Town of Bernice
Council Meeting
September 8th, 2026

Mayor Mildred Ferguson and the Town Council met in regular session on September 8, 2026, in the Council Room of the Town Hall, with the following present: Gene Terral, Lanelle Clubbs, and Amy Pesnell; Karen Hall and Joanna Ward were absent.

Also present: Town Attorney Joe Cusimano; Assistant Town Clerks Wesley Harty and Melissa Alvarez; Police Chief Larry Jones and Police Officer Courtney Johnson; Fire Chief Danny Murphey; Assistant Fire Chief J.R. Horton; The Banner Associate Dena Lee; Citizens of the Town of Bernice.

Mayor Ferguson called the meeting to order. Gene Terral led the prayer. Lana Patton called the roll. Lanelle Clubbs made a motion to approve the previous minutes, with Amy Pesnell seconding the motion, with necessary corrections for the LCDBG Grant included. The vote was unanimously approved.

Mayor Ferguson reported on town activities. Shirley's Takeout will be open from Wednesdays to Sundays. The BIDCO banquet proved to be successful. The Corney Creek Pageant proved to be successful, and the Corney Creek Festival will follow on October 3rd, with T-shirts being sold at the Town Hall, Pharmacy, and Bank. The October meeting will have further information regarding Halloween events. 9/11 remembrance will be held at UCA Assembly Center for EMS/Police Services.

Police Chief Larry Jones reported on the activities of the Police Department. Chief Jones made a recommendation to hire Jiquez Wafer as a Patrol Officer. The recommendation died due to no motion being made.

Assist. Chief J.R. Horton reported on the activities of the Fire Department. Assistant Chief Horton recommended merging the Bernice Volunteer Fire Dept. and the surrounding Bernice

Area Fire District. Mayor Ferguson will call a special council meeting at a later date to consider the information further.

Amy Pesnell made a motion to approve the payment of bills, with Lanelle Clubbs seconding the motion. The vote was unanimously approved. Gene Terral made a motion to adjourn, with Lanelle Clubbs seconding it.

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Attest: Lana Patton **Approve: Mayor Mildred Ferguson**