

Colfax, LA
January 8, 2025

The Police Jury of the Parish of Grant, State of Louisiana, met in regular session at its meeting place, the Grant Parish Police Jury Meeting Room, 200 Main Street, Colfax, Louisiana, on Thursday, January 8, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

The following members were present:

Mr. Mark Ball, Mr. Cephas Bowie Jr., Mr. Roy Edwards, Mr. Johnny Jamison, Mr. Brandon DuBois, Mrs. Jennifer Murrell Futrell, Mrs. Charline Roberts, and Mr. Mike Merrell

The following members were absent:

None

Motion by Mr. Roy Edwards, seconded by Mrs. Jennifer Futrell to open the Public Hearing to receive any opinions on the 2026 budget. Motion carried unanimously.
No comments or opinions were brought forth.

Motion by Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr., seconded by Mr. Mike Merrell to adjourn the Public Hearing on the 2026 budget and to enter regular session. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Jessie Pace, Parish Manager / Secretary-Treasurer opened the floor to accept nominations for the 2026 Police Jury President.

Mr. Mark Ball nominated Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr.
No other nominations were made

Motion by Mr. Mark Ball, seconded by Mr. Brandon DuBois to accept Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr. as the 2026 President of the Grant Parish Police Jury. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Cephas Bowie, Jr. opened the floor to accept nominations for the 2026 Police Jury Vice President.

Mr. Johnny Jamison nominated Mr. Mark Ball.
No other nominations were made.

Motion by Mr. Roy Edwards, seconded by Mr. Johnny Jamison to accept Mr. Mark Ball as the 2026 Vice President of the Grant Parish Police Jury. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Cephas Bowie Jr. opened the agenda to public comments on agenda items.
No comments were brought forth.

Motion by Mr. Brandon DuBois, seconded by Mr. Mark Ball to accept the minutes of the last meeting as published in the official journal. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Emily Veuleman, CPA, Rozier, McKay & Willis, presented the police jury operating budget for year 2026 and the amended budget for year 2025 for jurors to review and discuss.

Motion by Mr. Brandon DuBois, seconded by Mr. Roy Edwards to adopt Resolution 02-2026; Proposed Operating Budget for Year 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION: 02-2026

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE 2026 YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2026

WHEREAS, the Grant Parish Police Jury has reviewed the accompanying budget.

WHEREAS, the Grant Parish Police Jury has found the content of the accompanying budget to be satisfactory.

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE Grant Parish Police Jury does hereby adopt the accompanying budget as the official operating budget for the year ended **December 31, 2026**

THUS, DONE AND SIGNED, this 8th day of January, 2026.

(s) Jessie Pace
Jessie Pace
Secretary/Treasurer
Grant Parish Police Jury

(s) Cephas Bowie Jr.
Cephas Bowie Jr.
President
Grant Parish Police Jury

YEAS: Mr. Mark Ball, Mr. Brandon DuBois, Mr. Roy Edwards, Mrs. Jennifer Futrell,
Mrs. Charline Roberts, Mr. Mike Merrell, Mr. Johnny Jamison, Mr. Cephas Bowie Jr.

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

CERTIFICATE

I, Jessie Pace, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing constitutes a true and correct copy of a Resolution passed and adopted by the Grant Parish Police Jury on this 8th day of January, 2026.

(s) Jessie Pace

Jessie Pace, Parish Manager
Grant Parish Police Jury

Motion by Mr. Mark Ball, seconded by Mr. Brandon DuBois to adopt Resolution 03-2026; Amended Operating Budget for Year 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION: 03-2026

AMENDED BUDGET FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

WHEREAS, the Grant Parish Police Jury has reviewed the accompanying budget.

WHEREAS, the Grant Parish Police Jury has found the content of the accompanying budget to be satisfactory.

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE Grant Parish Police Jury does hereby adopt the accompanying budget as the official operating budget for the year ended **December 31, 2025**

THUS, DONE AND SIGNED, this 8th day of January, 2026.

