

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 6, 2017
VERMILION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING

President Pat Rost 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 Ms. Pat Rost.

Ms. Pat Rost requested a moment of silence.

A roll call was done by Ms. Gale Smith, with the following members present:

Mr. Richard Guilbeaux, Mr. Paul Bourgeois, Mr. Dane Hebert, Mr. Jason Picard,
Mr. Aidan Broussard, Mr. Carlton Campbell, Ms. Pat Rost, Mr. Ruben Rivera, Ms. Gale
Smith, Mr. Nash Patel, Mr. Jacob Landry, Ms. Megan Landry-Lalande

The following members were absent:

Ms. Sarah Trahan and Mr. Kirk Frith

The following guests were present:

Ms. Anne T. Falgout, VEDD, and Ms. Shari Cormier, VEDD, Mr. Patrick Duhon

INTRODUCTION OF NEW BOARD MEMBER

Ms. Pat Rost introduced Mr. Patrick Duhon as the new representative from the Vermilion Parish Police Jury. Mr. Duhon replaces Mr. Kevin Sagrera.

MINUTES

The minutes of the January 3, 2017 meeting were approved on a motion made by Mr. Jason Picard, duly seconded by Mr. Paul Bourgeois, and unanimously carried by the board.

Mr. Nash Patel entered the meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Ben Rivera gave the Treasurer's Report. He reviewed the invoices and expenses, totaling \$802.69. Upon motion by Mr. Richard Guilbeaux, duly seconded by Mr. Carlton Campbell and unanimously carried, these invoices were approved for payment.

Mr. Rivera presented the insurance police renewal cost to the board. Mr. Richard Guilbeaux motioned the board to approve the renewal of the three insurance policies at the total cost of \$2,922.87. Ms. Gale Smith duly seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

Mr. Rivera also presented the Louisiana Attestation Questionnaire to the board for approval. This questionnaire is a requirement for the yearly financial audit. Mr. Dane Hebert motioned the board to approve the questionnaire and have it signed by the executive committee. Mr. Richard Guilbeaux duly seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Anne T. Falgout presented information regarding the Leadership Exchange trip to Lexington, KY, as discussed at the December and January meetings. Ms. Falgout noted that the Acadiana Economic Development Council will pay her expenses totaling \$2,400.00. Mr. Paul Bourgeois motioned the board to allow Ms. Falgout to attend the Leadership Exchange trip. Mr. Dane Hebert duly seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried by the board.

Mr. Jacob Landry entered the meeting.

Ms. Falgout informed the board that she had met with Ms. Pat Rost to discuss possible funding options. Ms. Falgout went over possible USDA grants, a property tax millage and underwriting opportunities with the board.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Anne T. Falgout informed the board that she will not be able to attend the scheduled April 3, 2017 meeting and asked if the board would like to reschedule the meeting. Mr. Ben Rivera suggested that Ms. Falgout prepare her reports and the meeting would be held as scheduled without her in attendance.

Ms. Falgout informed the board of a possible advertising opportunity with Townsquare Media. The radio advertising and online banner ads would be aired on three stations (one station/week/month) with no contract for \$921.00 per month. Ms. Falgout noted that she would like to share the air time and cost with local businesses. Mr. Richard Guilbeaux motioned the board to allow Ms. Falgout to go forward with this advertisement for a six-month preview period. Ms. Megan Lalande duly seconded the motion and it was carried by the board. Mr. Ben Rivera opposed the motion.

Mr. Paul Bourgeois, Mr. Jason Picard, Mr. Dane Hebert and Mr. Carlton Campbell left the meeting to attend the Vermilion Parish Police Jury meeting.

Mr. Richard Guilbeaux presented the board form from the Vermilion Parish School Board showing the number of new businesses paying sales taxes versus the number of business closures for the past three years. The form shows that there have been 941 more businesses were opened than were closed in the past three years.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Pat Rost presented the board with the three committees that have been established along with names of the committee members. She informed the board that she plans to contact everyone via e-mail to begin the dialog between the members and schedule meetings as necessary. Mr. Richard Guilbeaux requested that each committee present a monthly report to the board.

Ms. Anne Falgout informed the board the Ms. Mandy Armentor has asked to join the Branding Agribusiness committee.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the District is scheduled for Monday, March 6, 2017 at 5:00 PM. in the Judge's Library/Conference Room.

ADJOURN

Upon motion by Mr. Ben Rivera, duly seconded by Mr. Jacob Landry and unanimously carried, there being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Ms. Gale Smith
Secretary