

House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs

Minutes of Meeting
2026 Regular Session
April 16, 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Foy Bryan Gadberry, chair of the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs, called the meeting to order at 12:09 p.m. in Room 6, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Foy Bryan Gadberry, chair
Representative Beth Anne Billings
Representative Kim Carver
Representative Vincent E. Cox, III
Representative Jessica Domangue
Representative Barbara Reich Freiberg, vice chair
Representative Dana Henry
Representative Steven Jackson
Representative Alonzo L. Knox
Representative Rodney Lyons
Representative C. Denise Marcelle
Representative Patricia "Pat" Moore
Representative Ed Murray
Representative Paul Sawyer
Representative Joseph A. Stagni

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Les Farnum

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tina Righteous, attorney
Jairelle Ross, committee administrative assistant
Sarah Baker, committee assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Hannah Tassin, clerk
Janet Anthony, sergeant at arms
Angela McKnight, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

House Bill No. 990 by Representative Lyons

Representative Lyons presented House Bill No. 990, which provides for a privilege in favor of parishes, sewerage districts, and waterworks districts for certain unpaid service charges or user fees.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 990 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 990 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Cox, Domangue, Freiberg, Knox, Lyons, Marcelle, Moore, Murray, Sawyer, and Stagni voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 1087 by Representative Adams

Representative Adams presented House Bill No. 1087, which authorizes the city of Zachary to use certain inmates to cut grass in certain cemeteries.

James Whitaker, city of Zachary, 4700 Main Street, Zachary, LA 70791, spoke in support of House Bill No. 1087.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1087 favorably. Representative Marcelle withdrew her motion to report House Bill No. 1087 favorably.

Representative Jackson offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 1087. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 1087 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Freiberg, Dana Henry, Jackson, Knox, Lyons, Marcelle, Moore, Murray, and Sawyer voted yea.

House Bill No. 893 by Representative Knox

Representative Knox presented House Bill No. 893, which provides relative to the New Orleans Sewerage and Water Board.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 893 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 893 was reported favorably by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Freiberg, Dana Henry, Jackson, Knox, Lyons, Marcelle, Moore, Murray, Sawyer, and Stagni voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 1007 by Representative Knox

Representative Knox presented House Bill No. 1007, which creates the Faubourg Nouveau Marigny Improvement District in Orleans Parish.

Representative Gadberry offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1007 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 1007 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Freiberg, Dana Henry, Jackson, Knox, Lyons, Moore, Murray, Sawyer, and Stagni voted yea.

House Bill No. 1153 by Representative Coates

Representative Coates presented House Bill No. 1153, which authorizes parishes and municipalities to declare bans on burning.

Representative Carver offered amendments to:

- (1) Add a requirement that a governing authority of a parish lift a ban on burning when the fire risk has decreased.
- (2) Add a requirement that a governing authority of a parish publish a notice of a burn ban in the official parish journal.
- (3) Remove the requirement that a governing authority of a parish provide reasonable notice of a burn ban through certain means and add an authorization for the governing authority to provide additional notice through certain means.
- (4) Remove language from the proposed law specifying that certain violations of proposed law are a misdemeanor or felony.

Representative Carver offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Freiberg, Dana Henry, Jackson, Knox, Lyons, Moore, Sawyer, and Stagni voted yea.

Guy Cormier, Police Jury Association of Louisiana, 207 North Seventh Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in support of House Bill No. 1153.

Shane Spillman, Professional Firefighters, 8011 Merle Gustafson, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in support of House Bill No. 1153.

Representative Domangue offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1153 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 1153 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Carver, Domangue, Freiberg, Dana Henry, Jackson, Knox, Lyons, Moore, Sawyer, and Stagni voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 1215 by Representative Bayham

Representative Bayham presented House Bill No. 1215, which provides relative to the disposition of certain historical statues and monuments.

Representative Gadberry offered amendments to:

- (1) Provide that proposed law applies to any historical statue or monument that is removed on or after August 1, 2006, and that is in the possession of the public entity.
- (2) Remove the requirement that a public entity provides for the delivery of a historical statue or monument that is removed from public display to the office of state parks and require that a public entity coordinate with the office of state parks to provide for the delivery of a historical statue or monument that is removed from public display to the office of state parks.
- (3) Prohibit the office of state parks from placing a historical statue or monument in the parish from which it was removed.
- (4) Provide that proposed law shall not be construed to supersede present law (R.S. 44:406) relative to the collection of records by the state archivist.

Representative Gadberry offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Freiberg, Dana Henry, Jackson, Knox, Lyons, Moore, Sawyer, and Stagni voted yea.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1215 with amendments. No vote was taken.

Representative Jackson offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 1215. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 1215 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Freiberg, Dana Henry, Jackson, Knox, Lyons, Moore, Murray, Sawyer, and Stagni voted yea.

House Bill No. 362 by Representative Newell

Representative Newell presented House Bill No. 362, which creates the Regency Park Townhomes Crime Prevention and Security District in Orleans Parish.

Representative Gadberry offered a motion to report House Bill No. 362 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 362 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Cox, Domangue, Freiberg, Dana Henry, Jackson, Knox, Lyons, Moore, Murray, and Stagni voted yea.

House Bill No. 484 by Representative Newell

Representative Newell presented House Bill No. 484, which provides relative to the New Orleans Regional Business Park.

Maria Julianna Auzenne, New Orleans Regional Business Park, 1615 Poydras Street, Suite 900, New Orleans, LA 70112, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 484.

Representative Domangue offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 484. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 484 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Freiberg, Dana Henry, Jackson, Knox, Lyons, Moore, Murray, Sawyer, and Stagni voted yea.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Jackson offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Freiberg, Dana Henry, Jackson, Knox, Lyons, Moore, Murray, Sawyer, and Stagni voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chair Foy Bryan Gadberry
House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs

Date adopted: