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WEST FELICIANA PARISH HOSTS REGION VI MEETING IN ST. FRANCISVILLE
2027 Meeting Host Announced: Washington Parish

ST. FRANCISVILLE, La. — West Feliciana Parish Government hosted the Police Jury Association of Louisiana (PJAL) Region VI meeting Sept. 2 at The Freyhan Center, bringing together parish leaders, state officials and regional stakeholders for discussions on economic development, workforce initiatives, legislation and local government.

The meeting featured remarks from Hailey Miller, senior director of public affairs for Hut 8; state Rep. Chance Henry; PJAL President Robby Miller; and PJAL Executive Director Guy Cormier.

Hailey Miller discussed the importance of community engagement when implementing major projects and emphasized that the success of a project should be measured by the positive impact it has on the community. Miller also discussed Hut 8's data center project in West Feliciana Parish, including workforce development and the importance of creating opportunities for residents. The project represents a \$10 billion investment.

Rep. Henry provided information about the Louisiana Tax Exemption for Rehabilitated Property Amendment. The proposed amendment would allow optional property tax exemptions for blighted or derelict properties that have been rehabilitated. Henry encouraged attendees to vote "yes" on the Nov. 3 ballot.

Cormier discussed Constitutional Amendments 2 and 10 on the Nov. 3 ballot. Amendment 2 addresses the ability of a taxing authority to levy a millage rate below the maximum authorized rate under certain circumstances, while Amendment 10 addresses property tax exemptions for rehabilitated blighted or derelict property. Both amendments are supported by PJAL.

He also noted that, thanks to all 64 parishes, Louisiana is now a 100% membership state with the National Association of Counties (NACo), giving Louisiana an additional seat on the organization's executive board.

Cormier announced that the PJAL plans to expand its in-person and web-based training opportunities for members. He encouraged attendees to participate in the Legal Horizons conference, scheduled for Sept. 22-24, and noted that the conference is open to attorneys representing parishes, elected officials and employees of parish governing bodies.

Robby Miller invited attendees to the PJAL Annual Convention, scheduled for March 3-5, 2027, at the Golden Nugget in Lake Charles. He closed by praising West Feliciana Parish Government

and his home parish for the success of the National Association of Counties. He recognized the hard work of Ronda Durbin and Connie Henry of Tangipahoa Parish, who served as leaders of the Region VI area.

Region VI members re-elected Martha Cazaubon of St. Tammany Parish, Brigitte Hyde of Tangipahoa Parish and Louis Kent of East Feliciana Parish to the Region VI Resolutions Committee. Members also re-elected Pam Alonso as the Region VI executive board member. Cormier praised Alonso for her service to the region.

West Feliciana Parish President Kenny Havard closed the meeting by thanking the elected officials in attendance and recognizing their commitment to serving their communities. "I know you all ran because you wanted to do what's best for your parish," Havard said.

The PJAL extends its appreciation to the West Feliciana Parish Government team for hosting the Region VI meeting in St. Francisville and providing a historic setting for regional leaders to gather and discuss issues affecting their communities.

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