

**ROAD COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
March 10th, 2026
5:00 P.M.**

Present: Mike Holley, Russell Wade (enters the meeting @ 5:45 PM), Nathan Pilgreen and Curtis Moses. Absent: None. Also present: Ben Bridges, Brenda Abercrombie, A.J. Ford, Jr., Danielle Harkins, Scott Williams, Amanda White, Jerry Fletcher and Arthur McDaniel Road Community Association members.

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

Public Comment on agenda items – No comments were made.

Motion Mr. Pilgreen, seconded by Mr. Moses and declared adopted by unanimous vote of the Committee to approve the agenda with the following addition:

- **Discuss and make recommendations regarding Alton Auger Road Closure (listed on regular agenda)**

Motion Mr. Pilgreen, seconded by Mr. Moses to approve the minutes of the December 2nd, 2025 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Jerry Fletcher with the Arthur McDaniel Road Community Association addressed the committee with various concerns. Mr. Fletcher stated that the residents of the Arthur McDaniel Road have ongoing issues with the following:

- Trash
- Safety
- Culverts being stopped up and drainage is a major issue
- Operators not crowning the road property
- Road washouts
- On numerous occasions has observed five employees standing around with shovels

Mr. Fletcher stated that the road is approximately three miles long. There are 21 families that live on the road, two large chicken farms, two cattle farms and two large storage tank areas. Mr. Fletcher and residents are asking for assistance with the road issues listed above. **No action taken.**

Mr. Pilgreen addressed the committee regarding the Alton Auger Road request for partial closure. Mr. Pilgreen stated that there are two land owners who own property on that road. There is a Thomas Barham that owns property that actually crosses that road toward where Mr. Auger lives. Mr. Pilgreen read the following email that he sent to Mr. Barham on March 10th, 2026 @ 12:05 PM:

“Tonight at 6:00 PM there will be a discussion and vote on whether or not to advertise for the closure (abandonment) of Alton Auger Road. The portion being discussed is all of Alton Auger Road north of the intersection of Dollar Reppond Road. Have you had any discussion with Mr. Auger concerning this and what would be your wishes concerning the closure of this portion of road since your land will be impacted? Thank you, Nathan Pilgreen”

Mr. Pilgreen read the response received from Mr. Barham received on March 10th, 2026 @ 12:41 PM.

“Mr. Pilgreen, In response to your email, I have not had any contact or discussion with Mr. Kenny Auger concerning a closure of a portion of the Alton Auger Road there in Union Parish. My understanding of your email is that the proposed closure would leave the George Reppond Road open, but close the road north of the intersection of the Alton Auger and the Reppond Road. If this is correct, we would lose public access to the northern portion of our property, and it could certainly reduce the market value of that property, and therefore I would urge the Police Jury not to close any portion of the road. If my understanding of the situation is incorrect, please let me know. Tommy Barham.”

Mr. Pilgreen stated that there are two landowners. One wants it closed and the other one does not. Mr. Pilgreen further stated that the topic on the regular agenda will be to advertise for the closure and he wanted everyone to have a full understanding that 50% of the landowners do not want it closed.

Mr. Pilgreen said that legal counsel was consulted regarding the agenda item. His response was as follows:

“If the jury already believes that the road continues to serve a public purpose and that it would not be inclined to revoke the road regardless of the testimony received, there would be not reason to advertise. The jury is not required to advertise or hold a public hearing for a road closure when it does not intend to proceed with formally revoking or abandoning the road under La. R.S. 48:701. The notice and advertising requirements are generally part of the procedure that occurs before the Jury moves to close the road. The purpose is to ensure landowners and members of the public have an opportunity to be heard prior to the closure. However, if the Jury has decided it will not move forward with closure, it can simply decline the request or remove the matter from consideration without going through the advertising process. Thanks, Trevor”

Mr. Pilgreen stated that he wanted all of the jurors to hear these emails before making a decision tonight. The landowner obviously does not want it closed. Mr. Moses wanted to know if there was another way to access the property. Mr. Pilgreen stated that Mr. Barham owns both sides of the road in one spot.

Mr. Bridges wanted to know why would the jury move forward knowing that the landowner was against it. Mr. Hobbs stated that the landowner opposing the closure should have shown up.

Mr. Holley wanted to know what would it hurt to go through the process. Mr. Holley further stated that if a man has land on the road and objects then the procedure is we don't close it.

Mrs. Abercrombie stated that on Francis Creek it was advertised and a public hearing was held. The landowners came to the Police Jury meeting and opposed the road closure. The road was not closed.

Mr. Wade stated that if Mr. Barham is against it then he is against it also. He stated that he would not want a road closed that he had property on. But he does think that due process should be had and give the man who wants it closed a chance.

There being no more business to come before the committee, Mr. Holley declared the meeting adjourned upon motion by Mr. Wade and duly seconded by Mr. Moses on this the 10th day of March, 2026.

Mike Holley, Chairman
Paula Strickland, Secretary/Treasurer