## OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY, STATE OF LOUISIANA

MAY 14, 2025 FRANKLIN, LOUISIANA 6:00 P.M.

The St. Mary Parish Council met on this date in Regular Session with Chairperson Gwendolyn L. Hidalgo presiding and the following members present: Rev. Craig Mathews, J Ina, Rodney Olander, David W. Hill, Leslie "Les" Rulf, Jr., Patrick Hebert, James "Jimmy" Davis, Jr., Mark Duhon, Dean Adams, and Kristi Prejeant Rink, M.D.

Mrs. Hidalgo stated that as Chairperson of the Council, it is her duty to maintain order and stop any abusive or disrespectful behavior. Bashing anyone will not be tolerated and each guest has five minutes to speak.

The Invocation was pronounced by Mr. Davis and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Duhon.

Mr. Olander moved that the reading of the Second Regular Meeting, April 23, 2025 be dispensed with and that the same be approved. Mr. Davis seconded the motion, which carried.

Mrs. Hidalgo recognized Mayor Clarence Vappie, Town of Baldwin and Betty Hicks, Home Rule Charter Revision Commission Chairperson in attendance.

Ashton Myers, St. Mary Parish Library Director appeared before the Council to inform of the Library's Summer Reading Program and the Dolly Parton Imagination Library Program that will mail one book per month to children between the ages of 0-5 years old. You can go to the Library's website to register.

Beverly Domengeaux, Executive Director, St. Mary Council on Aging appeared before the Council to discuss the "Older Americans Month" Proclamation.

In response to Mr. Hebert's inquiry, Mrs. Domengeaux stated that the age requirement to receive services begins at age 60.

Mr. Adams requested to move up Item 14A, "Proclamation proclaiming the month of May 2025 as Older Americans Month.

Mr. Adams moved that the following Proclamation be adopted. The Council seconded the motion, which carried by the following 11-0-0-0 Roll Call vote:

YEAS: Mathews, Ina, Olander, Hill, Rulf, Hebert, Davis, Duhon, Adams, Rink, and Hidalgo

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

## **PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS,** May is Older Americans Month, a time for us to recognize and honor St. Mary Council on aging older adults and their immense influence on every facet of American society; and

WHEREAS, through their wealth of life experience and wisdom, older adults guide our younger generations and carry forward abundant cultural and historical knowledge; and

WHEREAS, older Americans improve our communities through intergenerational relationships, community service, civic engagement, and many other activities; and

**WHEREAS**, communities benefit when people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds have the opportunity to participate and live independently; and

**WHEREAS,** St. Mary Council on Aging must ensure that older Americans have the resources and support needed to stay involved in their communities – reflecting our commitment to inclusivity and connectedness; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the St. Mary Parish Council, hereby proclaim the month of May 2025, as:

#### **OLDER AMERICANS' MONTH**

This year's theme, "Powered by Connection," emphasizes the profound impact of meaningful interactions and social connection on the well-being and health of older adults in our community. We call upon all residents to join us in recognizing the contributions of older citizens and promoting programs and activities that foster connection, inclusion, and support for older adults.

**ADOPTED AND APPROVED** by the St. Mary Parish Council in regular session convened on this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025.

	APPROVED:
	GWENDOLYN L. HIDALGO, CHAIRPERSON ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL
ATTEST:	
LISA C. MORGAN, CLERK ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL	

Myron Moton appeared before the Council to discuss a drainage video, documentation, and plat removal at his home in Verdunville, Louisiana. He provided pictures of the drainage ditch and stated that there was never an issue until drains were dug, allowing water from Bayou Teche to fill the ditch and erode his property. He stated that when the ditch was dug, it exposed tree roots that caused them to die and fall. He also stated that the survey markers were removed in the process.

Chief Administrative Officer, Paul Governale stated that John "Booker" Davis, Public Works Director and Ray Pontiff, Drainage District Supervisor visited the property several times and could not find any issues. He informed that Mr. Moton instructed both of them to leave the property and not return.

In response to several Council Members' inquiries, Mr. Moton stated that he wants the ditch returned to its original state. He stated that originally, there was not a ditch at all.

Discussion was had relative to the right of way and size of the drainage ditch.

In response to Rev. Mathews' inquiry, Mr. Governale stated that a public records request was never received from Mr. Moton.

After discussion, Rev. Mathews explained that the public records request needs to be put in writing in the proper format per the State Statute.

Telsa Spain, Assistant Director of Personnel, appeared before the Council to discuss the St. Mary Parish Personnel Policy. She submitted a packet of 55 concerns to be considered as amendments to the new policy and expounded on Section 4-08 of the Home Rule Charter - Department of Personnel. She also expounded on duties and responsibilities of the Personnel Director and the Personnel Board, recent creation of a Personnel Committee and its development of the new Personnel Policy, and the adoption of the new policy by the Council in 2024. She stated that these recommendations were given to the Council last year and her concern is regarding the verbiage in the new policy.

After discussion, Rev. Mathews requested to place an item on the next Council's agenda to amend the 2024 St. Mary Parish Personnel Policy to integrate all 55 recommendations to allow for review and discussion. He stated that the most significant item is that the Personnel Board was not officially installed to understand basic fundamental, legal, and fiduciary responsibilities and to be oriented on the 55 recommendations.

After further discussion, Mr. Ina moved to request that the Personnel Board have their first meeting within 30 days and that Legal Counsel be present. Rev. Mathews seconded the motion, which carried.

In response to several Council Members' inquiries, Ms. Spain stated that the Personnel Committee consisted of one supervisor from the Pickup Station, one employee from the Road Department, and administration. She stated that according to the Home Rule Charter, all Personnel Policy updates and amendments are to be done by the Personnel Director. She also expounded on the positive changes and on Section 4.5 - Personal Leave chart that shows a discrepancy in hours and days per year that an employee accumulates for Personal Time off.

After discussion, Mr. Governale stated that overtime is not guaranteed but was allowed and that a normal workday is based on an eight hour day. He stated that the Charter is very specific to how the policy is to be amended and that administration needs time to review the recommendations. He suggested that the Council review it and contact him with any suggestions. Ms. Spain informed that as amendments are done, they need to be added to the policy to inform employees of the changes.

Dr. Rink informed that the Home Rule Charter Revision Commission will meet on May 22, 2025 and suggested that the Council attend.

Clerk of the Council, Lisa Morgan, informed that Mrs. Terry Foulcard is at an out of town meeting and is unable to appear before the Council to discuss the Registrar of Voters Office.

Dr. Rink informed that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Irritable Bowel Disease Awareness event will be held on May 17, 2025 on the Bayou side in Franklin from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Contact person is Marcus Johnson at 337-606-3719.

Parish President, Sam Jones reported on the decrease of population in St. Mary Parish, increase in new businesses, and lack of housing. Discussion was had relative to when the Tire Distribution Center will begin construction off Northwest Boulevard in Franklin. Discussion was also had relative to the status of the next meeting to discuss consolidation of boards and commissions.

President Jones stated that the City of Berwick has asked for help with a few pumps at the station near the landfill.

Mr. Governale stated that at the April 23, 2025 Council Meeting, the Council Clerk misspoke during the presentation given by Meagan Thompson, former St. Mary Parish employee, implying that an investigation was in process. I want to make it clear that there is no investigation relating to Meagan Thompson and her former employment with St. Mary Parish. On behalf of St. Mary Parish Government, I sincerely apologize for the miscommunication.

Chief Administrative Officer, Paul J. Governale, submitted his report for a three (3) week period, ending May 14, 2025. He also submitted quarterly reports from Economic Development, Finance,

Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness, Personnel, Planning & Zoning, and Public Works Departments.

Mr. Governale informed that National Public Works Week is May 18-24, 2025.

In response to Mr. Ina's inquiry relative to the status of the employee Compensation Study and Organizational Review, Mr. Governale stated that he has received the request for proposals. He explained that the proposals are being ranked and will be scored based on criteria. He stated that a recommendation to hire should be ready for the next meeting. He also stated that he is awaiting an opinion from legal counsel relative to whether hiring is a Council's decision or administrative decision.

In absence of Planning & Zoning Director, Mandi LeBlanc, Paul Governale presented the following items as recommended by the Planning & Zoning Commission at their April 21, 2025 Regular Meeting.

#### a. Recommend Rezoning

Name: George Tyler

Address: 14777 Hwy. 90 W. Frontage Rd.

Franklin, LA

Parcel Id# 2174681010.00- Sec.68 T13S R8E

Lot A Robert P Pontiff Prop Per Plat 22g 181210 Acq 76 288321

Purpose: Rezone from Single Family Residential (SR) Zoned District to Highway Commercial (HC) Zoned District to make use of the property in accordance with its intended purpose.

## b. Recommend Rezoning

Name: Annie Viator

Address: 19546 Highway 182

Jeanerette, LA

Parcel Id# 1905041005.00- Sec.68 T13S R8E; Lot BD Teche - Stouff - Road – Est. Hardy Acq. 436 340517

Purpose: Rezone from Single Family Residential (SR) Zoned District to Existing Neighborhood (EN2) Zoned District to have the option to place either a manufactured home or stick-built home on the property.

#### c. Recommend Rezoning

Name: Annie Viator

Address: 19545 Highway 182

Jeanerette, LA

Parcel Id# 1905041004.00- Sec.68 T13S R8E; 7.00 AC Tract BD Road - Stouff - R R - Sorrel Ln. Acq. 436 340517

Purpose: Rezone from Single Family Residential (SR) Zoned District to Existing Neighborhood (EN2) Zoned District to have the option to place either a manufactured home or stick-built home on the property.

Mr. Olander recommends the above Rezonings. Mr. Hill seconded the motion, which carried.

