

Louisiana Real Estate Commission
State of Louisiana

Office of the Governor

JEFF LANDRY
GOVERNOR



TAYLOR F. BARRAS
COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATION

NOVEMBER 20, 2025
MEETING MINUTES

On Thursday, November 20, 2025, the Louisiana Real Estate Commission (“LREC” and/or “Commission”) conducted its regularly scheduled, monthly meeting in-person and at the Commission’s domicile office located at 9071 Interline Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70809 in accordance with La. R.S. 37:1430 *et seq* and other applicable law.

Commission Members Present:

Mr. Joseph Pappalardo, Jr., Chair (Sup. Ct. Dist. 7)	Ms. Synde Devillier, Vice Chair (Sup. Ct. Dist. 6)
Mr. Theodore Major, Secretary (At-Large)	Ms. Hanna Chustz (Sup. Ct. Dist. 5)
Mr. Tony Cornner (3 rd Congress. Dist.)	Mr. Jeff Free (Sup. Ct. Dist. 2)
Ms. Doneva Halphen (Sup. Ct. Dist. 1)	Ms. Carole Horn (At-Large)
Mr. Matt Ritchie (Sup. Ct. Dist. 4)	Ms. Gladys Smith-Coward (Sup. Ct. Dist. 5)

Commission Members Absent:

Ms. Paula Duncan (Sup. Ct. Dist. 3)

Staff Present:

Ms. Summer S. Mire, Executive Director	Mr. Thomas E. Devillier, Dep. Dir. / Exec. Counsel
Ms. Arlene Edwards, General Counsel	Mr. Rhett Bordelon
Ms. Karen Carey	Ms. Dusty Evans
Ms. Malissa Fowler	Ms. Telly Hollis
Ms. Jessica Neal	Ms. Allison OToole
Ms. Linda Pham	Mr. Jeremy Travis
Ms. Jenny Yu	Ms. Nikki Wallace
Ms. Tiffany Williams	

Others Present:

Mr. Luke Bullock, Louisiana REALTORS

Ms. Caitlyn Connelly, Court Reporter

Mr. Wardell Coward

Ms. Caitlyn Connelly, Court Reporter

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Pappalardo called the meeting to order at or about 10:00 a.m. A roll call was conducted in open meeting. See attendance detailed above. Secretary Major led the invocation, and Chairman Pappalardo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTARY

None.

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Vice Chair Devillier made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Free, and unanimously approved to adopt the minutes of the August 21, 2025, Standardized Forms Subcommittee Meeting (Exhibit A), the minutes of the October 15, 2025, Standardized Forms Subcommittee Meeting (Exhibit B), and the minutes of the October 16, 2025, Regular Meeting (Exhibit C) as written and circulated.

IV. PERSONAL APPEARANCES

1. Case No. 2025-1527; In re: Orlando R. Porche: Mr. Porche requested an eligibility determination and applied for authorization to obtain a real estate license in accordance with La. R.S. 37:1430 *et seq.* Secretary Major recused himself from voting prior to the start of the discussion. Mr. Porche was placed under oath by Ms. Connelly. Ms. Pham presented information regarding hearing procedure and questioned Mr. Porche, who confirmed on record that he waived all objections to introduction of the proposed *Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order* and related exhibit evidence (Exhibit D). Commissioner Smith-Coward made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Cornner, and unanimously approved to introduce all records and exhibit evidence submitted *en globo*. Ms. Pham provided an opening statement and factual summary of the case, including but not limited to criminal history records information and other details that led to Mr. Porche appearing before the Commission. Mr. Porche then proceeded with his testimony and responded to Commissioner questions. Following Mr. Porche's testimony, Commissioner Halphen made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Chustz, to formally adopt the proposed *Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order* and related exhibit evidence and to approve Mr. Porche's authorization to obtain a real estate license in accordance with law. A roll call vote was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.

2. Case No. 2025-1624; In re: Jordan A. Escobar: Mr. Escobar requested an eligibility determination and applied for authorization to obtain a real estate license in accordance with La. R.S. 37:1430 *et seq.* Secretary Major recused himself from voting prior to the start of the discussion. Mr. Escobar was placed under oath by Ms. Connelly. Ms. Pham presented information regarding hearing

procedure and questioned Mr. Escobar, who confirmed on record that he waived all objections to introduction of the proposed *Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order* and related exhibit evidence (Exhibit E). Commissioner Halphen made a motion, which was seconded by Vice Chair Devillier, and unanimously approved to introduce all records and exhibit evidence submitted *en globo*. Ms. Pham provided an opening statement and factual summary of the case, including but not limited to criminal history records information and other details that led to Mr. Escobar appearing before the Commission. Mr. Escobar then proceeded with his testimony and responded to Commissioner questions. Following Mr. Escobar's testimony, Commissioner Cornner made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Smith-Coward, to formally adopt the proposed *Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order* and related exhibit evidence and to approve Mr. Escobar's authorization to obtain a real estate license in accordance with law. A roll call vote was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Budget. Commissioner Cornner reported regarding the Commission's current budget report (Exhibit F).
2. Education. Vice Chair Devillier reminded the Commissioners of the upcoming "Train the Trainer" seminars, stating she would be attending the Kenner seminars.
3. Legal / Legislative. Commissioner Horn provided a recap of the Legal/Legislative Subcommittee meeting on Wednesday, November 19. Commissioner Horn stated a follow-up meeting will be held in early 2026 to further review the proposed rule revisions.
4. Standardized Forms. Commissioner Halphen and Ms. Mire provided an update regarding the agency's mandatory forms, stating the documents are now available on the Commission's website.
5. Technology. None.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

1. Annual Renewal Period. Ms. Mire provided an update on current renewal numbers. Ms. Mire stated that additional communication will be sent in the coming weeks to non-renewed licensees regarding their renewals.
2. Proposed 2026 Business Calendar. Ms. Mire informed the Commission that the proposed business meeting calendar for 2026 is posted on OnBoard. The Commission will continue to meet the third Thursday of each month, with exceptions for April and September due to ARELLO meetings.
3. Ethics and Sexual Harassment Training. Ms. Mire reminded the Commissioners about the annual training requirements and deadlines.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. ARELLO ARIS Conference Update. Secretary Major led a discussion involving the recent ARELLO Auditor Regulatory Investigations Seminar (ARIS). Secretary Major praised Ms. Wallace for a presentation she led during the seminar and also provided details on topics considered at the conference. Vice Chair Devillier echoed Secretary Major's comments and provided details regarding her experience at the seminar.

2. Election of 2026 Officers. Commissioner Smith-Coward made an original motion to nominate Secretary Major for the role of 2026 Vice Chair. In response, Commissioner Horn made a substitute motion to nominate Commissioner Cornner for the role of 2026 Vice Chair. Mr. Devillier briefly reminded the Commissioners that a substitute motion must be considered prior to the original motion if there is a second for the substitute motion. Commissioner Ritchie seconded the substitute motion. Accordingly, a roll call vote was conducted, relative to the substitute motion to nominate Commissioner Cornner for the role of 2026 Vice Chair. The substitute motion passed 6-3, with Commissioners Devillier, Major, and Smith-Coward voting in opposition, replacing and rendering Commissioner Smith-Coward's first motion moot.

Commissioner Ritchie made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Horn, and unanimously passed via roll call vote, to nominate Vice Chair Devillier for the role of 2026 Chairman.

Commissioner Cornner made a motion, which was seconded by Vice Chair Devillier, and unanimously passed via roll call vote, to nominate Commissioner Halphen to the role of 2026 Secretary.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Devillier made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Commissioner Halphen, and unanimously approved.