexter Brown I was asked to make a motion about something he may have brought up to the council previously and now he asked to make a motion to move the polling stations from the Yambilee Building to Opelousas Junior High in reference to his voting districts."

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "I think when he made that motion we were informed that the school was closing. As you all been looking at on TV the school will be occupied. So does he still want to move it there because now it is going to be occupied on possibly some election days?"

Councilman Jody White stated, "Yes he is stating from that time it was previously brought up. He asked the question to the powers that be that the school would still be operating in some type of way and polling stations will still be there for elections. So I am making a motion to put it on the table to move it to the full council for vote and he will have more information at that time."

Public Works Chairman Jimmie Edwards stated, "I don't think you can make a motion on that because it is not on the agenda."

Councilman Jody White stated, "I think you can make a motion and it takes a vote to pass it through to the next council meeting."

A motion was made by Councilman Jody White, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to forward to Regular Meeting held on *Wednesday, April 15th, 2026* to move the polling location from the Yambilee Building to Opelousas Junior High School.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Mildred Thierry, Alvin Stelly, Vivian Olivier and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

Motion forwarded.

10. Adjourn.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Jody White to adjourn the Public Works Committee.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Mildred Thierry, Alvin Stelly, Vivian Olivier and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

Motion carried.

**I HEREBY CERTIFY THE FOREGOING TO BE EXACT AND TRUE
KAREN BARLOW, ASSISTANT CLERK**