Dr. Rink moved that the Public Hearing Report, April 23, 2025 be dispensed with and that the same be approved. Mr. Hebert seconded the motion, which carried.

Mr. Olander introduced the following Ordinances:

#### ORDINANCE NO.

An Ordinance in compliance with Ordinance No. 1973, Chapter 5 Procedures, Division 5.4 General Procedures for Public Hearing, Section 5.4.2 Rezonings (Zoning Map Amendments).

**WHEREAS,** on March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014, the St. Mary Parish Council adopted Ordinance No. 1973 – St. Mary Parish Unified Development Code, and

**WHEREAS,** Chapter 5 Procedures, Division 5.4 General Procedures for Public Hearing, Section 5.4.2 Rezonings (Zoning Map Amendments) provides a process for the official zoning district map to be amended, and

**THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Parish Council of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana, acting as the governing authority of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana:

**SECTION I** - That certain tract of land described in Exhibit "A" is hereby rezoned from Single Residential (SR) Zoned District to Highway Commercial (HC) Zoned District to make use of the property in accordance with its intended purpose.

This ordinance shall become effective and be in full force upon publication in the official journal of the Parish.

This ordinance having been offered and read on this 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025; having been published in accordance with law.

**EXHIBIT "A"** 

Name: George Tyler

Address: 14777 Hwy. 90 W. Frontage Rd.

Franklin, LA

Parcel Id# 2174681010.00- Sec.68 T13S R8E

Lot A Robert P Pontiff Prop Per Plat 22g 181210 Acq 76 288321

Purpose: Rezone from Single Family Residential (SR) Zoned District to Highway

Commercial (HC) Zoned District to make use of the property in accordance

with its intended purpose.

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**THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Parish Council of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana, acting as the governing authority of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana:

**SECTION I** - That certain tract of land described in Exhibit "A" is hereby rezoned from Single Residential (SR) Zoned District to Existing Neighborhood (EN2) Zoned District to have the option to place either a manufactured home or stick-built home on the property.

This ordinance shall become effective and be in full force upon publication in the official journal of the Parish.

This ordinance having been offered and read on this 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025; having been published in accordance with law.

**EXHIBIT "A"** 

Name: Annie Viator

Address: 19546 Highway 182

Jeanerette, LA

Parcel Id# 1905041005.00- Sec.68 T13S R8E

Lot BD Teche - Stouff - Road - Est. Hardy Acq. 436 340517

Purpose: Rezone from Single Family Residential (SR) Zoned District to Existing

Neighborhood (EN2) Zoned District to have the option to place either a

manufactured home or stick-built home on the property.

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**WHEREAS,** Chapter 5 Procedures, Division 5.4 General Procedures for Public Hearing, Section 5.4.2 Rezonings (Zoning Map Amendments) provides a process for the official zoning district map to be amended, and

**THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Parish Council of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana, acting as the governing authority of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana:

**SECTION I** - That certain tract of land described in Exhibit "A" is hereby rezoned from Single Residential (SR) Zoned District to Existing Neighborhood (EN2) Zoned District to have the option to place either a manufactured home or stick-built home on the property.

This ordinance shall become effective and be in full force upon publication in the official journal of the Parish.

This ordinance having been offered and read on this 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025; having been published in accordance with law.

**EXHIBIT "A"** 

**Name:** Annie Viator

Address: 19545 Highway 182

Jeanerette, LA

Parcel Id# 1905041004.00- Sec.68 T13S R8E

7.00 AC Tract BD Road - Stouff - R R - Sorrel Ln. Acq. 436 340517

Purpose: Rezone from Single Family Residential (SR) Zoned District to Existing

Neighborhood (EN2) Zoned District to have the option to place either a

manufactured home or stick-built home on the property.

## **ORDINANCE NO.**

An Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2278 setting the salary of the Clerk of the Council of St. Mary Parish, Louisiana.

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the St. Mary Parish Council in regular session convened:

**SECTION I**: The salary of the Clerk of the Parish Council is hereby fixed at the sum of \$2,885 per pay period, plus any other benefits generally applicable to employees of the Parish Council of St. Mary.

**SECTION II:** The Clerk of the Council shall be evaluated annually (anniversary date) by the chairperson of the council.

**SECTION III:** Any law or ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed. This ordinance is to become effective upon adoption.

This ordinance having been offered and read on this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025; having been published in accordance with law.

Mr. Ina introduced the following Ordinances:

#### **ORDINANCE NO.**

An Ordinance of the St. Mary Parish Council condemning the improvements consisting of an abandoned structure, situated at 1121 Irish Bend Road, Franklin, Louisiana, Parcel ID No. 2324741039.00, as a result of same being in a dilapidated and dangerous condition which endangers the public welfare and ordering the demolition and removal of said improvements by the owner thereof in not less than sixty days from the effective date of this Ordinance.

## **SECTION I.**

**WHEREAS**, Louisiana law, and in particular LSA-R.S. 33:4761 et seq. authorizes the governing authority of any Parish to condemn and cause to be demolished or removed any building or structure within the Parish when it is in a dilapidated and dangerous condition which endangers the public welfare;

**WHEREAS,** there has been submitted to the Parish a written report recommending the demolition and removal of certain structures, consisting of an abandoned structure, situated at 1121 Irish Bend Road, Franklin, Louisiana, Parcel ID No. 2324741039.00, as a result of same being in a dilapidated and dangerous condition which endangers the public welfare;

**WHEREAS,** the Parish President has heretofore served upon the owner of the structures a notice requiring the owner to show cause at a meeting of this council why the structures should not be condemned, which notice provided the owner with the notice of the St. Mary Parish Council meeting to be held on June 11, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

**WHEREAS,** after hearing the evidence presented at the aforementioned Parish Council meeting, the Parish Council has determined that the structures in question are in fact in a dilapidated and dangerous condition which endangers the public welfare;

**WHEREAS,** it is the decision of this Council that the structures in question be condemned as a result of same being in a dilapidated and dangerous condition which endangers the public welfare.

## **SECTION II.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the St. Mary Parish Council, acting as the governing authority of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana that:

- A. The improvements, consisting of an abandoned structure, situated at 1121 Irish Bend Road, Franklin, Louisiana, Parcel ID No. 2324741039.00 are hereby condemned as a result of the finding of this Council that same are in a dilapidated and dangerous condition which endangers the public welfare.
- B. Isabella Williams C/O Lizandra Williams, the owner of said property, is hereby ordered to demolish and remove said improvements not less than sixty (60) days from the effective date of this Ordinance.
- C. In default of the owner complying with the order to demolish and remove the improvements, the Parish President may proceed with the demolition or removal of the condemned structures after giving notice to the owner and/or owner's agent and/or the attorney at law appointed to represent the owner giving the time when the work will begin upon the demolition and removal of the structures.
- D. In the event the Parish does perform the demolition and removal of the structures or engages a third party or third parties to perform such demolition and removal, the Parish President is directed to file a lien and privilege upon the immovable and its improvements pursuant to the provisions of LSA-R.S. 33:4766.

#### **SECTION III.**

This Ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.

## **SECTION IV.**

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

## **SECTION V.**

Should any provisions of this Ordinance be declared in violation of state law, the remaining portions shall remain in full force and effect.

This ordinance having been offered and read on this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025; having been published in accordance with law.

## ORDINANCE NO.

An Ordinance of the St. Mary Parish Council condemning the improvements consisting of an abandoned structure, situated at 1123 Irish Bend Road, Franklin, Louisiana, Parcel ID No. 2324741039.00, as a result of same being in a dilapidated and dangerous condition which endangers the public welfare and ordering the demolition and removal of said improvements by the owner thereof in not less than sixty days from the effective date of this Ordinance.

#### **SECTION I.**

**WHEREAS**, Louisiana law, and in particular LSA-R.S. 33:4761 et seq. authorizes the governing authority of any Parish to condemn and cause to be demolished or removed any building or structure within the Parish when it is in a dilapidated and dangerous condition which endangers the public welfare;

**WHEREAS,** there has been submitted to the Parish a written report recommending the demolition and removal of certain structures, consisting of an abandoned structure, situated at 1123 Irish Bend Road, Franklin, Louisiana, Parcel ID No. 2324741039.00, as a result of same being in a dilapidated and dangerous condition which endangers the public welfare;

**WHEREAS**, the Parish President has heretofore served upon the owner of the structures a notice requiring the owner to show cause at a meeting of this council why the structures should not be

condemned, which notice provided the owner with the notice of the St. Mary Parish Council meeting to be held on June 11, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

**WHEREAS,** after hearing the evidence presented at the aforementioned Parish Council meeting, the Parish Council has determined that the structures in question are in fact in a dilapidated and dangerous condition which endangers the public welfare;

**WHEREAS**, it is the decision of this Council that the structures in question be condemned as a result of same being in a dilapidated and dangerous condition which endangers the public welfare.

#### **SECTION II.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the St. Mary Parish Council, acting as the governing authority of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana that:

- E. The improvements, consisting of an abandoned structure, situated at 1123 Irish Bend Road, Franklin, Louisiana, Parcel ID No. 2324741039.00 are hereby condemned as a result of the finding of this Council that same are in a dilapidated and dangerous condition which endangers the public welfare.
- F. Isabella Williams C/O Lizandra Williams, the owner of said property, is hereby ordered to demolish and remove said improvements not less than sixty (60) days from the effective date of this Ordinance.
- G. In default of the owner complying with the order to demolish and remove the improvements, the Parish President may proceed with the demolition or removal of the condemned structures after giving notice to the owner and/or owner's agent and/or the attorney at law appointed to represent the owner giving the time when the work will begin upon the demolition and removal of the structures.
- H. In the event the Parish does perform the demolition and removal of the structures or engages a third party or third parties to perform such demolition and removal, the Parish President is directed to file a lien and privilege upon the immovable and its improvements pursuant to the provisions of LSA-R.S. 33:4766.

