

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
October 14th, 2025
4:00 P.M.**

Present: Russell Wade, Ben Bridges, Curtis Moses and Mike Holley. Absent: None. Also present: Glenn Hutto, Brenda Abercrombie, Linda Hammett, Jordan Shephard, Justin Echols and Chris Strickland.

Mr. Wade called the meeting to order. Mr. Holley led the group in prayer.

No Public Comments were made on agenda items.

Motion Mr. Holley, seconded by Mr. Bridges to approve the agenda as written. Motion carried unanimously

Motion Mr. Bridges, seconded by Mr. Holley to approve the minutes of the September 9th, 2025 (October 7th meeting was not held). Motion carried unanimously.

The Secretary/Treasurer reported that Senator Stewart Cathey was able to secure the jury \$200,000 for a tractor/trailer rig through Act 461 of the 2025 RLS. The Jury was allocated \$200,000. Mr. Hutto has signed the grant documents and the procurement process can begin. The committee reviewed the specs provided by the Road Department and asked the Secretary/Treasurer to make changes. **Motion Mr. Holley, seconded by Mr. Bridges to recommend to the full jury to authorize the Secretary/Treasurer to begin the process to bid out the tractor/trailer rig. Motion carried unanimously.**

A lengthy discussion was held regarding the roof at the Union Parish Sheriff's office. A Cooperative Endeavor Agreement was entered into between the Union Parish Police Jury and the Union Parish Sheriff's Office on April 16th, 2007. The CEA states that the jury agrees to maintain the property and complex. Sheriff Gates contacted his insurance company and the deductible is \$150,000. Three quotes were obtained by the Union Parish Police Jury Maintenance Department:

- NELA Roofing \$85,695
- ARK LA Miss Roofing \$101,630
- Allied Roofing \$138,578

Sheriff Gates emailed the Secretary/Treasurer and said he would pay one-half (1/2) the of the \$85,695 estimate from NELA Roofing. **Motion Mr. Moses, seconded by Mr. Holley to recommend to the full jury to accept the lowest bid from NELA Roofing in the amount of \$85,695 with the jury paying one (1/2) the cost of the estimate. Motion carried unanimously.**

The Secretary/Treasurer gave a brief update regarding the asbestos and HVAC replacement project at the Union Parish Courthouse as well as the Clerk of Court office relocation. Mr. Hutto

has contacted the governor's office regarding any type of grant funding available to assist with a courthouse rehab project. The Secretary/Treasurer presented information on a Rural Development Loan. The loan would be low interest and would allow the jury several years to pay the loan back. The first step is to determine if the courthouse rehab project is eligible for the program and get an eligibility determination by the USDA Office of General Counsel. **Motion Mr. Holley, seconded by Mr. Moses to recommend to the full jury to allow the Secretary/Treasurer to move forward with a Capital Outlay Request, pursue eligibility determination for a Rural Development Loan and authorize the President to execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Motion carried unanimously.**

A brief discussion was held regarding a request made to LITACorp for assistance with bridge projects. Mrs. Abercrombie contacted Senator Stewart Cathey to get assistance for the Rocky Branch Bridge in Union Parish. The Secretary/Treasurer contacted LITACorp to determine what grants were available for bridges. LITACorp can assist with up to two grants at a time per locality. LITACorp can assist with a match coverage up to one million dollars. Mr. Hutto stated that the Linville Firetower Bridge would also be a great candidate for this grant opportunity. **Motion Mr. Bridges, seconded by Mr. Moses to recommend to the full jury to pursue grant opportunities for the Rocky Branch Bridge and Linville Firetower Bridge and authorize the President to execute a MOU. Motion carried unanimously.**

There being no more business to come before the committee, Mr. Wade declared the meeting adjourned upon motion by Mr. Moses and duly seconded by Mr. Holley on this the 14th day of October, 2025.

Russell Wade, Chairman
Paula Strickland, Secretary/Treasurer