



Parish of Ascension

Office of Finance

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FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

May 12, 2026 - 5:30 PM

ASCENSION PARISH COURTHOUSE
607 EAST WORTHEY ROAD
GONZALES, LOUISIANA 70737

MINUTES

- (1) **Call To Order / Invocation and Pledge-** The meeting was called to order by Chairman Brian Hillensbeck. Councilman Oliver Joseph led the committee in the invocation and pledge.
- (2) **Roll Call-** All members were present with the exception of Councilman Joel Robert who arrived at 5:32 pm and Councilman Travis Turner who arrived at 5:33 pm.
- (3) **Chair's Additions-** There were no additions to the agenda, but CFO Dawn Caballero announced the new Deputy Chief Financial Officer Ashley Barnes to the Committee.
- (4) **Public Comment-** Chairman Brian Hillensbeck announced that anyone wishing to speak should sign in now.
- (5) **GENERAL BUSINESS**
 - a. **Approval to enter into contract with Louisiana Claims Administrators (LoCA) for Claims Management and Administration and Risk Management Claims Tracking. This contract shall be for a term of three (3) years, with 1st year fee of \$67,000.00, 2nd year fee of \$68,500.00, and 3rd year fee of \$70,500.00 – A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman Chase Melancon. The motion was seconded by Councilman Blaine Petite. The motion passed with no objection.**
 - b. **Approval of Renewal of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Nicholls State University to manage operations of the West Ascension Early Learning Center from July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027. Contract amount not to exceed \$1,200,000.00-**

A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman Chase Melancon. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Jen DeFrances. The motion passed with no objection.

- c. **Approval of Amendment No. 3 to Agreement for Autopsy Transport Services with Dr. Christopher Trevino and Harry Smith, Jr. dba KT Mortuary Transport Service, LLC to increase the contract amount by \$35,000.00 for a new not to exceed amount of \$110,999.00** – A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman Dennis Cullen. The motion was seconded by Councilman Todd Varnado. The motion passed with no objection.
- d. **Approval of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Woman's Hospital Foundation with addition of Exhibit A. This agreement is for women's healthcare services to the residents of Ascension Parish for \$14,250.00 per month** - A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilwoman Pam Alonso. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Jenn DeFrances. The motion passed with no objection.
- e. **Approval to authorize Parish President Clint Cointment to execute all documents pertaining to the Office of Community Development Block Grant Program as it relates to, including but not limited to, Contracts, Amendments, Change Orders, and Project Applications, and/or Dawn Caballero, Chief Financial Officer for financial documents** – A motion to approve forwarding to full Council for approval was made by Councilman Chase Melancon. The motion was seconded by Councilman Blaine Petite. The motion passed with no objection.
- f. **Approval to execute an Agreement with Acadian Total Security for GPS mobile monitoring not to exceed \$150,000.00 annually. The exact payment will be only for units that get GPS devices installed. Units will be budgeted and paid for out of each department's budget separately** – A motion to approve forwarding to full Council for approval was made by Councilwoman Pam Alonso. The motion was seconded by Councilman Chase Melancon. The motion passed with no objection.
- g. **Approval of Sponsorship Agreement between Trash Rangers of Louisiana, LLC and Lamar Dixon Expo Center (LDEC). Trash Rangers shall provide six (6) six-yard dumpsters emptied twice-weekly, billed at \$208.00 per dumpster per month, and 30-yard roll off dumpsters provided and emptied at the request of LDEC, billed at \$590.00 per dumpster pull, and payment to LDEC the sum of ten (10%) percent of the total billed amount per agreement year, in exchange for sponsorship rights and exclusive vendor status at LDEC** – A motion to approve forwarding to full Council for Approval was made by Councilman Joel Robert. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dennis Cullen. Councilman Blaine Petite abstained from voting on this item. The motion passed with no objection.
- h. **Approval of the Ascension Parish Professional Selection Committee's recommendation to select the highest scoring respondent, Altura**

Solutions, LLC, for the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan Project and to authorize the Parish President to enter a contract – Ricky Compton, Chief Administrative Officer spoke to the committee on this item. A motion to approve forwarding to full Council for approval was made by Councilman Oliver Joseph. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Pam Alonso. The motion passed with no objection.