## **SECTION III.**

This Ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.

## **SECTION IV.**

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

## **SECTION V.**

Should any provisions of this Ordinance be declared in violation of state law, the remaining portions shall remain in full force and effect.

This ordinance having been offered and read on this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025; having been published in accordance with law.

#### ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE EXTENDING THE TIME PERIOD PROVIDED IN ORDINANCE NO. 2371 FOR THE ST. MARY PARISH HOME RULE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION TO SUBMIT A PROPOSED AMENDED CHARTER, PURSUANT TO ARTICLE VI, SECTION 5 OF THE LOUISIANA CONSTITUTION AND R.S. 33:1395 ET SEQ., AND PROVIDING FOR RELATED MATTERS.

**WHEREAS**, the St. Mary Parish Council previously adopted Ordinance No. 2371 on June 12, 2024, establishing the St. Mary Parish Home Rule Charter Revision Commission pursuant to the provisions of Article VI, Section 5 of the Louisiana Constitution and R.S. 33:1395 et seq.; and

**WHEREAS,** Ordinance No. 2371 provided that the Commission would submit its proposed amended charter, and any alternative proposals, within twelve (12) months following submission to the Council; and

WHEREAS, R.S. 33:1395.1 provides that a Home Rule Charter Commission shall submit its proposed charter to the governing authority within eighteen (18) months after taking office; and

WHEREAS, additional time is needed for the Commission to complete its review and preparation of the amended charter and to allow for appropriate public input and deliberation; and

**WHEREAS,** the Council desires to extend the time period granted in Ordinance No. 2371 by an additional six (6) months to be consistent with the eighteen (18) month timeframe authorized under state law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the St. Mary Parish Council that:

**SECTION 1:** The time period set forth in Ordinance No. 2371 for the St. Mary Parish Home Rule Charter Revision Commission to submit its proposed amended charter, and any alternative proposals, is hereby extended by an additional six (6) months, not to exceed eighteen (18) months from the date the Commission first convened and its members were sworn into office.

**SECTION 2:** Except as amended herein, all other provisions, terms, and conditions of Ordinance No. 2371 shall remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION 3:** Suppose any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid. In that case, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items, or applications of this ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items, or applications, and to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are declared severable.

**SECTION 4:** All Ordinances, or parts of Ordinances, by the St. Mary Parish Council conflicting or inconsistent with the provisions of these regulations are hereby repealed.

**SECTION 5:** This Ordinance shall be published in the Official Journal of the St. Mary Parish Council in the manner provided by law.

**SECTION 6:** This Ordinance shall become effective on the tenth day after final publication.

This ordinance having been offered and read on this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025; having been published in accordance with law.

Dr. Rink moved that the following Ordinances be adopted. Mr. Hebert seconded the motion, which carried by the following 11-0-0-0 Roll Call vote:

YEAS: Ina, Olander, Hill, Rulf, Hebert, Davis, Duhon, Adams, Rink, Hidalgo, and Mathews

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

## **ORDINANCE NO. 2391**

An Ordinance levying and imposing a tax of 5.72 mills for the purpose of maintaining and supporting the St. Mary Parish Public Library and its branches as directed by a special election in the Parish of St. Mary, excluding the municipality of Morgan City, for the year 2025; and levying and imposing

a forty-six hundredths (0.46) mills tax on all the property subject to taxation in the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana, excluding the City of Morgan City, for the year 2025.

**BE IT ORDAINED**, by the St. Mary Parish Council of the Parish of St. Mary, Louisiana, in a public meeting held on May 14, 2025, which meeting was conducted in accordance with the open meetings law and the additional requirements of Article VII, Section 23(C) of the Constitution, that the taxing authority voted to adopt and impose the following millage rate(s), on all taxable property shown on the official assessment roll for the year 2025, and when collected, the revenues from said taxes shall be used only for the specific purposes for which said taxes have been levied. Said millage rate(s) are:

	<u>2025 Levy</u>
Library Tax (Maintaining and Supporting)	5.72
Library Tax (Debt Service)	0.46

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Assessor of the Parish of St. Mary, shall extend upon the assessment roll for the year 2025 the taxes herein levied, and the tax collector of said Parish shall collect and remit the same to said taxing authority in accordance with law.

This ordinance shall become effective and be in full force upon publication in the official journal of the Parish.

This ordinance having been offered and read on this the 9<sup>th</sup> day of April 2025, having been published in accordance with law and having been heard in a public meeting in Franklin, Louisiana on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025, was adopted.

ady of May 2023, was adopted.	APPROVED:
ATTEST:	GWENDOLYN L. HIDALGO, CHAIRPERSON ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL
LISA C. MORGAN, CLERK	
ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL	

This ordinance was submitted to the President of St. Mary Parish on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025, at the hour of 9:09 a.m.

**APPROVED:** 

SAM JONES, PRESIDENT ST. MARY PARISH

This ordinance was returned to the Clerk of the Council on this the 20<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025, at the hour of 3:54 p.m.

## **ORDINANCE NO. 2392**

An Ordinance levying a tax of 7.60 mills Parish Tax located outside the municipalities for all parochial purposes and segregating for local and parochial purposes and levying and imposing a 3.80 mills tax located within the municipalities to help defray the expenses of the Criminal Justice System of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana.

BE IT ORDAINED, by the St. Mary Parish Council of the Parish of St. Mary, Louisiana, in a public meeting held on May 14, 2025, which meeting was conducted in accordance with the open meetings law and the additional requirements of Article VII, Section 23(C) of the Constitution, that the following millage rate(s) be and they are hereby levied upon the dollar of the assessed valuation of all property subject to ad valorem taxation within said Parish and within the incorporated municipalities and towns within the Parish for the year 2025, for the purpose of raising revenue:

	<b>MILLAGE</b>
Parish Tax (Outside Municipalities Parochial Purposes) (Purpose of defraying the expenses of the Parochial Government, and for other legal purposes shown by the budget.)	7.60
Criminal Justice System Tax (Within the Incorporated Municipalities and Towns) (Purpose of helping defray the expenses of the Criminal Justice System of the Parish.)	3.80

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Assessor of the Parish of St. Mary, shall extend upon the assessment roll for the year 2025 the taxes herein levied, and the tax collector of said Parish shall collect and remit the same to said taxing authority in accordance with law.

This ordinance shall become effective and be in full force upon publication in the official journal of the Parish.

This ordinance having been offered and read on this the 9<sup>th</sup> day of April 2025, having been published 14<sup>th</sup> in da

<u>c</u>	heard in a public meeting in Franklin, Louisiana on the
	APPROVED:
	GWENDOLYN L. HIDALGO, CHAIRPERSON ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL
ATTEST:	
LISA C. MORGAN, CLERK ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL	-

This ordinance was submitted to the President of St. Mary Parish on this $20^{\text{th}}$ day of May 2025, at the hour of 9:09 a.m.		
APPROVED:		
SAM JONES, PRESIDENT ST. MARY PARISH		
This ordinance was returned to the Clerk of the Council on this the $20^{th}$ day of May 2025, at the hour of 3:54 p.m.		
ORDINANCE NO. 2393		
An Ordinance authorizing the Parish of St. Mary to execute the Third Amendment to Solid Waste Disposal and Landfill Lease agreement with Emerald Land Corporation for use as a solid waste landfill.		
BE IT ORDAINED by the St. Mary Parish Council:		
<b>SECTION 1.</b> That the Parish of St. Mary execute the Third Amendment to Solid Waste Disposal and Landfill Lease agreement with Emerald Land Corporation for the lease of property in Ward 8 of St. Mary Parish for use as a solid waste landfill, all in accordance with the basic terms and conditions contained in Exhibit "A" hereto.		
<b>SECTION 2.</b> That Sam Jones, Parish President is authorized to execute such a lease on behalf of the Parish Council.		
<b>SECTION 3.</b> All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.		
This ordinance shall become effective upon publication.		
This ordinance having been offered and read on this 9 <sup>th</sup> day of April 2025, having been published in accordance with law; and having been heard in a public hearing in Franklin, Louisiana on 14 <sup>th</sup> day of May 2025; was adopted.		
APPROVED:		

#### **APPROVED:**

	SAM JONES, PRESIDENT ST. MARY PARISH	
This ordinance was returned to the Clerk hour of	of the Council on thisday of	2025, at the
		EXHIBIT "A"
STATE OF LOUISIANA		
PARISH OF ST. MARY		
TOLLIE		

## THIRD AMENDMENT TO SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL AND LANDFILL LEASE

This **THIRD AMENDMENT TO SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL AND LANDFILL LEASE** ("<u>Third Amendment</u>") is made and entered into effective this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025 ("<u>Effective Date</u>") by and between:

EMERALD LAND CORPORATION, a Louisiana Corporation domiciled in St. Mary Parish, Louisiana, with its registered office in the city of Franklin, herein appearing through its Corporate Secretary, M. Taylor Darden, duly authorized by Resolution of its Board of Directors, a certified copy of which is annexed hereto, hereinafter referred to as LESSOR,

and

ST. MARY PARISH GOVERNMENT, the governing authority of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana, appearing herein through its Parish President, Sam Jones, duly authorized by Ordinance of the St Mary Parish Council, a certified copy of which is attached hereto, hereinafter referred to as <u>LESSEE</u>.

#### WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, by written agreement dated June 1, 1996 ("the <u>Lease</u>"), LESSOR leased to LESSEE that certain tract or parcel of land containing two hundred four (204) acres, more or less situated in Sections 3, 4, and 9 in Township 16 South, Range 12 East, St. Mary Parish, Louisiana, and outlined in red on the plat attached as Exhibit "A" to the Second Amendment to the Solid Waste Disposal and Landfill Lease for the purpose of constructing, maintaining and operating a controlled sanitary landfill area, a construction and demolition debris landfill area and/or a solid waste composting area.