(s) Jessie Pace

Jessie Pace
Secretary/Treasurer
Grant Parish Police Jury

(s) Cepahs Bowie Jr.

Cephas Bowie Jr.
President
Grant Parish Police Jury

YEAS: Mr. Mark Ball, Mr. Brandon DuBois, Mr. Roy Edwards, Mrs. Jennifer Futrell,
Mrs. Charline Roberts, Mr. Mike Merrell, Mr. Johnny Jamison, Mr. Cephas Bowie Jr.

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

CERTIFICATE

I, Jessie Pace, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing constitutes a true and correct copy of a Resolution passed and adopted by the Grant Parish Police Jury on this 8th day of January, 2026.

(s) Jessie Pace

Jessie Pace, Parish Manager
Grant Parish Police Jury

Jurors reviewed and discussed the Library operating budget for year 2026 as approved and proposed by the Grant Parish Library Board of Control.

Motion by Mr. Johnny Jamison, seconded by Mr. Brandon DuBois to adopt Resolution 04-2026; Proposed Library Operating Budget for Year 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION: 04-2026

PROPOSED GRANT PARISH LIBRARY BUDGET FOR THE 2026 YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2026

WHEREAS, the Grant Parish Police Jury has reviewed the accompanying operating budget for the Grant Parish Library.

WHEREAS, the Grant Parish Police Jury has found the content of the accompanying Grant Parish Library operating budget to be satisfactory.

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE Grant Parish Police Jury does hereby adopt the accompanying budget for the Grant Parish Library as the official operating budget for the year ended **December 31, 2026**.

THUS, DONE AND SIGNED, this 8th day of January, 2026.

(s) Jessie Pace
Jessie Pace
Secretary/Treasurer
Grant Parish Police Jury

(s)Cephas Bowie Jr.
Cephas Bowie Jr.
President
Grant Parish Police Jury

YEAS: Mr. Mark Ball, Mr. Brandon DuBois, Mr. Roy Edwards, Mrs. Jennifer Futrell,
Mrs. Charline Roberts, Mr. Mike Merrell, Mr. Johnny Jamison, Mr. Cephas Bowie Jr.
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

CERTIFICATE

I, Jessie Pace, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing constitutes a true and correct copy of a Resolution passed and adopted by the Grant Parish Police Jury on this 8th day of January, 2026.

(s) Jessie Pace
Jessie Pace, Parish Manager
Grant Parish Police Jury

Mr. Cade Bishop, Paramedic Field Supervisor with Acadian Ambulance Service, presented the monthly call report for December 2025. 222 calls and transports.

Mr. Dan Fletcher, Grant Parish Coroner, addressed the jury, presented a 2025 summary and the 2026 fee schedule for the Grant Parish Coroner's Office.

Serving the Community

In 2025, our office handled a wide range of cases and responsibilities, including:

- 226 investigations
- 67 Orders for Protection
- 86 cremation authorities
- 188 death certificates completed on time
- 9 mental health consultations
- 1 continuing tutorship evaluation
- 5 indigent or unclaimed cases
- 1 body transport requiring four hours

Every one of these actions represents a moment when a family, agency, or individual needed our office's support.

Partnerships & Public Health

We continued to work closely with state and tribal partners to support public health and community safety:

- Renewed communication with the **Jena Choctaw Tribe** to update our 2015 intergovernmental agreement.
- Submitted required data to state agencies, including monthly mortality statistics and information for the **Louisiana Violent Death Reporting System**.
- Served as the parish's point of contact for **Sexual Assault Response**, contributing to the Region VI plan updated and approved in November 2025.

These collaborations help ensure that Grant Parish remains aligned with statewide health initiatives and that our community's needs are represented.

Records Preservation & Compliance

Protecting public records is a legal and ethical responsibility. In 2025:

- We began scanning older files damaged by water to prevent further loss.
- The Louisiana State Archives notified us of additional requirements under **Public Records Law (La. R.S. Title 44)**.
- We submitted our records retention schedule and paused scanning until we receive state approval to ensure full compliance.