- i. **Approval of Change Order No. 1 to the contract with Dantin Custom Homes, LLC dba Dantin Builders for the pavilion at Oak Grove Park project to decrease the total cost of the project by \$21,400.00. This brings the new total contract price to \$111,150.00 –** A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman Joel Robert. The motion was seconded by Councilman Chase Melancon. The motion passed with no objection.
- j. **Approval of the Ascension Parish Professional Selection Committee's recommendation to select the highest scoring respondent, Mougeot Architecture, LLC, for the National Guard Armory Renovation Project and to authorize the Parish President to enter a contract –** Lane Blue, Project Manager II spoke to the Committee on this item. A motion to approve forwarding to full Council for approval was made by Councilwoman Pam Alonso. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Jen DeFrances. The motion passed with no objection.
- k. **Approval of Change Order No. 3 - Triumph Construction, LLC for the PR 929 at PR 930 Roundabout Project in the Move Ascension Program, Contract No. 250209, to provide for adverse weather days and holiday impacts. This change order will increase the contract amount by 45 calendar days only; no increase in contract value –** A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilwoman Pam Alonso. The motion was seconded by Councilman Chase Melancon. The motion passed with no objection.
- l. **Approval of Change Order No. 4 to the contract with M&J Civil Construction LLC for the Dutchtown Rear Access Road Project, to increase the contract times by 10 days and decrease the contract price by \$115.00, for a total contract amount of \$685,342.30 –** Daniel Helm, Director Transportation spoke to the Committee on this item. A motion to approve forwarding to full Council for approval was made by Councilman Blaine Petite. The motion was seconded by Councilman Chase Melancon. The motion passed with no objection.
- m. **Approval of Change Order No. 1 to the contract with Rigid Constructors, LLC for the Energy Transition Parkway - Phase II Project, to provide for 1) Additional work associated with restrictions outlined in the Letters of No Objection issued by pipeline companies including air bridging, installation of safety fencing, and hydrovac excavation, and 2) Revisions of the plan set relating to Enterprise Pipeline coordination. This change order results in an increase of \$471,736.97, for a revised contract value of \$7,796,736.97 –** A public comment not in support of the item was made by Mr.

Adrian Alpay. A motion to approve forwarding to full Council for approval was made by Councilman Blaine Petite. The motion was seconded by Councilman Chase Melancon. The motion passed with no objections.

- n. **Approval of the Ascension Parish Professional Selection Committee's recommendation to select the highest scoring respondent, AECOM Technical Services, Inc., for the Louisiana Highway 3127 Extension Project and to authorize the Parish President to enter a contract – A** motion to approve forwarding to full Council for approval was made by Councilman Oliver Joseph. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Pam Alonso. The motion passed with no objection.
- o. **Approval of Legal Services Contract with Olinde & Mercer to represent Ascension Parish Fire District No. 3 in general legal matters. The rate at which attorney may bill the parish shall not exceed the Attorney General Rate and shall not exceed \$49,000.00 – A** motion to approve forwarding to full Council for approval was made by Councilman Chase Melancon. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dennis Cullen. The motion passed with no objection.
- p. **Contract Report of all Contracts/Agreements entered into in the month of April 2026-** Chairman Hillensbeck announced that the report was emailed to the Committee ahead of the meeting and if they have any questions, they can contact Legal or Finance.

(6) FINANCE REPORTS

- a. **Budget Amendment No. 1 - Approval to amend 2026 Budget –** Dawn Caballero, Chief Financial Officer spoke to the Committee on this item. A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman Chase Melancon. The motion was seconded by Councilman Brett Arceneaux. The motion passed with no objection.
- b. **Monthly Report of new positions added to the Ascension Parish Government Classification Plan in the month of April 2026 –** Jared Nolan, Assistant Director of Human Resources spoke to the Committee on this item.
- c. **Parish Position Report - 1st Quarter 2026 -** Jared Nolan, Assistant Director of Human Resources spoke to the Committee on this item.
- d. **Financial Update - Open Finance at**
<https://ascensionparishla.finance.socrata.com/#!/dashboard> - Chairman Hillensbeck announced that Open Finance is available for viewing at the URL listed and Finance can be contacted with any questions.

- (7) Adjourn –** The meeting was adjourned at 5:47 pm on a motion made by Councilman Joel Robert, seconded by Councilman Chase Melancon.