WHEREAS, by Amendment to Solid Waste Disposal and Landfill Lease, dated effective October 1, 1998 ("the <u>First Amendment</u>"), LESSOR AND LESSEE amended the lease to provide, inter alia, that:

- (a) The Lease, as amended, covered and included the "Additional Property" referred to and described in the Amendment, which said Additional Property is shown on the plat attached to the Second Amendment as Exhibit "A";
- (b) The term of the Lease, as amended, was extended to June 30, 2009, or until the expiration of LESSEE'S operating permit, which ever occurred later, but in no event later than December 31, 2009;

- (c) The LESSEE agreed to pay additional and recalculated rent to the LESSOR during the term of the Lease, as amended, and for a limited period thereafter;
- (d) The LESSOR was granted a right of audit with respect to the calculation of rent due under the Lease, as amended; and
- (e) The LESSEE was permitted to fill the remaining unfilled portion of "CELL 3" to a maximum height of forty-two (42) feet, or such other maximum height as permitted by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality.

WHEREAS, by Second Amendment to Solid Waste Disposal and Landfill Lease, dated effective April 1, 2004 ("the <u>Second Amendment</u>"), LESSOR AND LESSEE amended the lease to provide, inter alia, that:

(a) The following described property was released and excluded from the Lease, as amended, to wit:

That certain tract of land located in St. Mary Parish, Louisiana, Sections 4 and 9, Township 16 South, Range 12 East. Said tract contains 241.93 acres. The above-described property is hereinafter referred to as the "Released Acreage".

(b) The following described property was added and included in the Lease, as amended, to wit:

That certain tract of land located in Sections 3, 4, 9 and 11, Township 16 South - Range 12 East, St. Mary Parish, Louisiana, containing 410.14 acres. The above-described property is hereinafter referred to as the "Supplemental Property" which said Supplemental Property is shown on the plat attached to the Second Amendment as Exhibit "B". The Supplemental Property, together with the property originally leased to LESSEE and the Additional Property (less and except the Released Acreage) is hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Leased Premises".

- (c) Article 3. The term of the Lease, as amended, was extended to June 30, 2035, or until the expiration of LESSEE'S operating permit, as amended, modified, or extended, which ever occurred later, but in no event later than December 31, 2035;
- (d) Article 4. The LESSEE agreed to pay the LESSOR: i) Annual Rent for the term of the Lease; ii) Additional Monthly Rent for the term of the Lease; iii) Industrial Solid Waste Material Surcharge for the term of the Lease; and iv) Post Termination Fee for the period extending from the termination of the Lease for any reason until the LESSEE is no longer required to provide post closure care of the landfill in accordance with all applicable rules and regulations in effect at that time.
  - i. Payment due dates were established.
  - ii. The Parties agreed that no change of address shall be effective until 45 days after written notices of such change was provided to the other Party.

- iii. Audit Rights were established such that the LESSEE shall keep reasonable and accurate records of the tonnage of solid waste material, including industrial solid waste material, disposed of on the Leased Premises. It was agreed that upon reasonable notice, LESSOR shall have the right to audit such records for any calendar year within the twenty-four (24) month period following the end of such calendar year; provided, however, that no more than one audit may be conducted by LESSOR during any calendar year.
- (e) Article 4A was added to the Lease establishing three conditions under which the payment terms in Article 4 could be renegotiated.

WHEREAS, LESSOR AND LESSEE desire further to amend the Lease in the particulars hereinafter set forth.

NOW THEREFORE, the parties hereto, in consideration of the foregoing and the mutual promises, covenants and agreements herein contained, hereby agree as follows:

1.

Subject to the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth, and the terms and conditions set forth in the Lease, as amended, and for the purposes as therein described and hereinafter described, and for the consideration hereinafter stipulated, LESSOR does hereby lease and let unto LESSEE the surface of the following described property situated in the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana, the areal extent of which is shown on the plat attached thereto as Exhibit "A", to wit:

That certain tract of land located in Sections 3, 4, 9 and 11, Township 16 South - Range 12 East, St. Mary Parish, Louisiana, containing 410.14 acres and is more fully described as follows:

**BEGINNING** at Point A having a Lambert Coordinate of X=3,306,721.64 and Y=424,583.15; **THENCE** in a northerly direction along the easterly side of a pipeline right of way these courses and distances: North 05°55'10" East for a distance of 1,695.04 feet; North 05°49'54" East for a distance of 1,061.11 feet to Point B, having a Lambert Coordinate of X=3,307,004.27 and Y=427,324.77; **THENCE** North 62°57'23" West for a distance of 149.64 feet to Point C, having a Lambert Coordinate of X=3,306,871.00 and Y=427,392.81; **THENCE** North 05°52'02" East for a distance of 1,083.91 feet to Point D, having a Lambert Coordinate of X=3,306,981.80 and Y=428,471.04; **THENCE** North 81°45'02" East for a distance of 144.44 to Point E along the easterly of a pipeline right of way, having a Lambert Coordinate of X=3,307,124.74 and Y=428,491.76; **THENCE** in a northerly direction along the easterly side of a pipeline right of way these courses and distances: North 05°49'58" East for a distance of 1,247.72 feet; North 05°48'42" East for a distance of 702.93 feet; North 06°16'10" East for a distance of 255.30 feet along the easterly side of a pipeline right of way to Point F on the southerly side of a pipeline right of way, having a Lambert Coordinate of X=3,307,350.60 and Y=430,686.11; **THENCE** in a northeasterly direction along the southerly side of a pipeline right of way these courses and distances: North 76°35'50" East for a distance of 1,055.37 feet; North 76°41'59" East for a distance of 1,600.51 feet; North 76°34'00" East for a distance of 784.18 feet to Point G, having a Lambert Coordinate of X=3,310,697.53 and Y=431,481.12; **THENCE** South 00°36'27" East for a distance of 2,249.37 feet along the line between Sections 3 and 4 to Point H, having a Lambert Coordinate of X=3,310,721.37 and Y=429,231.88; **THENCE** North 89°23'37" East for a distance of 165.52 feet to Point I, having a Lambert Coordinate of X=3,310,886.88 and Y=429,233.63; **THENCE** North 81°47'02" East for a distance of 1,163.48 feet to Point J, having a Lambert Coordinate of X=3,312,038.42 and Y=429,399.90; **THENCE** South 00°36'54" for a distance of 492.32 feet to Point K, having a Lambert Coordinate of X=3,312,043.70 and Y=428,907.61; **THENCE** along a line being parallel and 100 feet from the southeasterly edge of the Berwick Drainage Canal for a distance of approximately 6,900 feet to the **POINT OF BEGINNING**, all containing 410.14 acres, more fully shown on plat attached hereto as Exhibit "A", showing a portion of property of Emerald Land Corporation as Tracts A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K and A optioned for lease by St. Mary Parish Government, prepared by Professional Engineering and Surveying Company, Inc. dated November 26, 2002.

The above-described property is hereinafter referred to as the "Leased Premises" and all prior descriptions of the Leased Premises in the Lease, in the First Amendment, and the Second Amendment, are hereby deleted.

2.

Article 3 of the Lease, as amended, is hereby deleted in its entirety. In its place, the following paragraph is substituted:

"3.

This Lease, as amended, shall expire on June 30, 2055, or until the expiration of LESSEE'S standard operating permit, as amended, modified, or extended, whichever occurs later, but in no event later than December 31, 2055. Upon termination of this Lease for any reason, LESSEE shall close the landfill and provide post closure care of the landfill in accordance with all applicable rules and regulations then in effect regarding the closure of landfill operations conducted within the State of Louisiana."

3.

Article 4 of the Lease, as amended, is hereby deleted in its entirety. In its place, the following paragraphs are substituted:

"4.

The consideration for this Lease, as amended, is the payment by LESSEE to LESSOR of the cash rentals and fees (the Annual Rent, Additional Monthly Rent, and Post Termination Fees as hereinafter set forth), and the stipulations, agreements and obligations herein undertaken and agreed to by LESSEE, all of which are recognized as material parts of the consideration of this Lease without which LESSOR would not have executed this Lease, as amended.

- (a) **Annual Rent**. Commencing on June 1, 2025, LESSEE shall pay LESSOR as Annual Rent the sum of Nine Thousand Two Hundred Fifty-Eight and No/100 Dollars (\$9,258.00). Thereafter, for the remaining term of the Lease, as amended, i.e., through June 30, 2055 (or if LESSEE'S operating permit is extended, then to the expiration of said permit, or December 31, 2055, whichever occurs first), the Annual Rent shall be adjusted for inflation annually on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June. The Annual Rent shall be re-calculated using the following formula: The amount paid as Annual Rent the previous year multiplied by one (1) plus two-and one-half percent (2.5%).
- (b) Additional Monthly Rent. Commencing on January 1, 2026, and continuing through the remaining term of the Lease as amended, i.e., through June 30, 2055 (or if LESSEE'S operating

permit is extended, then to the expiration of said permit, or December 31, 2055, whichever occurs first), LESSEE shall pay LESSOR as Additional Monthly Rent an amount equal to Eleven percent (11%) of LESSEE's Public Tipping Fees (as defined herein) multiplied by each ton of solid waste material (including Out of Parish Solid Waste Material and Industrial Solid Waste Material, as defined herein) disposed of on the Leased Premises; provided, however, that the Additional Monthly Rent shall never be calculated on an amount less than LESSEE's current Public Tipping Fees, as shown on Exhibit "B", attached hereto and made a part hereof for all purposes unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the parties. The St. Mary Parish Council annually reviews and typically approves an increase in LESSEE's Public Tipping Fees by a minimum of One Dollar (\$1) per ton for each category of solid waste material on or about November 1st of each year ("Annual Increase in Public Tipping Fees"). LESSOR's Additional Monthly Rent shall be recalculated each year based on LESSEE's Public Tipping Fees, as approved by the St. Mary Parish Council. LESSEE will furnish LESSOR with a copy of LESSEE's then current Public Tipping Fees schedule annually as soon as the St. Mary Parish Council approves it. In the event, the St. Mary Parish Council's Annual Increase in Public Tipping Fees increases LESSEE's Public Tipping Fees by an amount less than \$1 per ton for each category of solid waste material disposed of on the Leased Premises annually (or not at all), LESSEE shall nevertheless calculate LESSOR's Additional Monthly Rent as if LESSEE's Public Tipping Fees had been increased by the St. Mary Parish Council by \$1 per ton for each category of solid waste material disposed of on the Leased Premises, unless LESSOR shall consent, in writing, to a lower annual increase (or no increase) in LESSEE's Public Tipping Fees schedule, which consent may be withheld by LESSOR for any reason LESSOR deems appropriate except as provided for in Article 4A(a) below.

