

WASHINGTON PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT
Minutes of February 3, 2026

A properly advertised Washington Parish Communications District Board meeting was held on February 3, 2026 at 54100 Dollar Rd., Franklinton, LA at 6:00 PM.

Members present were:	Mr. James Coleman	Chairman
	Mr. Mike Stogner	Vice-Chairman
	Mrs. Cynthia August	Secretary
	Mr. Danny Harris	Treasurer
	Mr. Brent Jones	
	Mr. Olander Smith	
	Mrs. Sarah Burris	

Members absent were: None

Others present were:	Joanna Thomas	Director
	Chase Anderson	Attorney
	Kyle Varnado	WPSO
	Lesa Henry	WPSO
	Jared Stubbs	WPSO
	Mike Davis	Gage Telephone
	Stacey Davis	Gage Telephone
	Justin Peck	Gage Telephone

Chairman Coleman called the meeting to order at the appointed time of 6:00 PM.

ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS

Mrs. Thomas called the roll. The results of that roll call are recorded above.

Mr. Coleman called for a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the January, 2026, meeting. The minutes were emailed out to each member prior to this meeting. Mr. Stogner made the motion to dispense with the reading of the January, 2026, meeting minutes. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Coleman called for a motion to approve the January, 2026, meeting minutes. Mr. Harris made the motion to approve the August, 2026, meeting minutes. Mr. Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed by a unanimous vote.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

This office has been active during the month of January with both the normal daily operational issues of the office plus supporting our special projects.

Daily Operational Issues

All 9-1 dispatch positions are up and running.

For the month of January we issued 17 new addresses:

Franklinton	11
Bogalusa	01`
Pine	04
Varnado	01
Mt Hermon	00
Total	17

Mrs. Moore and Ms Jones continue to work on the mapping.

The accounting system is working well. Jim and I continue to input the monthly financial data...

Mrs. Moore continues to do the addressing and both Mrs Moore and Ms Jones continue to work on map updates daily.

Special Projects

Ms. Jones and Mrs. Moore continue to work on improving the accuracy of our structure GPS location data on our maps.

The latest updates to our 9-1-1 map which includes the fire department zones to help the Sheriff Office dispatchers identify which zone within a fire district should be dispatched are in the process of being downloaded.

This has been an interesting and productive month for our office. I would like to thank the board for their support and input.

Mr. Coleman called for any questions concerning the Director's Report. Hearing none, Mr. Coleman called for a motion to accept and approve the Director's report. Mrs. Burris made the motion to accept and approve the Director's Report as given. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed by a unanimous vote.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Public 911 Education

The District's web site was visited by 758 new users with 877 page hits in January, up from the previous month. Foreign users were from Singapore, China, Bolivia, Canada, Germany, India, Ireland, Portugal, and Finland..

There was one local usage of the Hyper-Reach Emergency Alert System during January for a Verizon wireless outage that impacted Washington Parish . There were fourteen National Weather Service usages of the system during the same time period.

Special Projects

- Pricing is being developed to acquire materials for the installation of a chair rail and paneling to the walls in the conference room and the dispatch room.
- An ordinance is being introduced tonight at the Bogalusa City Council meeting which states, “WHEREAS, the 700 block of Marx St. change to Valeira "Jack" Payton Hicks Street in accordance to the Washington Parish 911 Board procedures including GIS and AT&T Guidelines...
- Gage Telephone has been asked to present tonight a proposal regarding technical services to support our existing emergency operations center and 9-1-1 equipment that will enable:
 - Improved manpower utilization and efficiency,
 - Improved reliability of existing systems,
Thereby resulting in,
 - A more predictable and lower month to month cash outflow.
 - Lower costs for project type work.
 - Overall lower yearly technical services cost.

For the year 2025 the following technical services charges from Gage were incurred by the District:

730 Man Hours -Standard Rate	\$ 135,050
48 Premise Visits	\$ 3,000
55 Man Hours -Emergency Rate	\$ 25,000
Total	\$ 163,000

The District’s project related 2026 budget (capital and non-capital) is shown below:

Capital 2026

Replace 8 year old Audio Visual System	\$ 25,000
Install Updated Text to 911 Equipment	\$ 24,000
Replacement Tower, Communications, 911 Equipment	\$ 300,000

Non Capital 2025

Remove Microwave Dishes From Tower		\$ 5,000
Replace UPS Batteries in Main Building		\$ 15,000

Future Capital Projects

Building Expansion		\$ 1,500,000 (Grant)
Security Fencing		\$ 170,000
Replace 8 year old Audio Visual System		\$ 130,000 (\$25,000 in 2026)

Mr. Coleman called for any questions concerning the Chairman's Report. Hearing none, Mr. Coleman called for a motion to accept and approve the Chairman's Report including the revisions to the project related budget items.. Mr. Harris made the motion to accept and approve the Chairman's Report including the revisions to the project related budget items. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed by a unanimous vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Harris reviewed the January, 2026, financial statements, the income and budget statements, the check register, the cash receipts, cash disbursements, the account reconciliation statement, the YTD spending compared to the 2026 budget and the 911 funds statement.

Mr. Coleman called for a motion to accept and approve the Treasurer's report, the January, 2026, financial statements, the income and budget statements, the check register, the cash receipts, cash disbursements, the account reconciliation statement, the YTD spending compared to the 2026 budget and the 911 funds statement.

Mr. Harris made the motion to accept and approve the Treasurer's report, the January, 2026, financial statements, the income and budget statements, the check register, the cash receipts, cash disbursements, the account reconciliation statement, the YTD spending compared to the 2026 budget, and the 911 funds statement. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed by a unanimous vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Harris made the motion to approve a professional services agreement with Gage Telephone. Mrs. Burriss seconded the motion. Motion passed by a unanimous vote.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

Mrs. Burris made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Harris seconded the motion. Motion passed by a unanimous vote. Meeting of the Board adjourned at 6:30 PM.

As recorded by: Mrs. August.

Approved by: _____ Mrs. Cynthia August, Secretary