

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 5, 2018
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. Shari Cormier, with the following members present:

Ms. Pat Rost, Mr. Aidan Broussard, Mr. Ruben Rivera, Mr. Carlton Campbell, Mr. Jason Picard, Mr. Patrick Duhon, Mr. Jacob Landry, Mr. Paul Bourgeois, Ms. Megan Landry-Lalande and Mr. Dane Hebert

The following members were absent:

Mr. Kirk Frith, Ms. Sarah Trahan, Ms. Gale Smith, Mr. Richard Guilbeaux, and Mr. Nash Patel

The following guests were present:

Ms. Anne T. Falgout, VEDD and Ms. Shari Cormier, VEDD

MINUTES

The minutes of the February 20, 2018 meeting were approved on a motion made by Mr. Paul Bourgeois, duly seconded by Ms. Pat Rost, and unanimously carried by the board.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Aidan Broussard gave the Treasurer's Report. He reviewed the invoices and expenses, totaling \$1,211.39. Upon motion by Mr. Carlton Campbell, duly seconded by Mr. Paul Bourgeois and unanimously carried, these invoices were approved for payment.

Mr. Jason Picard motioned the board to move items 5C, 6B and 6D up on the agenda due to board member time constraints. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dane Hebert and unanimously carried by the board.

Mr. Patrick Duhon entered the meeting.

Ms. Anne T. Falgout informed the board that the office has not been able to reach the USDA Grant Administrator, Mary Kirk, regarding the handicap accessibility in the former Vermilion Parish Tourism Building. She also provided the board with a possible proposal to be presented to the Abbeville City Council in anticipation of a positive response from Ms. Kirk. Mr. Dane Hebert

motioned the board to move forward with the proposed letter upon approval from the USDA Administrator. Mr. Jason Picard seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Ms. Falgout informed the board that the VEDA office is currently planning the 3rd annual Vermilion Parish Job Fair, to be held on April 4, 2018. She also informed the board that the USDA Grant budget includes the cost associated with the job fair, along with the Employer Workshop and the Job Seeker training. She asked the board's permission to accept the sponsor's payment for the Employer Workshop and to pay the associated expenses. These expenses will then be reimbursable through the grant program. Mr. Paul Bourgeois motioned the board to allow Ms. Falgout to accept the sponsor's payment and pay the invoices associated with the event. Mr. Patrick Duhon seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

Ms. Falgout informed the board that the USDA grant requirements include the need for the office to provide four training sessions. The cost of these sessions will be reimbursable through the grant. She requested authorization from the board to allow her to book speaking engagements at the cost of \$375.00 - \$750.00 each. Mr. Dane Hebert motioned the board to allow Ms. Falgout to move forward with these training sessions. Mr. Aidan Broussard seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Falgout updated the board on the plans for the Stakeholder Appreciation Dinner that will be held on March 21, 2018. She informed the board that the invitations have been sent and that the office is starting to receive responses. She also stated that the estimated cost for the event is \$1,320.00.

Ms. Falgout provided the board with a temporary picture being used on the billboard in Erath, LA. She informed the board that the picture is shown every other minute and will run every other month. She also stated that the picture could be changed at any time. The board agreed to use the temporary picture and possibly make a change in May.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Ben Rivera informed the board that Vermilion Bank requested his signature to release securities that the bank purchases on our behalf to insure the funds in our account. This was done because the bank felt that they would make more money by moving the securities. Mr. Rivera stated that this does not affect our account balance. He also informed the board that he requested the bank give us thirty days' notice in the future, so it could be brought before the board for approval.

Ms. Anne Falgout reminded the board of the board member terms that will expire on June 4, 2018. She asked the board's opinion on how the transition should be handled. Mr. Ben Rivera asked that this remain on the agenda for the April meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Anne T. Falgout provided the board with a written report detailing the accomplishments made by the VEDD office in the month of February.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the District is scheduled for Monday, April 2, 2018 at 5:00 PM. in the Judge's Library/Conference Room.

ADJOURN

Upon motion by Mr. Paul Bourgeois, duly seconded by Ms. Megan LaLande and unanimously carried, there being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Ms. Gale Smith
Secretary