Fee Schedule 2026

Pursuant to Louisiana State Law La R.S. 13:5706(A)(6), The coroner shall list all fees for which a charge of fifty dollars is authorized by law. Such schedule shall be filed with the governing authority of each affected parish or municipality not later than the last day of January of each year. These fees are billed monthly and due on receipt, as the coroner's office operates on a "fee for service".

REPORTS OF INTERDICTION

- ORDER OF PROTECTIVE CUSTODY \$100.00
- CONSULTATION FOR INTERDICTION \$50.00

REPORTS OF DEATH

- CASE INVESTIGATION \$100.00
- AUTHORIZATION FOR CREMATION \$75.00

INVESTIGATOR EXPENSES

- ATTENDANCE or TESTIMONY IN ANY CASE IN COURT \$75.00 per day-per case
(For matters arising from official duties)
- HOURLY RATE \$20.00, per hour
(Includes any follow-up activities or evidence transport)
- MILEAGE FOR OFFICIAL BUSINESS \$0.70/mile
(Per 2026 State Mileage Reimbursement rate.
N/A with Department Vehicle Use)

BODY TRANSPORTATION

- CORONER IN-HOUSE TRANSPORT
 - To Jefferson Parish \$300.00, flat rate
 - Local or other locations \$20.00, per hour
- NON-CORONER, 3RD PARTY Actual cost (VARIABLE)

AUTOPSISES AND INDIGENT BURIAL

- CONTRACTED (VARIABLE)

Dan Fletcher

Dan Fletcher, Coroner

Updated Jan 2026

Motion by Mr. Mark Ball, seconded by Mr. Brandon DuBois to adopt Proclamation 02-2026; Coroner's Week. Motion carried unanimously.

P R O C L A M A T I O N 02-2026

TO RECOGNIZE THE WEEK OF JANUARY 18 - JANUARY 24, 2026 AS CORONER'S WEEK

WHEREAS, the Grant Parish Coroner's Office serves the parish's citizens and honors the deceased of the parish by investigating the facts and circumstances concerning deaths which have occurred within Grant Parish; and

WHEREAS, the Grant Parish Coroner's Office exhibits the highest degree of compassion, professionalism, and integrity when determining the cause and manner of death, identifying the decedent, and notifying the legal next of kin; and

WHEREAS, in 2025 the Grant Parish Coroner's Office investigated over 220 cases; and

WHEREAS, the job of these "last responders" continues beyond the scene as they conduct interviews, obtain records, and perform examinations to determine the final cause and manner of each death.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Grant Parish Police Jury extends our sincerest gratitude for the Coroner and Deputy Coroners and in recognition does hereby proclaim the week of January 18-January 24, 2026, as Coroner's week in the Parish of Grant.

Duly proclaimed this 8th day of January 2026.

(s) Jessie Pace
Jessie Pace
Secretary - Treasurer
Grant Parish Police Jury

(s) Cephas Bowie Jr.
Cephas Bowie Jr.
President
Grant Parish Police Jury

STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH OF GRANT

I, Jessie Pace, Parish Manager of the Grant Parish Police Jury do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Proclamation adopted by the said Police Jury in regular session on the 8th day of January 2026.

GIVEN UNDR MY OFFICIAL SIGNATURE and Seal of Office on this the 8th day of January 2026.

(s) Jessie Pace
Jessie Pace
Secretary - Treasurer

Motion by Mr. Johnny Jamison, seconded by Mr. Roy Edwards to appoint Mrs. Charlene Anderson to a 1-year term to the Grant Parish Port Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

CERTIFICATE OF APPOINTMENT
COMMISSIONER
TO THE GRANT PARISH PORT COMMISSION
COLFAX, LOUISIANA

Under the provisions of R.S. 34:2351 the Grant Parish Police Jury met in Regular Session And appointed the following to the Grant Parish Port Commission and to serve for the number of years appearing after her name respectively from the 13th day of January 2026 until the 13th day of January, 2027.

