

**Louisiana Bridge Association
BOD Meeting Minutes
February 2026**

DATE: February 9, 2026

Meeting called to order at: 1:30

Attending: Keenan Romig, John Hurley, Glenn Barnett, Charles Waldrop, Vicki Willis, Mike Russell, Sherrie Goodman, Beth Bayer, Hans Jonassen, Carolyn Stolz and Newt Jackson

Absent: None

January minutes we adopted.

Finance: John presented an overview of the transition and makeover of the finance system that is in process. Assisted by Carolyn, they have only recently had access to bank records and are making over the chart of accounts in QuickBooks to more easily see the club's overall financial situation. An EOM P&L and Balance Sheet were not available at the time of the meeting.

John presented a proposed budget for FY 2026 showing an approximate \$4,000 profit for the year. Two key factors in whether this proposed budget will reflect actual operations depend on income from BBO and RealBridge and a year without a major expenditure on building repair/maintenance.

The board approved the budget as presented.

Gulf Coast Bank: In order to reduce the number of hand checks that must be written and to make the payments to directors more efficient, the club will move to using Zelle for payments. The shift will be on a step-by-step basis to maximize effectiveness. A new and separate email account for the club will be needed to optimize this operation. Sherrie will coordinate with the treasurer to implement this plan.

Schwab: As part of the Financial transition, the board approved creating a new investment account with Schwab and transferring the club's investments into the account. John, Newt and Mike will meet with Schwab to set up that account.

Club Manager: RealBridge participation is growing. Sherrie again emphasized to monetary difference between club members playing on BBO vs RealBridge. **RealBridge is far and away a better deal for our club than BBO. Members are urged to support our club by using RealBridge as opposed to BBO.** Sherrie will explore an introductory RealBridge session at the club to assist members in logging in and setting up a RealBridge account.

Tournaments: Vicki's recruitment committee will recruit a chair for upcoming tournaments and recruit a volunteer to lead **The Longest Day which will be on Saturday June 20th.**

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Maintenance & Beautification: No notable repairs or expenses for January. Beth has undertaken a thorough review of various contracts for maintenance and presented several options for waste pick-up, lawn and janitorial. The board approved recommendation to move to IV Waste for dumpster contract. A new service was approved for lawn and grounds maintenance. These two changes will save approximately \$1,800 per year. Beth is still working on finalizing quotes for janitorial work. She will also get quotes to install programmable thermostats.

Senior Games: The Greater New Orleans Senior Games presents a wide variety of activities for anyone over 50. This year the LBA will host a one afternoon bridge tournament on Wednesday April 22. Members who are interested can see flyers and a poster are in the club. Questions can be directed to Mike Russell or Raphael Velazquez.

Our Vicki Willis was elected to President of ACBL District 10. Congratulations.

Meeting Adjourned: 2:40

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Russell, Recording Secretary