- (c) As used herein, (i) "LESSEE's Public Tipping Fees" shall mean the fees that LESSEE charges the public and all other third parties for the disposal of all categories of solid waste material on the Leased Premises, as approved annually by the St. Mary Parish Council; (ii) "Out of Parish Solid Waste Material" means any solid waste material which is received and accepted by LESSEE from generators located more than five (5) miles outside the boundary of St. Mary Parish; and (iii) "Industrial Solid Waste Material" shall be defined consistent with the definition of "Industrial Solid Waste" as set forth in Louisiana Administrative Code Title 33:VII.115, as now or hereafter amended.
- reason, LESSEE shall pay LESSOR an annual Post Termination Fee, which amount shall be fixed and equal to the amount of the last Annual Rent paid under the terms and conditions of this Lease. The Post Termination Fee shall be paid in the same manner as the Annual Rent; provided, however, that if this Lease shall terminate on December 31, 2055, the first annual Post Termination Fee shall not be due and payable until June 1, 2056. LESSEE shall be obligated to pay the Post Termination Fee annually for so long as LESSEE is required to provide post closure care of the landfill in accordance with all applicable rules and regulations then in effect regarding the closure of landfill operations conducted within the State of Louisiana.

- (e) **Payment Due Dates**. The following due dates shall govern the payment of all rent and fees due under the Lease. All amounts due under the Lease shall be considered to have been properly paid when placed in the United States Mail, with adequate postage paid, to LESSOR'S address as shown above, on or before the following due date.
  - i. All Annual Rent payable under the Lease, as amended, shall be paid to LESSOR, in advance, on or before the 1<sup>st</sup> day of June of each such year;
  - ii. All Additional Monthly Rent shall be paid to LESSOR no later than the twentieth (20<sup>th</sup>) day following the month in which such solid waste material is disposed of on the Leased Premises; and
  - iii. All annual Post Termination Fees payable under the Lease shall be paid to LESSOR, in advance, on or before the 1<sup>st</sup> day of June of each such year.
- (f) **Change of Address**. No change of address of any party hereto shall be effective as to any other party hereto until forty-five (45) days after having been furnished with written notice of such change of address by Certified United States Mail, Return Receipt Requested.
- (g) Audit Rights. LESSEE shall keep reasonable and accurate records of the total volume (by ton) of solid waste material disposed of on the Leased Premises. Upon reasonable notice, LESSOR shall have the right to audit such records for any calendar year within the thirty-six (36) month period following the end of such calendar year; provided, however, that no more than one audit may be conducted by LESSOR during any calendar year."

4.

Article 4A of the Lease, as amended, is hereby deleted in its entirety. In its place, the following paragraphs are substituted:

"4A.

The financial terms and conditions of the Lease, as set forth in Paragraph 4, as amended, shall be subject to renegotiation only under the following circumstances:

- (a) In the event LESSEE's Public Tipping Fees charged for the disposal of solid waste material on the Leased Premises renders LESSEE's operation of the landfill uneconomic or non-competitive with other solid waste disposal facilities located within a fifty (50) mile radius of the Leased Premises; provided, however, that such conditions exist for a period of not less than twelve consecutive months; or
- (b) In the event LESSEE's Public Tipping Fees charged for the disposal of solid waste material on the Leased Premises are less than ninety (90%) percent, on average for all categories, of the fees and/or costs charged by the geographically nearest three (3) solid waste disposal facilities and/or solid waste transfer stations.

Either party may give the other party written Notice of its intent to re-negotiate the financial terms and conditions of Paragraph 4, as amended, of the Lease, setting forth the particulars, in reasonable detail, of the circumstances giving rise to the

right to re-negotiate. Within thirty (30) days of receipt of such Notice, the parties shall meet in a good faith effort to re-negotiate the amount of the Annual Rent, the Additional Monthly Rent, and the Post Termination Fee due under the then existing terms and conditions of the Lease. In the event the parties are unable to agree upon the amount to be charged, either party may elect to have the dispute referred to the American Arbitration Association for binding arbitration. The then current Commercial Arbitration Rules and Mediation Procedures of the American Arbitration Association shall govern the course and conduct of any such proceeding, except that the dispute shall be decided by one arbitrator mutually selected by the parties from a list supplied to them by the American Arbitration Association. The award of the arbitrator shall be prospective only. The arbitration shall be held in St Mary Parish, Louisiana, provided that LESSEE shall provide, at its sole cost and expense, a suitable location for said arbitration. All cost and expense of the arbitration shall be equally borne by LESSOR and LESSEE, regardless of the prevailing party."

5.

Article 5 of the Lease, as amended, is hereby deleted in its entirety. In its place, the following paragraphs are substituted:

"5.

LESSEE is authorized to fill the remaining unfilled portions of the existing landfill cells designated as Cell 3, Cell 3A, and Cell 4 to the maximum permitted areas and elevations approved in the most recent solid waste permit issued by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality.

LESSEE is authorized to study, design, permit, and construct a new landfill cell on the Leased Premises to be designated as Cell 5 which is to be located adjacent to the western side of existing Cell 4. LESSEE is further authorized to fill Cell 5 to the maximum permitted area and elevations approved in the most recent solid waste permit issued by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality and approved in permit(s) issued other applicable regulatory agencies. The Parties understand that approval of Cell 5 by the regulatory agencies is not guaranteed."

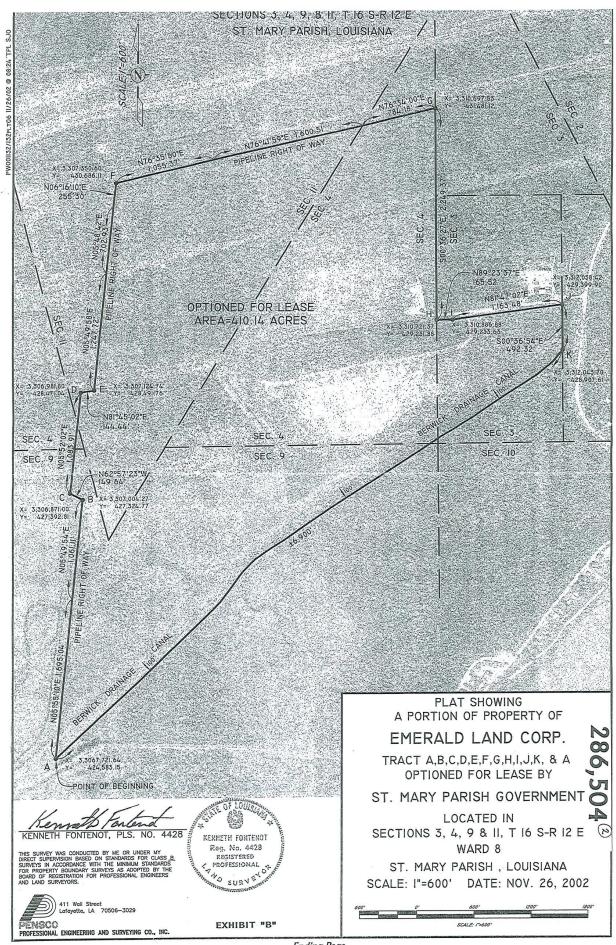
Except as specifically amended herein, all other terms and conditions of the Lease, as amended, shall remain in full force and effect.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED in the presence of the undersigned competent witnesses as of the Effective Date of this instrument even though the signatures may be affixed prior to or subsequent thereto.

WITNESSES:	LESSOR:
	EMERALD LAND CORPORATION
Print Name:	By: M. Taylor Darden, Corporate Secretary
Print Name:	Corporate Scoretary

	LESSEE:
	ST. MARY PARISH GOVERNMENT
Print Name:	By: Sam Jones, President
Print Name:	
STATE OF LOUISIANA	
PARISH OF ORLEANS	
personally appeared M. TAYLOR DAN Secretary of Emerald Land Corporation Disposal And Landfill Lease was signed	2025, before me, the undersigned Notary Public RDEN, who by me duly sworn did state that he is the Corporate on, and that the foregoing Third Amendment to Solid Wasted by him on behalf of said Corporation by authority of its Board wledged said instrument to be in the free act and deed of said
	Notary Public, State of Louisiana Print Name: Notary/Bar No.
STATE OF LOUISIANA	
PARISH OF ST. MARY	
personally appeared SAM JONES, who Parish, and that the foregoing Third A signed by him on behalf of said Parish	2025, before me, the undersigned Notary Public by me duly sworn did state that he is the President of St. Mary Amendment to Solid Waste Disposal And Landfill Lease was by authority of the St. Mary Parish Council and said appeare the free act and deed of St. Mary Parish Government.
	Notary Public, State of Louisiana Print Name: Notary/Bar No.

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## EXHIBIT "B"

	ST. MARY PARISH TIPPING FEE SCHEDULE HAROLD J. 'BABE' LANDRY SANITARY LANDFILL			
	WEST END PICK-UP STATION			
	EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 18, 2024			
TYF	E OF MATERIAL		TIPPIN	G FEES
1	GARBAGE	\$	59.50	PER TON
2	TRASH	\$		PER TON
3	WHITE GOODS	\$	- 50.50	PER TON
4	SLUDGE	\$		PER TON
5	GARBAGE/OUTSIDE	\$		PER TON
6	TRASH/OUTSIDE	\$	64.50	PER TON
7	GARBAGE WEEKEND INSIDE	\$	63.50	PER TON
8	TRASH WEEKEND INSIDE	\$	63.50	PER TON
9	GARBAGE & TRASH OUTSIDE WEEKEND	\$	72.00	PER TON
10	TIRES - UP TO 16.5" RIM	\$	1.00	PER TIRE
11	TIRES - UP TO 24.0" RIM	\$	6.00	PER TIRE
12	TIRES - FARM & SMALL AIRCRAFT	\$	20.00	PER TIRE
13	TIRES - LARGE AIRCRAFT 16"	\$	25.00	PER TIRE
14	TIRES - HEAVY EQUIPMENT/INDUSTRIAL	\$	200.00	PER TIRE
15	HOUSEHOLD	\$	-	PER TON
16	CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION DEBRIS (INSIDE)	\$	53.50	PER TON
17	CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION DEBRIS (OUTSIDE)	\$	59.50	PER TON
18	CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION DEBRIS (WEEKEND INSIDE)	\$	58.50	PER TON
19	CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION DEBRIS (WEEKEND OUTSIDE)	\$	66.50	PER TON
20	INDUSTRIAL WASTE	\$	75.50	PER TON
21	INDUSTRIAL WASTE OUTSIDE	\$	81.50	PER TON
22	INDUSTRIAL WASTE (WEEKEND INSIDE)	\$	80.50	PER TON
23	INDUSTRIAL WASTE (WEEKEND OUTSIDE)	\$	89.00	PER TON

Mr. Olander moved that the following Ordinances be adopted. Mr. Hebert seconded the motion, which carried by the following 11-0-0-0 Roll Call vote:

YEAS: Olander, Hill, Rulf, Hebert, Davis, Duhon, Adams, Rink, Hidalgo, Mathews, and Ina

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

## **ORDINANCE NO. 2394**

An Ordinance of the St. Mary Parish Council condemning the improvements consisting of an abandoned burnt house, situated at 9365 Hwy. 182, Centerville, Louisiana, Parcel ID No. 2474581029.00, as a result of same being in a dilapidated and dangerous condition which endangers the public welfare and ordering the demolition and removal of said improvements by the owner thereof in not less than sixty days from the effective date of this Ordinance.

#### **SECTION I.**

**WHEREAS**, Louisiana law, and in particular LSA-R.S. 33:4761 et seq. authorizes the governing authority of any Parish to condemn and cause to be demolished or removed any building or structure within the Parish when it is in a dilapidated and dangerous condition which endangers the public welfare;

**WHEREAS,** there has been submitted to the Parish a written report recommending the demolition and removal of certain structures, consisting of an abandoned burnt house, situated at 9365 Hwy. 182, Centerville, Louisiana, Parcel ID No. 2474581029.00, as a result of same being in a dilapidated and dangerous condition which endangers the public welfare;

**WHEREAS,** the Parish President has heretofore served upon the owner of the structures a notice requiring the owner to show cause at a meeting of this council why the structures should not be condemned, which notice provided the owner with the notice of the St. Mary Parish Council meeting to be held on May 14, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.;

**WHEREAS,** after hearing the evidence presented at the aforementioned Parish Council meeting, the Parish Council has determined that the structures in question are in fact in a dilapidated and dangerous condition which endangers the public welfare;

**WHEREAS**, it is the decision of this Council that the structures in question be condemned as a result of same being in a dilapidated and dangerous condition which endangers the public welfare.

## **SECTION II.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the St. Mary Parish Council, acting as the governing authority of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana that:

- I. The improvements, consisting of an abandoned burnt house, situated at 9365 Hwy. 182, Centerville, Louisiana, Parcel ID No. 2474581029.00 are hereby condemned as a result of the finding of this Council that same are in a dilapidated and dangerous condition which endangers the public welfare.
- J. Ray Rodrigues (99% owner and Adams Assets with Union Bank as secured party), the owner of said property, is hereby ordered to demolish and remove said improvements not less than sixty (60) days from the effective date of this Ordinance.
- K. In default of the owner complying with the order to demolish and remove the improvements, the Parish President may proceed with the demolition or removal of the condemned structures after giving notice to the owner and/or owner's agent and/or the attorney at law appointed to represent the owner giving the time when the work will begin upon the demolition and removal of the structures.
- L. In the event the Parish does perform the demolition and removal of the structures, or engages a third party or third parties to perform such demolition and removal, the Parish President is directed to file a lien and privilege upon the immovable and its improvements pursuant to the provisions of LSA-R.S. 33:4766.

## **SECTION III.**

This Ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.

## **SECTION IV.**

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

## **SECTION V.**

Should any provisions of this Ordinance be declared in violation of state law, the remaining portions shall remain in full force and effect.

This ordinance having been offered and read on this the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April 2025; having been published in accordance with law; and having been heard in a public hearing at Franklin, Louisiana on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025; was adopted.

day of May 2025; was adopted.	
	APPROVED:
	GWENDOLYN L. HIDALGO, CHAIRPERSON ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL
ATTEST:	
LISA C. MORGAN, CLERK ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL	
This ordinance was submitted to the Presidenthe hour of 9:09 a.m.	lent of St. Mary Parish on this the 20 <sup>th</sup> day of May 2025, at
	APPROVED:

This ordinance was returned to the Clerk of the Council on this the 20<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025, at the hour of 3:54 p.m.

## **ORDINANCE NO. 2395**

SAM JONES, PRESIDENT

ST. MARY PARISH

An Ordinance of the St. Mary Parish Council condemning the improvements consisting of an abandoned structure, situated at 141 Friendship Aly, Amelia, Louisiana, Parcel ID No. 3524241206.00, as a result of same being in a dilapidated and dangerous condition which endangers the public welfare and ordering the demolition and removal of said improvements by the owner thereof in not less than sixty days from the effective date of this Ordinance.

## **SECTION I.**

**WHEREAS**, Louisiana law, and in particular LSA-R.S. 33:4761 et seq. authorizes the governing authority of any Parish to condemn and cause to be demolished or removed any building or structure within the Parish when it is in a dilapidated and dangerous condition which endangers the public welfare;

**WHEREAS**, there has been submitted to the Parish a written report recommending the demolition and removal of certain structures, consisting of an abandoned burnt house, situated at 141 Friendship Aly, Amelia, Louisiana, Parcel ID No. 3524241206.00, as a result of same being in a dilapidated and dangerous condition which endangers the public welfare;

**WHEREAS,** the Parish President has heretofore served upon the owner of the structures a notice requiring the owner to show cause at a meeting of this council why the structures should not be condemned, which notice provided the owner with the notice of the St. Mary Parish Council meeting to be held on May 14, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.;

**WHEREAS,** after hearing the evidence presented at the aforementioned Parish Council meeting, the Parish Council has determined that the structures in question are in fact in a dilapidated and dangerous condition which endangers the public welfare;

**WHEREAS,** it is the decision of this Council that the structures in question be condemned as a result of same being in a dilapidated and dangerous condition which endangers the public welfare.

## **SECTION II.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the St. Mary Parish Council, acting as the governing authority of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana that:

- A. The improvements, consisting of an abandoned structure, situated at 141 Friendship Aly, Amelia, Louisiana, Parcel ID No. 3524241206.00 are hereby condemned as a result of the finding of this Council that same are in a dilapidated and dangerous condition which endangers the public welfare.
- B. Raymond Clark C/O Arthur Gray, the owner of said property, is hereby ordered to demolish and remove said improvements not less than sixty (60) days from the effective date of this Ordinance.
- C. In default of the owner complying with the order to demolish and remove the improvements, the Parish President may proceed with the demolition or removal of the condemned structures after giving notice to the owner and/or owner's agent and/or the attorney at law appointed to represent the owner giving the time when the work will begin upon the demolition and removal of the structures.
- D. In the event the Parish does perform the demolition and removal of the structures or engages a third party or third parties to perform such demolition and removal, the Parish President is directed to file a lien and privilege upon the immovable and its improvements pursuant to the provisions of LSA-R.S. 33:4766.

## **SECTION III.**

This Ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.

## **SECTION IV.**

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

## **SECTION V.**

Should any provisions of this Ordinance be declared in violation of state law, the remaining portions shall remain in full force and effect.

This ordinance having been offered and read on this the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April 2025; having been published in accordance with law; and having been heard in a public hearing at Franklin, Louisiana on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025; was adopted.

	APPROVED:
	GWENDOLYN L. HIDALGO, CHAIRPERSON ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL
ATTEST:	
LISA C. MORGAN, CLERK ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL	_
This ordinance was submitted to the Prethe hour of 9:09 a.m.	sident of St. Mary Parish on this the 20 <sup>th</sup> day of May 2025, at
	APPROVED:
	SAM JONES, PRESIDENT ST. MARY PARISH

This ordinance was returned to the Clerk of the Council on this the 20<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025, at the hour of 3:54 p.m.

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 2396**

An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 2254
Regarding Public Comment During Parish Council Meetings

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the St. Mary Parish Council, in regular session convened:

**SECTION 1.** That Ordinance Number 967, enacted on the 29th day of August, 1985, entitled "An Ordinance providing a procedure whereby persons shall be given an opportunity to be heard at meeting of the St. Mary Parish Council" was amended by Ordinance 2159 (2018) on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2018, styled "An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 967 (1985) Regarding Public Comment During Parish Council Meetings, was amended by Ordinance No. 2254 (2021) on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of May 2021 styled "An Ordinance amending Ordinance 2159 (2018) Regarding Public Comment during Parish Council Meetings is proposed to be amended to read as follows:

SECTION 2: Public Comment on Agenda Item upon which a vote is to be taken

A public comment section shall be placed at the beginning of each meeting, or at any other point on the agenda, to allow and encourage citizen comment to occur prior to any action on an agenda item

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, any person wishing to address the St. Mary Parish Council or its committees on matters appearing on the meeting agenda, upon which a vote is to be taken, shall complete a speaker participation sheet located in the meeting room that includes the name and address of the speaker, along with a brief description of the item or items about which they wish to speak.

Persons shall be given a period of five (5) minutes to address the Council, which may be extended by questions from the Council and at the discretion of the Chairman of the Council.

# SECTION 3. Public Comment on a matter relating to Parish government as noted in Section 2-07 (E) of the Home Rule Charter, which does not appear on the meeting agenda

Persons wishing to address the St. Mary Parish Council on a matter relating to Parish government as noted in Section 2-07 (E) of the Home Rule Charter which does not appear on the meeting agenda shall call the clerk of the Council and request to be placed on the agenda. Persons may be placed on the agenda by so requesting not later than 12 p.m. Noon on the Wednesday prior to the regular Wednesday meeting or in cases of a special meeting, two hours before the deadline for publication of the agenda of that meeting.

Persons shall be given a period of five (5) minutes to address the Council, which may be extended by questions from the Council and at the discretion of the Chairman of the Council.

This ordinance shall become effective and be in full force upon publication in the official journal of the Parish.

This ordinance having been offered and read on this the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April 2025, having been published in accordance with law and having been heard in a public meeting in Franklin, Louisiana on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025, was adopted.

	APPROVED:
	GWENDOLYN L. HIDALGO, CHAIRPERSON ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL
ATTEST:	
LISA C. MORGAN, CLERK ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL	

This ordinance was submitted to the President of St. Mary Parish on this the 20<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025, at the hour of 9:09 a.m.

**APPROVED:** 

SAI	M JON	ES, PRI	ESIDEN	NT	
		PARIS	111		

This ordinance was returned to the Clerk of the Council on this the 20<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025, at the hour of 3:54 p.m.

Dr. Rink moved that the following Resolutions be adopted. Mr. Duhon seconded the motion, which carried by the following 11-0-0-0 Roll Call vote:

YEAS: Hill, Rulf, Hebert, Davis, Duhon, Adams, Rink, Hidalgo, Mathews, Ina, and Olander

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

#### **RESOLUTION**

A Resolution providing for the approval and authorization for Change Order No. 1 relative to the Emergency Power Improvements at the St. Mary Parish Courthouse, FP&C Project No. 50-J51-21-01.

**WHEREAS**, a certain contract has been entered into between the St. Mary Parish Council and DXI Electric, LLC (formerly Dixie Electric, Inc.), 1306 Gulf Boulevard, New Iberia, Louisiana 70560, relative to the Emergency Power Improvements at the St. Mary Parish Courthouse Project, and

**WHEREAS**, the item as shown on Change Order No. 1 will result in an increase of 126 days in the contract time.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the St. Mary Parish Council does hereby approve the issuance of Change Order No. 1 covering an increase of 126 working days in the contract time for Emergency Power Improvements at the St. Mary Parish Courthouse, FP&C Project No. 50-J51-21-01.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the President of St. Mary Parish, Sam Jones, be and he is hereby authorized to execute Change Order No. 1 on behalf of the St. Mary Parish Council.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the St. Mary Parish Council in regular session convened on this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025.

	APPROVED:
	GWENDOLYN L. HIDALGO, CHAIRPERSON ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL
ATTEST:	
LISA C. MORGAN, CLERK ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL	-

## RESOLUTION

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the St. Mary Parish Council does hereby adopt and approve the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire for St. Mary Parish Sales & Use Tax Department as completed for year ending December 31, 2024.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the St. Mary Parish Council in regular session convened on this the 14th day of May 2025.

APPROVED:

GWENDOLYN L. HIDALGO, CHAIRPERSON ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL

ATTEST:

LISA C. MORGAN, CLERK ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL

#### **RESOLUTION**

Resolution authorizing the President to execute an agreement with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA DOTD) for improvements at the Harry P. Williams Memorial Airport.

**WHEREAS**, Act 451 of the 1989 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature authorized the financing of certain airport improvements from funds appropriated from the Transportation Trust Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, the St. Mary Parish Government has requested funding assistance from the LA DOTD to/for mill and overlay the runway; and

**WHEREAS**, the stated project has been approved by the Louisiana Legislature and the LA DOTD is agreeable to the implementation of this project and desires to cooperate with the St. Mary Parish Government according to the terms and conditions identified in the attached Agreement; and

**WHEREAS,** the LA DOTD will provide the necessary funding for the mill and overlay the runway and reimburse the sponsor up to \$300,000.00 of project cost.

**NOW THEREFORE**, **BE IT RESOLVED**, by the St. Mary Parish Government that it does hereby authorize the President to execute an Agreement for the project identified as AIP No. 3-22-0044-027-2024 and SPN H.016181, more fully identified in the Agreement attached hereto, and to execute any subsequent related documents, including, but not limited to, amendments to said agreement.

**ADOPTED AND APPROVED** by the St. Mary Parish Council in regular session convened on this the  $14^{th}$  day of May 2025.

D by	the St. Mary Parish Council in regular session conve
	APPROVED:
	GWENDOLYN L. HIDALGO CHAIRPERSON ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL

ATTEST:	
	ORGAN, CLERK PARISH COUNCIL
	A Resolution approving

## RESOLUTION

A Resolution approving and authorizing Sam Jones, the President of the Parish of St. Mary to execute a contract with Del-Con, LLC relative to the Emergency Power and Facility Improvements at the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Warehouse for St. Mary Parish Government, FP&C Project No. 50-J51-23-04, upon receipt of concurrence from the State of Louisiana, Office of Facility Planning & Control.

**BE IT RESOLVED,** that Sam Jones, President of the Parish of St. Mary, be and he is hereby authorized and directed, for and on behalf of the Parish Council, to execute a contract in the amount of \$220,315.00 with Del-Con, LLC, P.O. Box 916, Berwick, LA 70342, relative to the Emergency Power and Facility Improvements at the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Warehouse for St. Mary Parish Government, FP&C Project No. 50-J51-23-04, upon receipt of concurrence from the State of Louisiana, Office of Facility Planning & Control, with said contract to contain such terms, conditions, and stipulations as he may best see fit, he being fully authorized in the premises.

**ADOPTED AND APPROVED** by the St. Mary Parish Council in regular session convened on this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025.

	APPROVED:
	GWENDOLYN L. HIDALGO, CHAIRPERSON ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL
ATTEST:	
LISA C. MORGAN, CLERK ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL	

## RESOLUTION

A Resolution providing for the approval and authorization for Change Order No. 1 relative to the Renovations to Quintana Boat Launch project.

**WHEREAS**, a certain contract has been entered into between the St. Mary Parish Council and Diverse Solutions, LLC, 3614 W. Old Spanish Trail, New Iberia, LA 70560, relative to the Renovations to Quintana Boat Launch project, and

**WHEREAS**, the item as shown on Change Order No. 1 will result in an increase of \$60,417.00 in the contract price and an increase of 15 days in the contract time.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the St. Mary Parish Council does hereby approve the issuance of Change Order No. 1 covering an increase of \$60,417.00 in the contract price and 15 working days in the contract time to the Renovations to Quintana Boat Launch project.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the President of St. Mary Parish, Sam Jones, be and he is hereby authorized to execute Change Order No. 1 on behalf of the St. Mary Parish Council.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the St. Mary Parish Council in regular session convened on this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025.

	APPROVED:
	GWENDOLYN L. HIDALGO, CHAIRPERSON ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL
ATTEST:	
LISA C. MORGAN, CLERK	_
ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL	

Mr. Olander stated that the project came in under bid and those funds will be used for other improvements to Quintana Boat Launch.

#### RESOLUTION OF ACCEPTANCE

A Resolution authorizing and directing the President to execute for and on behalf of the Parish of St. Mary, a Certificate of Substantial Completion from Barriere Construction, Co., LLC relative to the Harry P. Williams Memorial Airport Runway & Taxiway Overlay Project.

**WHEREAS,** Barriere Construction, Co., LLC, 808 Woodland Drive – 2nd Floor, LaPlace, Louisiana 70068, relative to the, has substantially completed the Harry P. Williams Memorial Airport Runway & Taxiway Overlay Project.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Parish of St. Mary that the President be, and he is hereby empowered, authorized, and directed to execute a Certificate of Substantial Completion for and on behalf of the Parish of St. Mary accepting Harry P. Williams Memorial Airport Runway & Taxiway Overlay Project.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that he be authorized and directed to have a copy of said Certificate of Substantial Completion recorded in the mortgage records of St. Mary Parish, Louisiana.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the St. Mary Parish Council in regular session convened on this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025.

