

MINUTES OF THE JULY 18, 2016
VERMILION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING

President Ruben Rivera called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM. The meeting was held in the Judge's Library, on the second floor of the Courthouse in Abbeville, La.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Ruben Rivera.

Mr. Ruben Rivera requested a moment of silence.

A roll call was done by Ms. Pat Rost with the following members present:

Mr. Ruben Rivera, Mr. Richard Guilbeaux, Mr. Jason Picard, Mr. Dane Hebert, Mr. Paul Bourgeois, Ms. Sarah Trahan, Mr. Nash Patel, Mr. Kevin Sagrera, Mr. Carlton Campbell, Ms. Pat Rost, Mr. Jacob Landry, and Ms. Gale Smith

The following members were absent:

Mr. Kirk Frith and Mr. Darin Desormeaux

The following guests were present:

Ms. Anne T. Falgout, VEDD, Ms. Shari Cormier, VEDD, and Mr. Aidan Broussard

INTRODUCTION OF NEW BOARD MEMBER

Mr. Ruben Rivera introduced Mr. Aidan Broussard as the new representative from the Vermilion Parish Police Jury. Mr. Broussard replaces Ms. Cynthia Dudley and will serve a four year term, ending July 18, 2020.

ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Upon motion by Ms. Pat Rost, duly seconded by Mr. Paul Bourgeois and unanimously carried, Ms. Pat Rost was nominated as President for the next term. Upon motion by Mr. Richard Guilbeaux, duly seconded by Mr. Kevin Sagrera and unanimously carried, the nominations were closed for the election of President. Ms. Rost was elected by acclamation. The transition will take place at the August meeting.

Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Sagrera, Mr. Darin Desormeaux was nominated to continue as Vice President for another term, this motion was duly seconded by Mr. Paul Bourgeois and unanimously carried. Upon motion by Mr. Richard Guilbeaux, duly seconded by Mr. Carlton Campbell and unanimously carried, the nominations were closed for the election of Vice President. Mr. Darin Desormeaux was elected by acclamation.

Upon motion by Mr. Paul Bourgeois, duly seconded by Ms. Pat Rost and unanimously carried, Mr. Ben Rivera was nominated as Treasurer for the next term. Upon motion by Mr. Richard Guilbeaux, duly seconded by Mr. Jason Picard and unanimously carried, the nominations for the

election of Treasurer were closed. Mr. Ben Rivera was elected by acclamation. The transition will take place at the August meeting.

Upon motion by Mr. Dane Hebert, duly seconded by Mr. Kevin Sagrera and unanimously carried, Ms. Gale Smith was nominated as Secretary for the next term. Upon motion by Mr. Richard Guilbeaux, duly seconded by Mr. Paul Bourgeois and unanimously carried the nominations for the election of Secretary were closed. Ms. Gale Smith was elected by acclamation. The transition will take place at the August meeting.

MINUTES

The minutes of the June 6, 2016 meeting were approved on a motion made by Mr. Paul Bourgeois, duly seconded by Mr. Jason Picard and unanimously carried by the board.

DISCUSSION

At the request of Mr. Paul Bourgeois, and approved by the Chairman, item number 8-C was moved to this point of the agenda.

Mr. Paul Bourgeois opened a discussion about possible funding for the coming years. He spoke of the need to start soliciting funds now while there is still operating capital. Ms. Pat Rost informed the board that she and Ms. Falgout would get together to discuss this matter and present examples of ways to solicit private funding and/or possible grants to the board at the September meeting.

Mr. Kevin Sagrera left the meeting for a prior commitment.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Richard Guilbeaux gave the Treasurer's Report. He reviewed the June invoices and expenses, totaling \$5,303.80. Upon motion by Ms. Pat Rost, duly seconded by Mr. Dane Hebert and unanimously carried, these invoices were approved for payment.

Mr. Guilbeaux also requested the board's approval to pay the invoices from Lamar Companies, through the six month lease agreement, without individual board approval. He stated that this company invoices every 28 days and that the invoices may come due before our meeting date. Mr. Paul Bourgeois motioned the board to approve payment through the current contract date, Mr. Carlton Campbell seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Richard Guilbeaux updated the board on the findings of the financial audit. Only two issues were found during the audit, Inadequate Segregation of Accounting Functions and Budget Noncompliance.

Ms. Anne T. Falgout opened a discussion with the board about VEDD's participation in the State of the Economy event being planned by the Vermilion Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Falgout was asked to make a presentation at the event which will be a fundraiser for the Chamber. The board felt

it would be good for our organization to do the presentation, but want it understood that VEDD may host future events of this kind.

Mr. Richard Guilbeaux spoke of the approval for the credit card that was voted on at the last meeting. He noted that he spoke to the auditor, who has recommended that we continue with our current reimbursement system without the use of a credit card. Mr. Jason Picard motioned the board to rescind the credit card approval given at the last meeting. This motion was seconded by Mr. Paul Bourgeois and unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Anne T. Falgout discussed the Acadiana Honors award to be given to a Vermilion Parish business. Ms. Falgout suggested a local business and asked the board for their recommendations. It was decided that the board would bring their individual recommendations to the August meeting for discussion.

Ms. Falgout informed the board of two advertising opportunities that she thought might be of interest to the board. These include advertising on the Chamber website and street level billboards in the form of window clings in empty building windows. The board asked that this be discussed at the August meeting. They also requested pricing on television advertising for comparison.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Anne T. Falgout informed the board that the Business Walk Subcommittee, which is a part of the Existing Business Committee, met to discuss the Abbeville Business Walk. She informed the board that a date has been set for September 22, 2016 and that 15 to 20 volunteers would be needed.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Anne T. Falgout updated the board on the accomplishments made by the VEDD office in the month of June.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the District is scheduled for Monday, August 1, 2016 at 5:00 PM. in the Judge's Library/Conference Room.

ADJOURN

Upon motion by Mr. Richard Guilbeaux, duly seconded by Ms. Sarah Trahan and unanimously carried, there being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Ms. Pat Rost
Secretary