Charlene Anderson
179 Irvin Dewitt Road
Dry Prong, Louisiana 71423

Term of Office: 1 Year

IN WITNESS WHEREFORE, I have hereunto signed by name as President of the Grant Parish Police Jury, Colfax, Louisiana, and caused the official corporate seal of said Grant Parish Police Jury to be attached by the Parish Treasurer this 8th day of January, 2026.

(s) Cephas Bowie Jr.
Cephas Bowie Jr., President

Attest:

(s) Jessie Pace
Jessie Pace, Treasurer
CERTIFICATE

I, Jessie Pace, Treasurer of the Grant Parish Police Jury, Colfax, Louisiana, do hereby certify that the above certificate is a true and correct copy of the certificate issued by Mark Ball, President on January 8th, 2026.

(s) Jessie Pace
Jessie Pace
Parish Manager

Motion by Mr. Brandon DuBois, seconded by Mr. Johnny Jamison to adopt the amended 2025 and proposed 2026 budget for the North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory
Amended 2025 Budget and
Proposed 2026 Budget

		Approved 2025 Budget	Amended 2025 Budget	Proposed 2026 Budget
Revenues:				
City Courts	750,000	854,446	144,446	800,000
District Courts	1,300,000	1,421,428	121,428	1,300,000
Mayor Courts	75,000	75,000	63,000	75,000
Grand Jury	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000
Fees Collected Act 432	1,000,000	991,770	-8,221	1,000,000
Diversion (Pre-Trial)	180,000	150,100	-35,900	125,000
Total Court Revenue:	4,940,000	4,351,191	291,191	4,035,000
Drug Chemistry Revenue	20,000	15,825	-4,175	5,000
Emergency Relief Fund	0	0	0	1,075,000
Interest/Principal-Grant Revenue	400,000	577,958	177,892	500,000
Insurance Claim	0	0	0	0
Interest Earned	75,000	133,001	58,001	75,000
Toxicology Revenue	70,000	93,000	23,000	75,000
Microbiology	10,000	12,647	2,647	10,000
Rape Kits	0	888	880	0
DNA Kits	0	1,550	1,550	3,000
DNA Revenue	0	0	0	7,510
Rent Revenue-SPD	0	0	0	0
NEW				
Total Revenue:	4,615,000	5,169,012	554,012	5,853,210
Expenditures:				
Auto Expenses (Fleet)	50,000	46,745	3,232	50,000
Building & Grounds	53,000	53,278	2,677	53,000
Dues & Subscriptions	20,000	20,756	756	22,000
Freight	8,000	9,920	-1,920	10,000
Grant Expense	400,000	652,715	-252,715	500,000
Insurance- General	185,000	185,000	0	220,000
Insurance Health	280,000	284,387	-4,387	360,000
Lab Equip.Maint.Service Agreements	250,000	269,646	-19,646	280,000
Lab Supplies	185,000	185,000	0	190,000
DNA Supplies/Expenses	260,000	453,574	-193,574	400,000
Legal & Accounting - Audit	40,000	43,420	-3,420	40,000
Accreditation Expenses	50,000	51,710	1,382	50,000
Other Supplies	65,000	65,000	0	70,000
Other Service	2,800	6,855	-3,855	7,000
Payroll Taxes	35,000	35,145	-145	35,000
Professional Expenses	250,000	251,275	1,275	250,000
Salaries	2,400,000	2,866,539	-266,539	2,502,000
Training	15,000	20,109	-5,109	20,000
Travel/Continuing Education	45,000	49,000	-4,900	50,000
Utilities-Supplies	70,000	70,257	257	72,000
NIFSC-Utilities	400,000	457,061	-57,061	450,000
NIFSC-Building Maintenance	200,000	195,370	4,630	200,000
Capital Outlays	0	0	0	0
Contingency	300,000	300,000	0	300,000
Total Expenditures	5,545,800	6,355,920	-810,120	6,117,000
Excess(Deficiency) of Revenue Over(Under)	(930,800)	(1,186,908)		(263,690)
Estimated Beginning Fund Balance	2,875,230	3,704,717		2,517,809
Estimated Ending Fund Balance	1,944,430	2,517,809		2,254,119

Jurors discussed and all agreed to replace the Maintenance/Landfill signs at the end of Landfill Road. All agreed to replace the signs and use the design that was presented and included the shooting complex.