**APPROVED:** 

GWENDOLYN L. HIDALG	O. CHAIRPERSON

ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL

ATTEST:	
LISA C. MORGAN, CLERK ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL	
RESOLUTION	
A Resolution providing for the approval and autonomous No. 3 relative to Asphaltic Concrete Overla Project.	
WHEREAS, a certain contract has been entered into be Huey P. Stockstill, LLC, P.O. Box 758, Picayune, MS 39466, Lake Palourde Road Project, and	
<b>WHEREAS</b> , the items as shown on Change Order No in the contract price and an increase of 21 days in the contract	
<b>NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED</b> , that the approve the issuance of Change Order No. 3 covering a decrand an increase of 21 days in the contract time for Asphaltic C Project.	rease of \$7,908.50 in the contract price
<b>BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED</b> that the President of is hereby authorized to execute Change Order No. 3 on behalf	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the St. Mary Pari on this the 14 <sup>th</sup> day of May 2025.	sh Council in special session convened
APPROVED:	
	L. HIDALGO, CHAIRPERSON RISH COUNCIL
ATTEST:	

I ICA C MODCAN CLEDY

## LISA C. MORGAN, CLERK ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL

## RESOLUTION OF ACCEPTANCE

A Resolution authorizing and directing the President to execute for and on behalf of the Parish of St. Mary, a Certificate of Substantial Completion from Huey P. Stockstill, LLC relative to the Asphaltic Concrete Overlay of Lake Palourde Road Project.

**WHEREAS,** Huey P. Stockstill, LLC, P.O. Box 758, Picayune, MS 39466, relative to the, has substantially completed the Asphaltic Concrete Overlay of Lake Palourde Road Project.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Parish of St. Mary that the President be, and he is hereby empowered, authorized, and directed to execute a Certificate of Substantial Completion for and on behalf of the Parish of St. Mary accepting the Asphaltic Concrete Overlay of Lake Palourde Road Project.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that he be authorized and directed to have a copy of said Certificate of Substantial Completion recorded in the mortgage records of St. Mary Parish, Louisiana.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the St. Mary Parish Council in regular session convened on this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025.

APPROVED:
GWENDOLYN L. HIDALGO, CHAIRPERSON ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL
SI. MARI PARISH COUNCIL

Mr. Hebert moved to adopt Item 14J, "Referred from the February 11, 2025, Council meeting - Resolution removing the Board of Commissioners of St. Mary Parish Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 2A and authorizing the Chief Administrative Officer to immediately assume the responsibilities of operating the aforesaid Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 2A including signing checks, be a signer on bank accounts, contracts, and other documents related to its proper operations until new members of the Board of Commissioners are appointed by the Parish Council and sworn in." Mr. Davis seconded the motion.

Peter "Dutch" Vandenaardweg stated that he worked for Wax Lake East Drainage District for 10 years. He expounded on consolidation, pumps in Bayou Vista and Morgan City, and designs of the pump stations. He gave his opinions on the responsibility of the Parish and suggested that Morgan City should pump their own water.

Discussion was had relative to the millage, how it contributes to drainage in Morgan City, that the Home Rule Charter gives the Parish the authority to establish boards and commissions, and that the Council appoints those members.

Mr. Duhon stated that he was delivering generators during Hurricane Francine and that half of the pumps were broken.

Former St. Mary Parish President, David Hanagriff stated that he is in support of removing members of Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 2A (CGDD 2A).

Don Hicks appeared before the Council and stated that his resignation from Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 2A is on the agenda tonight because he did not agree with the way things were being run and that his effort to make change was unsuccessful.

In response to Mr. Duhon's inquiry, Mr. Hicks stated he has not received any of the documents he requested from Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 2A. Mr. Duhon stated that President Jones requested documents and have not received them. Rev. Mathews explained the public records request process.

Mr. Adams stated that several pump motors have been nonoperational for years. He stated that funding was already allocated for a project for Lakeside Subdivision to enclose it in the Levee District for flood protection. He expounded on the importance of Council Members to attend Boards and Commissions meetings and stated that Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 2A has valuable members. He also expounded on the Parish not having an inspector to inspect all projects.

Mr. Duhon stated that in preparation of Hurricane Francine, he asked Chuck Walters if lateral ditches in Amelia needed to be dug and to this day, the ditches are still not dug. He also stated that Dean Duplantis informed that his employer's buildings were being flooded and that the President of SMIG business also flooded. He stated that the district has \$1.5 million which is controlled by Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 2A.

After discussion, Rev. Mathews expounded on the definition of dysfunctional service and called for the question.

After further discussion, Rev. Mathews withdrew his motion to call for the question to allow Mr. Hebert to participate in discussion.

Mr. Hebert stated that he made a formal request for four (4) items on March 10, 2025 to Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 2A that took six weeks to receive. He requested to receive written minutes and audio recordings of the meetings that discussed returning the excavator at the end of the lease, approving a new lease for the new excavator, and which members voted for or against it. He also requested a copy of the lease agreement/paperwork showing the cost that the district could have purchased the excavator for and a copy of the invoice showing the cost of repairs. He stated that \$27,000 was paid for repairs on the leased excavator that only had 3,100 hours, when it could have been purchased for \$75,000. He also stated that they returned the leased excavator and ended up leasing a brand new excavator for \$5,000 per month for four (4) years. He stated he finally received three years of audio recordings that he did listen to and gathered information. He informed that he also requested 12 months of weekly reports from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 that shows inspections and notes on the pumps and also requested the written minutes and audio recordings of the meetings that take action on the pump repairs from January 1, 2024 until the flood caused by Hurricane Francine in September 2024. He stated that he received reports from March-August 2024 that show the rental pumps were repeatedly switched from auto power to manual and/or had to get jumped off to get it started/run. He also requested the written minutes and audio recordings of the meeting that approved renting the pumps, the delivery date, the pickup date, and the invoices. He stated that in the August 2024 minutes, the auditor found they were spending \$27,000 a month on rented pumps. Mr. Hebert questioned when was the original date that they began renting the pumps. He also stated that at the August 2024 meeting, the board voted to get rid of the rented pumps, just before Hurricane Francine hit in September 2024.

In response to Mr. Olander's inquiry, Mr. Hebert stated that the early payoff or purchase of the excavator is stated in the lease agreement.

In response to Mr. Hebert's inquiry regarding who authorized this, board member Don Hicks stated that according to the minutes, the board did not vote on this. He expounded on decisions that were not made at the board level and the monthly pumps rental costs.

In response to Dr. Rink's inquiry, Mr. Hicks expounded on pumps that were moved from Pump Station No. 3 to Pump Station No. 9. Dr. Rink stated that the current board did not cause the issues, they inherited the problems of Pump Station No. 9. Discussion was had relative to the pumps' capacity to maintain daily operations and what functions will be in place to run it with no board.

Mr. Governale stated that he has received several calls from concerned citizens of Morgan City and that if the board is removed tonight, he will begin organizing whatever is necessary.

In response to Rev. Mathews' inquiry, Dr. Rink stated that a previous board (several boards ago) adopted a resolution allowing whoever the chairperson is at the time to make decisions. She expounded on the board's monthly financial report that is submitted at their monthly meeting and also expounded on the water level of pumps and the moving of pumps from Pump Station No. 3 to Pump Station No. 9.

Mr. Hanagriff stated that the drainage board was in place before any cement was even poured to build the pump station. He also stated that only two pumps were supposed to be moved but all four (4) were moved. Additional discussion was had relative to the purchase of the excavator.

After discussion, Mr. Hill called for the question. Rev. Mathews seconded the motion, which carried by the following 11-0-0-0 Roll Call vote:

YEAS: Rulf, Hebert, Davis, Duhon, Adams, Rink, Hidalgo, Mathews, Ina, Olander, and Hill

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Mr. Hebert moved that the following Resolution be adopted. Mr. Davis seconded the motion, which carried by the following 8-3-0-0 Roll Call vote:

YEAS: Hebert, Davis, Duhon, Hidalgo, Mathews, Ina, Olander, and Hill

Adams, Rink, and Rulf NAYS:

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

## RESOLUTION

Resolution removing the Board of Commissioners of St. Mary Parish Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 2A and authorizing the Chief Administrative Officer to immediately assume the responsibilities of operating the aforesaid Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 2A including signing checks, be a signer on bank accounts, contracts, and other documents related to its proper operations until new members of the Board of Commissioners are appointed by the Parish Council and sworn in.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the St. Mary Parish Council is hereby removing the Board of Commissioners of St. Mary Parish Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 2A and authorizing the Chief Administrative Officer to immediately assume the responsibilities of operating the aforesaid Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 2A including signing checks, be a signer on bank

accounts, contracts, and other documents Board of Commissioners are appointed by	related to its proper operations until new members of the Parish Council and sworn in.
<b>ADOPTED AND APPROVED</b> b on this the 14 <sup>th</sup> day of May 2025.	y the St. Mary Parish Council in regular session conve
	APPROVED:
	GWENDOLYN L. HIDALGO, CHAIRPERSON ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL
ATTEST:	
LISA C. MORGAN, CLERK	
ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL	

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Don Hicks has emailed on April 23, 2025, to resign from the Consolidated Gravity Drainage District 2A effectively immediately.

Mr. Hicks will be sent a letter thanking him for his service and the vacancy will be advertised.

B. Appointments to the following Boards and Commissions:

## **Drainage District No. 6 (Amelia) – 1 Vacancy**

No applications received.

Mr. Duhon stated that he previously tabled this item. Lisa Morgan stated that she will research to see if it has been longer than six (6) months and whether the vacancy has to be readvertised.

## Fire Protection District No. 2 (Centerville) – 1 Vacancy

Alton Broussard – Present Member

Mr. Olander moved that Alton Broussard be reappointed to Fire Protection District No. 2. Dr. Rink seconded the motion, which carried.

## Recreation District No. 5 (Four Corners, Sorrell & Glencoe) – 1 Vacancy

No applications received.

There being no further business, Mr. Olander moved for adjournment. Rev. Mathews seconded the motion, which carried.

sa C. Morgan, Clerk	Gwendolyn L. Hidalgo, Chairperson	