

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 14, 2023  
VERMILION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING

President Ruben Rivera called the meeting to order at 5:37PM. The meeting was held at the Vermilion Parish Government Office Complex, 407 Charity Street, Abbeville, La.

Mr. Elliot Broussard led the Pledge of Allegiance before Mr. Rivera requested a moment of silence.

The following members were present at the meeting: Mr. Ruben Rivera, Mr. Richard Guilbeaux, Ms. Anne T. Falgout, Ms. Nikki Vidos, Mr. Joshua Anderson, Mr. Patrick Duhon, Ms. Claire Broussard, Ms. Linda Vincent, Ms. Kristy Doucet-Touchet, and Mr. Elliot Broussard

The following members were absent: Mr. Dexter Callahan, Ms. Tammy Gordon, Ms. Anita Dupuis Mr. Jacob Landry, and Ms. Megan Landry-Lalande

The following guests were present: Ms. Victoria Sagrera Bourque, VEDD, Ms. Shari Cormier, VEDD, Ms. Lynn Guillory and Miss Harper Duhon.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments regarding any of the items on the agenda.

MINUTES: The minutes of the May 17, 2023, meeting were approved as written on a motion made by Mr. Patrick Duhon. Mr. Elliot Broussard duly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried by the board.

Ms. Kristy Doucet-Touchet entered the meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. Ruben Rivera gave the Treasurer's Report. The board was provided with a list of invoices and expenses totaling \$3,012.85. Ms. Anne T. Falgout motioned the board to accept the Treasurer's Report and to pay the invoices. Mr. Patrick Duhon duly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Ms. Victoria S. Bourque provided the board with a review of the accomplishments made by the VEDD office in May. These included: working with 7 business prospects/projects to meet their specific requests, holding 1 business event, and conducting 7 business visits. She continued with the planning of the Vermilion Parish Job Fair and worked with United Way of Acadiana in finding options for their Abbeville Head Start Facility. She also toured the Port of Vermilion, Abbeville Harbor and Terminal, and local seafood processing plants with One Acadiana representatives.

OLD BUSINESS: Ms. Shari Cormier informed the board that the yearly stakeholder invoices were ready and would be mailed in the next few days.

Ms. Cormier presented the board with estimated pricing for the Farmers' Appreciation Dinner. Mr. Richard Guilbeaux motioned the board to allow an \$800.00 budget for the event. Mr. Patrick Duhon duly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS: Ms. Cormier informed the board that Scott Angelle has once again asked that VEDD sign a letter of support asking the Biden Administration to reconsider the moratorium on offshore leasing. Ms. Anne Falgout motioned the board to have Ms. Bourque sign the letter on behalf of VEDD. Ms. Claire Broussard duly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

Mr. Rivera asked that the board go into Executive Session to discuss Ms. Bourque's annual review. Ms. Anne Falgout motioned the board to go into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Patrick Duhon and unanimously approved. The board entered into Executive Session with all guests

other than Ms. Bourque leaving the room. The board moved out of executive session at 6:26pm on a motion by Ms. Anne Falgout. Ms. Claire Broussard duly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried. Ms. Falgout then motioned the board to table Ms. Bourque's review until the next meeting. That motion was seconded by Ms. Claire Broussard and unanimously carried by the board.

Mr. Rivera asked the board to consider holding committee meetings before the regular board meetings or to consider changing the time of the regular board meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Ms. Cormier provided the board with an updated funding report.

Ms. Claire Broussard updated the board on the Workforce Development Committee. She noted that she and Ms. Bourque met with local banks about student funding for the aviation school program. Ms. Bourque added that the Vermilion Parish School Board has added the airport to its student tours in anticipation of this program.

Mr. Patrick Duhon and Miss Harper Duhon left the meeting.

Ms. Nikki Vidos informed the board that the State Bond Commission was asked to review the wording of the parcel fee language and has found that VEDD does not have the authority to exempt any taxing entities. She noted that this decision has also been confirmed by VEDD's attorney. Ms. Vidos expressed the need to adjust the wording of the parcel fee proposition. She asked Ms. Cormier to make the required postings in order to discuss the changes at the July board meeting.

Ms. Nikki Vidos informed the board that the Strategic Planning Committee held its first LDRC Steering Committee meeting on May 30, 2023. She noted that the survey questionnaires have been completed and encouraged the board members to share the access information.

BOARD MEMBER UPDATES: The board members spoke about the areas they represent and shared things happening in their communities.

NEXT MEETING: Ms. Cormier noted that because of the postings for the parcel fee language discussion the scheduled July meeting would not meet the required time frame. Mr. Richard Guilbeaux motioned the board to move the July meeting to Friday, July 21, 2023, at 12:00 pm. Mr. Elliot Broussard duly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried. The next meeting of the District will be at 12:00pm on Friday, July 21, 2023.

Ms. Cormier noted to the board and guests present, that at their July 21, 2023 meeting the board will be discussing and possibly voting on changes to the previously approved parcel fee language.

ADJOURN: Upon motion by Mr. Elliot Broussard, duly seconded by Ms. Claire Broussard and unanimously carried, there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Ms. Anne T. Falgout  
Secretary