

WASHINGTON PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT
Minutes of April 7, 2026

A properly advertised Washington Parish Communications District Board meeting was held on April 7, 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
	Stacey Davis	Gage Telephone
	Mike Davis	Gage Telephone
	Justin Peck	Gage Telephone
	Jason Smith	WPSO
	Kyle Varnado	WPSO
	Lesa Henry	WPSO
	Jared Stubbs	WPSO

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 March, 2026, meeting. The minutes were emailed out to each member prior to this meeting. Mr. Smith made the motion to dispense with the reading of the March, 2026, meeting minutes. Mrs. Burris seconded the motion. Motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Coleman called for a motion to approve the March, 2026, meeting minutes. Mrs. August made the motion to approve the August, 2026, meeting minutes. Mr. Stogner seconded the motion. Motion passed by a unanimous vote.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

This office has been active during the month of March 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 March, we issued 42 new addresses:

Franklinton	24
Bogalusa	06
Pine	06
Mt. Hermon	03
Angie	03
Total	42

Mrs. Moore and Ms. Jones continue to work on the mapping. Ms. Jones continues verifying GPS points within the Parish. Mrs. Moore continues to do the addressing and both Mrs. Moore and Ms. Jones continue to work on map updates daily.

Quarterly map updates are scheduled to be submitted to GeoComm during the month of April.

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

We have taken the 2025 financials to Minda for the year end audit review.

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 is now in use.

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. Mr. Harris made the motion to accept and approve the Director's Report as given. Mrs. August seconded the motion. Motion passed by a unanimous vote.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Public 911 Education

The District's web site was visited by 232 users with 314 page hits in March, down from the previous month

Subject	Entry Page
wpcde-911.com/road-maps	98
wpcde-911.com/general info	56
wpcde-911.com/fire-district-boundaries	18
wpcde-911.com/personnel	11
wpcde-911.com/photos	8
wpcde-911.com/9-1-1-in-Louisiana	4
wpcde-911.com/news-items	3
wpcde-911.com/jobs-at-9-1-1	2
wpcde-911.com/9-1-1-in-Washington-parish-2	2
Total	202

Downloads From The Website	
Bogalusa-2023.pdf	11
Franklinton-2023.pdf	10
Board Member Photos	7
Wall-Map-2023.pdf	4
Road-Index-2023.pdf	3
Map-Book-2003.pdf	3

There were three local usage of the Hyper-Reach Emergency Alert System during March related to the Washington Parish boil water advisories. There were seven National Weather Service usages of the system during the same time period.

Special Projects

- Washington Parish Government is developing a site plan to install additional parking and water/electrical/sewer hook ups for two campers and one command vehicle. They will provide the necessary construction. The District would allow water and electrical tie ins to be made at our existing pump house. These hook ups were in the original plans for the Communications Center but were deleted due to installation costs.
- Bogalusa City Council Ordinance 2881 renaming the 700 block of Marx St. to Valeira Jack Payton Hicks Street was passed on March 17, 2026.
- The yearly GeoComm mapping and GIS professional services agreement is due for renewal as follows:

2026 \$12,022
2025 \$ 8,621

- The yearly Taylor generator and fire pump service agreement is due for renewal as follows:

2026 \$ 3,596
 2025 \$ 3,133

- Our Isotropic standby satellite modem has failed and requires replacement. The projected cost has been added to the 2026 capital budget.

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

Capital 2026

<i>Replacement Satellite Modem</i>		<i>\$ 5,000</i>
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. Stogner 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 March, 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 March, 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 March, 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

The Chairman of the Personnel Committee, Ms. August, reported that based on a review of the 2025 Performance Reviews, the March, 2026 Treasurer's Report, Policy 2.3 – Salary and Wage Administration, and the US Dept of Labor Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W), it was the unanimous recommendation of the committee that the employees of the District receive a 2.0 % salary increase effective immediately.

Mrs. August made the motion that the employees of the District receive a 2.0% salary increase effective immediately. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed by a unanimous vote.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Harris made the motion to renew the yearly GeoComm mapping and GIS professional services agreement is due for renewal for \$12,022 . Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Harris made the motion to renew the yearly Taylor generator and fire pump maintenance and service agreement for \$ 3,596.. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Mrs. Augusts made the motion to replace the Isotropic satellite modem for \$ 3,500 . Mr. Stogner seconded the motion. Motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Mrs. Burris made the motion to approve the two "Public Safety Agency Petition To Change A Road Name" submitted by the Communications District. The first petition (2026-2) concerns changing Lindsey Road, Bogalusa to Lindsley Road, Bogalusa, which is being submitted under the Section D, Category 6, "The existing road name was issued or is being used in error or contains

errors". The second petition (2026-1) concerns changing the 700 block of Marx Street, Bogalusa. to Valeira Jack Payton Hicks Street, Bogalusa which is being submitted under the Section D Category 6, "The existing road name was issued or is being used in error or contains errors", given that the Bogalusa City Council Ordinance 2881 renaming the 700 block of Marx St. to Valeira Jack Payton Hicks Street was passed on March 17, 2026. Mrs. August seconded the motion. Motion passed by a unanimous vote.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Mike Davis with Gage Telephone reported on the results of last month's review and analysis of the District's IT system. It was reported that 247 devices within the Emergency Communications Center have been identified and are now being monitored along with an additional 42 Virtual Local Area Networks (VLANs).

Sheriff Jason Smith discussed the (a) last twelve months of WPSO dispatch operations at the Emergency Communications Center; (b) the need to change from the presently used desk microphone and speaker system to a headset system; (c) the need to provide a hookup for a R/V or camper to be used during periods when dispatchers are unable to return home and (d) his request that a Communications District board seat be reserved for a WPSO representative.

Mrs. August 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