

**ST. TAMMANY PARISH TOURIST & CONVENTION COMMISSION
REGULAR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 11, 2025**

Visit THE
NORTH
SHORE

Location: Visit The Northshore Office, 68099 Hwy 59, Mandeville, LA 70471

Call to Order: Chair Patti Elish called the budget meeting to order immediately following budget discussion meeting.

Invocation: Done in the budget discussion meeting

Pledge of Allegiance: Done in the budget discussion meeting

ATTENDANCE

- **Commissioners Present:** Alex Carollo, Katherine Domingue, Patti Elish, Sharon Hewitt, Mark Myers, Melissa Ruddick
- **Commissioners Excused:** Lacey Osborne
- **Commissioners Absent:** None
- **Quorum:** Yes

OTHERS PRESENT

Donna O’Daniels, President/CEO
Devan Richoux, Chief Financial Officer
Katie Guasco, Chief Marketing Officer

Thomas Huval, Commission Counsel
Kadee Krieger, St. Tammany Farmer

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: MM | **Second:** AC | **Result:** Carried

OLD BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – OCTOBER 30, 2025

Motion: SH | **Second:** MR | **Result:** Carried

FINANCIAL REPORT – OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2025

CFO Devan Richoux presented the Financial Report. Board discussed improving reporting in 2026 by adding a projection/forecast view to show potential under/over budget.

Motion: AC | **Second:** KD | **Result:** Carried



VisitTheNorthshore.com

LOUISIANA'S *Easy* ESCAPE

STAFF REPORT

Marketing & Communications and Sales & Services updates were presented. Staff reported major recognition, including three Adrian Awards, plus awards for the podcast and visitor guide. The upcoming Rose Parade (Jan. 1) was highlighted, featuring Chef Nealy as the float representative and related PR plans. First class of Shore & Tell University graduated.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-006: HOLIDAY LIGHTS AT FONTAINEBLEAU STATE PARK (TABLED IN OCT)

Staff & Thomas Huval advised that revisions were exchanged with State Parks counsel and the agreement is pending final State approvals. The board discussed maintaining a parish-wide holiday strategy (not replacing existing community light displays), noted the event will be ticketed, and discussed potential future use of any revenue generated, including the possible creation of a foundation (subject to master plan outcomes). This resolution authorizes the Commission President to execute the CEA and make a one-time \$200,000 contribution for a Christmas lights festival at Fontainebleau State Park.

Motion: AC | **Second:** KD | **Result:** Adopted (Roll Call) Y – 6, N – 0, A – 1

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-007: AMEND 2025 BUDGET (YEAR ENDING DEC. 31, 2025)

Discussion covered why the amendment was done at year-end, the >5% amendment requirement, and the need to amend before year-end under current guidance.

Motion: AC | **Second:** MM | **Result:** Adopted (Roll Call) Y – 6, N – 0, A – 1

EXECUTIVE SESSION (PERSONNEL MATTERS) HELD AS PERMITTED ON THE AGENDA

BEGIN SESSION: **Motion:** SH | **Second:** MM

END SESSION: **Motion:** MM | **Second:** AC

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-008 ADOPT THE BUDGET FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2026

CFO reviewed revenue assumptions (including impact of the additional hotel tax penny), expenditure highlights, and planned use of fund balance for strategic projects (notably remaining master plan payments and the holiday lights investment).

Motion: MM | **Second:** SH | **Result:** Adopted (Roll Call) Y – 6, N – 0, A – 1

PROPOSED MEETING DATES FOR THE 2026 CALENDAR YEAR

Motion: MM | **Second:** AC | **Result:** Carried

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2026

Motion made to continue the current slate: Patti Elish (Chair), Alex Carollo (Vice Chair), Melissa Ruddick (Secretary/Treasurer)

Motion: SH | **Second:** MM | **Result:** Carried

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS / GUEST COMMENTS

Training compliance reminders were noted.

Holiday closure alignment with state/parish declarations (day after Christmas and day after New Year's) was mentioned.

NEXT MEETING

Next regular meeting listed as Tuesday, Feb. 24, 2026, at 2:00 PM, Harbor Center (Slidell)

ADJOURN

Motion: MM | **Second:** SH | **Result:** Carried



DEVAN RICHOUX, CFO

MELISSA FONTENOT, SEC/TREASURER