Motion by Mr. Brandon DuBois, seconded by Mr. Mark Ball to approve Mr. Scott Tilton to Fire District No. 2 Board of Commissioners. Motion carried unanimously.

Jurors discussed and approved contacting Foley and Judell to request expiring millages for the Courthouse, Roads & Bridges, and Health Unit/Coroner's Office on the ballot in May of 2026.

Motion by Mr. Brandon DuBois, seconded by Mr. Roy Edwards to introduce Ordinance 01-2026; to Declare Certain Office Furniture and Equipment as Surplus. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO: 01-2026

DECLARING CERTAIN OFFICE FURNITURE, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT AS SURPLUS

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the property described is no longer needed for the public purposes of the Grant Parish Police Jury, and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Grant Parish Police Jury to comply with Louisiana state law regarding the disposition of the surplus property, and

WHEREAS, the value of any item of said movable property does not exceed \$5,000.00, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Grant Parish Police Jury in regular session convened that the movable property described in attached Exhibit A is hereby declared not needed for public use and therefore surplus, and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that said surplus property be disposed of pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statute 33:4712, and that should no bids be received on any item of surplus property, the items are to be sold as scrap, and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that if any provision of this ordinance shall be held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions herein which can be given effect without the invalid provision and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

WHEREUPON THIS ORDINANCE WAS ADOPTED TO A VOTE AND RESULTED IN THE FOLLOWING:

YEAS: _____ NAYS: _____ ABSENT: _____

AND THIS ORDINANCE WAS ADOPTED ON THIS 8th DAY OF JANUARY 2026.

Jessie Pace
Secretary-Treasurer
Grant Parish Police Jury

Cepash Bowie Jr.
President
Grant Parish Police Jury

CERTIFICATE

I, Jessie Pace, Secretary/Treasurer of the Grant Parish Police Jury, do hereby certify the forgoing is a true and correct copy of an Ordinance adopted by the said Police Jury in a regular session on the 8TH day of January, 2026, at which a quorum was present.

Jessie Pace
Secretary/Treasurer
Grant Parish Police Jury

Exhibit A:
Ordinance 01-2026

Grant Parish Library:

Items to Surplus:

- 3 wall shelves
- Various office organizers and supplies
- 5 metal staplers
- Receipt paper rolls
- 6-sheet collator
- 1 pink laptop/iPad bag
- 2 money boxes without a key
- 1 old fax machine ribbon cartridge
- Old wooden chair with leather cushions
- 1 rolling computer shelf
- 4 wooden children's chairs
- 4 old book carts
- 1 large table with audio ports
- 2 tables with shelves
- 1 unassembled fake wood desk
- 2 computer tables built for two people with pull out keyboard shelves
- 1 unassembled white floor cabinet
- 1 wooden file cabinet with 3 regular drawers
- 1 children's activity table
- Wooden podium
- A small microfilm monitor
- 2 old projector screens
- Projecta Scope projector
- Old timeclock machine
- Multiple packs of typewriter ribbon and corrector tape
- Miscellaneous metal cabinet pieces and drawers

Motion by Mr. Mark Ball, seconded by Mr. Roy Edwards to introduce removing the following roads from the Grant Parish Maintenance System:

Deer Trail Road – District 2
Prothro Road – District 2
L. Dubois Road – District 2
Coburn Road – District 8

Motion carried unanimously. Public Hearing will be held at 4:45 on February 12 at the Police Jury Meeting Room.

Mr. Cody Gongre, Roads Superintendent, addressed the jury regarding upcoming projects for the Roads Department.

Motion by Mr. Brandon DuBois, seconded by Mr. Roy Edwards to pay bills as funds become available. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Mark Ball, seconded by Mr. Brandon DuBois to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Disclaimer: These minutes are not official until adopted by the jury at the next meeting.